The Honorable James Peake, Secretary
Department of Veterans Affairs
810 Vermont Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20420

Dear Secretary Peake:

Valparaiso Florida is a small city, population 6,500, located adjacent to Eglin AFB. Many of our residents are veterans of the Air Force. In the BRAC 2005, Eglin AFB was identified as the location for the training of the F-35 Joint Strike Fighter aircraft.

Valparaiso is located adjacent to the runway that is proposed for use by the F-35. Currently, within Valparaiso there are the clear zone, APZ I, APZ II, and noise levels of 65 db and above for a population of 2,113.

In support of BRAC 2005, the Air Force has prepared a draft Environmental Impact Statement that proposes two alternatives that will drastically increase the number of persons negatively impacted by noise. In alternative 1 the noise levels of 65dB or greater will affect 6,757 persons. In alternative 2 the noise levels of 65dB or greater will affect 11,156, which includes the City of Niceville. There are approximately 1,650 homes in Valparaiso that will be in these high noise levels.

Our research indicates that the VA policy is to deny financing for residential properties in clear zones, APZs and high noise levels.

Please confirm if our research is correct or if VA will finance residential properties with these environmental conditions. And if so what effect this will have on the evaluation process.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please call Lisa Algire, City Administrator, at 850-389-4097.

Sincerely,

John B. Arnold, Jr.
Mayor

cc: Representative Jeff Miller

"Home of the World’s Largest Air Force Installation, Eglin Air Force Base, Florida"
Mr. J. Nicholas Shelley, Field Office Director  
HUD  
Charles E. Bennett Federal Building  
400 W. Bay Street, Suite 1015  
Jacksonville, FL 32202

Dear Mr. Shelley:

Valparaiso Florida is a small city, population 6,500, located adjacent to Eglin AFB. In the BRAC 2005, Eglin AFB was identified as the location for the training of the F-35 Joint Strike Fighter aircraft.

Valparaiso is located adjacent to the runway that is proposed for use by the F-35. Currently, within Valparaiso there are the clear zone, APZ I, APZ II, and noise levels of 65 db and above for a population of 2,113.

In support of BRAC 2005, the Air Force has prepared a draft Environmental Impact Statement that proposes two alternatives that will drastically increase the number of persons negatively impacted by noise. In alternative 1 the noise levels of 65dB or greater will affect 6,757 persons. In alternative 2 the noise levels of 65dB or greater will affect 11,156, which includes the City of Niceville. There are approximately 1,650 homes in Valparaiso that will be in these high noise levels.

Our research indicates that the FHA policy is to deny financing for residential properties in clear zones, APZs and high noise levels. And if so what effect this will have on the evaluation process.

Please confirm if our research is correct or if FHA will finance residential properties with these environmental conditions.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please call Lisa Algiere, City Administrator, at 850-389-4097.

Sincerely,

John B. Arnold, Jr.  
Mayor

cc: Representative Jeff Miller

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