

**Briggmann, Laurie and Rich**

**Page 1 of 1**

PD0173

August 22, 2008

1|25.1

My name is Laurie Briggman. I'm a resident of [REDACTED] New York and I am very, very strongly opposed to any expansion on Plum Island. I think it's an extreme danger to our community.

Thank you.

Comment No: 1

Issue Code: 25.1

DHS notes the commentor's opposition to the Plum Island Site Alternative.

**Briggmann, Rich**

**Page 1 of 1**

PD0174

August 22, 2008

1| 25.1 | Yes, hello my name is Rich Briggmann—that's B-r-i-g-g-m-a-n-n. I reside at [REDACTED]  
2| 17.1 | [REDACTED]. And I would just like to go on record as strongly  
opposing any expansion of Plum Island to a bio-level 4 facility. I find it is a danger to the  
community and without evacuation routes and many other problems. With that I just  
strongly am against it.

Thank you very much.

Comment No: 1                      Issue Code: 25.1

DHS notes the commentor's opposition to the Plum Island Site Alternative.

Comment No: 2                      Issue Code: 17.1

DHS notes the commentor's concern. A discussion of human health and safety including the potential risk and consequences of an accident occurring at the NBAF is included in Section 3.14 of the NBAF EIS. An evaluation of the existing road conditions and potential effects to traffic and transportation from the Plum Island Site Alternative is provided in Section 3.11.6 of the NBAF EIS. An emergency response plan, which would include area evacuation plans, would be developed if one of the action alternatives is selected and prior to commencement of NBAF operations.

**Brinker, Cheri**

**Page 1 of 1**

PD0176

August 22, 2008

1 | 25.4

This is Sherry Brinker.. My husband and I own a tree company in [REDACTED] Kansas. And, we, you know, plan to live in [REDACTED] Kansas for the rest of our lives, most likely. And we are very much against having the NBAF in Manhattan and would like that to go on record.

Thank you . Bye.

Comment No: 1

Issue Code: 25.4

DHS notes the commentor's opposition to the Manhattan Campus Site Alternative.

**Brodrick, Brian**

**Page 1 of 1**

WD0071

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**From:** Brian Brodrick [BBrodrick@jacksonspalding.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, July 14, 2008 11:11 AM  
**To:** NBAFProgramManager  
**Subject:** Athens and NBAF

To whom it may concern:

1|24.2 | I fully support the possibility of NBAF locating in Athens, and believe that there are many in our community who will benefit from its relocation here. As you know, you will hear from many more naysayers than supporters, but there are many, many people in our community who understand and support the project.

Brian Brodrick

Post 1 Councilman

Watkinsville City Council

117 S. Main Street

Watkinsville, GA 30677

**Brian Brodrick**

**P** 706.354.0470

**P** 404.724.2513 (direct)

**F** 706.354.0920

**E** [bbrodrick@jacksonspalding.com](mailto:bbrodrick@jacksonspalding.com)

[www.jacksonspalding.com](http://www.jacksonspalding.com)



Think about the environment before you print this email

Comment No: 1

Issue Code: 24.2

DHS notes the commentor's support for the South Milledge Avenue Site Alternative.

**Bromm, Susan**

**Page 1 of 2**

WD0463

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**From:** Schaedle.Candi@epamail.epa.gov  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 21, 2008 6:19 PM  
**To:** NBAFProgramManager  
**Subject:** EPA Comment Letter (draft EIS National Bio and Agro-Defense Facility)  
**Attachments:** National Bio and Agro-Defense Facility.pdf

Attached is EPA's comment letter on the draft EIS for the National Bio and Agro-Defense Facility (CEQ# 20080252). A hard copy of the letter is also being sent via postal mail. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Thanks,

Candi Schaedle  
USEPA  
NEPA Compliance Division  
(202) 564-6121

(See attached file: National Bio and Agro-Defense Facility.pdf)

Bromm, Susan

Page 2 of 2



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

AUG 21 2008

OFFICE OF  
ENFORCEMENT AND  
COMPLIANCE ASSURANCE

U.S. Department of Homeland Security  
Science and Technology Directorate  
James V. Johnson  
Mail Stop #2100  
245 Murray Lane SW., Building 410  
Washington, DC 20528

Dear Mr. Johnson:

In accordance with our responsibilities under Section 309 of the Clean Air Act and the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has reviewed the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) on the National Bio and Agro-Defense Facility (CEQ# 20080252).

This draft EIS evaluates the Department of Homeland Security's proposal to site, construct, and operate a National Bio and Agro-Defense Facility (NBAF). The NBAF will be operated as a biosafety level-3 and level-4 research facility that would allow basic and advanced research, diagnostic testing and validation, countermeasure development, and diagnostic training for addressing high-consequence livestock diseases to U.S. agriculture and public health. Six alternative sites were evaluated in the draft EIS: Athens, Georgia; Manhattan, Kansas; Flora, Mississippi; Plum Island, New York; Butner, North Carolina; and San Antonio, Texas. However, a preferred alternative was not identified in the draft EIS.

EPA believes that this draft EIS provides an adequate discussion of the potential environmental impacts. Moreover, the draft EIS does not identify any significant environmental effects that will result in this action. Therefore, EPA has no objection to the proposed action discussed in this draft EIS.

We appreciate the opportunity to review this draft EIS. The staff contact for this review is Candi Schaedle; she can be reached at (202) 564-6121.

Sincerely,



Susan E. Bromm  
Director  
Office of Federal Activities

Internet Address (URL) • <http://www.epa.gov>  
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Comment No: 1      Issue Code: 4.0  
DHS notes EPA's lack of objection to the Proposed Action.

114.0

**Brooks, James David**

**Page 1 of 1**

PD0136

August 20, 2008

Yes,

1| 24.3

My name is James David Brooks. I'm a resident of [REDACTED] I've lived here all my life. I'm speaking in favor of the NBAF coming to Butner. And I just wanted to go on record as being in favor of it coming to Butner.

Thank you.

Comment No: 1

Issue Code: 24.3

DHS notes the commentor's support for the Umstead Research Farm Site Alternative.

Brooks, Valerie

Page 1 of 1

WD0121

From: [REDACTED]  
 Sent: Monday, July 28, 2008 5:09 PM  
 To: NBAFProgramManager  
 Subject: NBAF site

To whom it may concern:

1| 17.3 | I would like to comment on the proposed site for the new National Bio and Agro-Defense Facility. I currently work in [REDACTED] NC and live in [REDACTED]. There is no good way to get to Butner, NC from Raleigh, NC. To get to Butner from Raleigh you are forced to take 2 lane roads. Butner is a rural area so you will undoubtedly get behind someone in a tractor going 25 miles/hour.

2| 15.3 | Butner, NC is fairly close to Durham, NC but the Durham Public School system does not have a good reputation. If you ask North Carolina residents if they would like to live in Durham you will normally get a resounding "no".

3| 15.3 | Chapel Hill, NC is a nice place to live but is a very expensive city. Housing prices in Chapel Hill are higher than in Durham, Raleigh, or Cary, NC.

An option would be to live in Oxford, NC in Granville County. The schools are not very good and the area is very rural. Once again, if you wanted to go to Raleigh where most of the restaurants and other entertainments are, expect a 40 minute drive on 2 lane roads.

I am assuming that many people moving here to take jobs at the NBAF will want to live in Raleigh. Raleigh is frequently listed on many "Best Of" lists. The Wake County school system is also very strong and is an enticement.

4| 25.3 | I recommend that you not choose the Butner site just because of its inconvenient location. There is no good way to get there from Raleigh and there is no easy way to get out.

Sincerely,  
 Valerie Brooks  
 [REDACTED] NC

Get fantasy football with free live scoring. [Sign up for FanHouse Fantasy Football today.](#)

Comment No: 1      Issue Code: 17.3

DHS notes the information provided.

Comment No: 2      Issue Code: 15.3

DHS notes the commentor's opinions regarding Durham, North Carolina and the quality of its public schools.

Comment No: 3      Issue Code: 15.3

DHS notes the commentor's opinions regarding the cost of living in Chapel Hill, North Carolina. Section 3.10.7 of the NBAF EIS discusses the socioeconomics of the region encompassing the Umstead Research Farm Site including housing.

Comment No: 4      Issue Code: 25.3

DHS notes the commentor's opposition to the Umstead Research Farm Site Alternative.

## Brown, Almedia

## Page 1 of 1

PD0182

August 22, 2008

1| 25.4 Good morning. My name is Almedia Brown. I live in [REDACTED] Kansas and I am against  
2| 21.4 bringing this to Wichita...to Wichita because it is dangerous and people are only people.  
3| 25.0 They make mistakes and if a mistake is made it would be a disaster. I am not in...I am  
against this bio lab situation coming and being anywhere. It's too dangerous.

You have a good day. Bye.

Comment No: 1 Issue Code: 25.4

DHS notes the commentor's opposition to the Manhattan Campus Site Alternative.

Comment No: 2 Issue Code: 21.4

DHS notes the commentor's concerns regarding the risk of a potential accident or terrorist event. The NBAF would be designed, constructed, and operated to ensure the maximum level of public safety and to fulfill all necessary requirements to protect the environment. As described in Chapter 3 and summarized in Section 2.5 of the NBAF EIS, the impacts of activities during normal operations at any of the six site alternatives would likely be minor. Section 3.14 and Appendix E of the NBAF EIS, investigates the chances of a variety of accidents that could occur with the proposed NBAF and consequences of potential accidents. Accidents could occur in the form of procedural violations (operational accidents), natural phenomena accidents, external events, and intentional acts. Although some accidents are more likely to occur than others (e.g., safety protocol not being followed), the chances of an accidental release are low. Appendix B to the EIS describes biocontainment lapses and laboratory acquired infections. Laboratory-acquired infections have not been shown to be a threat to the community at large. Should the NBAF Record of Decision call for the design, construction, and operations of the NBAF then site specific protocols would be developed, in coordination with local emergency response agencies, that would consider the diversity and density of populations residing within the local area. DHS would have site-specific standard operating procedures and response plans in place prior to the initiation of research activities at the proposed NBAF. In addition, oversight of NBAF operations, as described in Section 2.2.2.6 of the NBAF EIS, will be conducted in part by the Institutional Biosafety Committee (IBC), which includes community representative participation, and the APHIS Animal Research Policy and Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee.

Comment No: 3 Issue Code: 25.0

DHS notes the commentor's opposition to the NBAF.

Brown, Antoinette

Page 1 of 1

WD0101

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 23, 2008 10:36 PM  
**To:** NBAFProgramManager  
**Subject:** Comment on DEIS - Butner NC site

To Whom it May Concern:

1| 15.3 | Based on the DEIS of the Butner NC site it appears that the the environmental costs to the people of North Carolina  
 2| 18.3 | greatly outweigh the benefits. The tangible benefits appear to be the gain of 63 permanent jobs for residents of North  
 3| 17.3 | Carolina. Among the considerable environmental costs are the treatment of an additional 25-30 million gallons of  
 4| 9.3 | wastewater annually, loss of state land, increased air emissions from energy generation, traffic and carcass disposal,  
 5| 19.3 | possibly including incineration or rendering. The most serious potential cost is the loss of human and animal life  
 6| 25.3 | resulting from biocontamination. On the basis of the large environmental costs weighed against small economic  
 benefits I oppose the location of the NBAF in North Carolina.

Antoinette Brown

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] NC [REDACTED]Comment No: 1      Issue Code: 15.3

DHS notes the commentor's statement regarding employment and environmental cost. The number of short-term and permanent jobs that would be directly and indirectly created by NBAF at the Umstead Research Farm Site are discussed in Section 3.10.7 of the NBAF EIS. It is expected that approximately 2,447 direct temporary jobs would be created during the 4-yr construction phase, with many jobs being filled by local residents. Operations of the NBAF will create between 250-350 direct permanent jobs, with much of the scientific work force relocating to the region. In addition, NBAF construction and operations will indirectly support local jobs, many of them which are expected to be filled by the local labor force. Direct environmental effects would be low with all site alternatives as is summarized in Section 2.5 and Section 3.18.

Comment No: 2      Issue Code: 18.3

DHS notes the commentor's concerns. As shown on Table 3.13.2.2-1 of the NBAF EIS, the average daily wastewater generation rate for the NBAF at the Umstead Research Farm Site candidate location is estimated at 69,600 gallons and the estimated daily maximum is 150,000 gallons. As discussed in Section 3.13.8.3 of the NBAF EIS, because the South Granville Water and Sewer Authority (SGWASA) is currently operating at less than 50% of capacity, the addition of the NBAF discharge is expected to use less than 6% of available operating capacity on a maximum discharge day. (As noted in Section 3.3.7.1.4 of the NBAF EIS, the SGWASA sewage treatment plant has a design capacity of more than 5.5 million gallons per day.)

Section 3.13.2.2 in Chapter 3 of the NBAF EIS addresses the technologies being considered for the treatment of animal carcasses and pathological waste. In addition, Table 3.13.2.2-4 provides a brief description and comparison of the three most likely technologies being considered (i.e., incineration, alkaline hydrolysis, and rendering). As discussed in this section, the final design for the NBAF will probably include more than one technology for the treatment of these wastes. Factors that may be considered in making this technology decision include individual site requirements and restrictions, air emissions, liquid and solid waste stream by-products, and operation and maintenance requirements. Because the method of carcass and pathological waste disposal has not yet been determined, Section 3.4. of the EIS (Air Quality) assumes that the treatment technology with the greatest potential to negatively impact air quality, incineration, will be used to assess the maximum adverse effect. Similarly, because alkaline hydrolysis would have the greatest impact on sanitary sewage capacity, Section 3.3 of the EIS (Infrastructure) assumes that alkaline hydrolysis will be used to assess the maximum sanitary sewage impacts.

Comment No: 3      Issue Code: 17.3

DHS notes the commentor's concern. A discussion of existing road conditions and potential effects to traffic and transportation are located in Section 3.11 of the NBAF EIS. The NBAF would only contribute a minor amount of additional traffic to the local roads.

Comment No: 4                      Issue Code: 9.3

The potential effects of NBAF operations on air quality are discussed in Section 3.4 of the NBAF EIS and includes the potential effects from energy generation, traffic, and incineration. Site-specific effects at the Umstead Research Farm Site are discussed in Section 3.4.7. Carcass/pathological waste disposal, including rendering, is discussed in Section 3.13. Air emissions were estimated using SCREEN3, a U.S. EPA dispersion modeling program. Conservative assumptions were used to ensure the probable maximum effects were evaluated. Once the final design is determined, a more refined air emissions model will be used during the permitting process. The final design will ensure that the NBAF does not significantly affect the region's ability to meet air quality standards.

Comment No: 5                      Issue Code: 19.3

DHS notes the commentor's concern. A discussion of human health and safety is included in Section 3.14. The NBAF would provide state-of-the-art operating procedures and biocontainment features to minimize the potential for laboratory-acquired infections and accidental releases. The risk of an accidental release of a pathogen is extremely low. Should the NBAF Record of Decision call for the design, construction, and operations of the NBAF then site specific protocols would be developed, in coordination with local emergency response agencies, that would consider the diversity and density of populations residing within the local area. DHS would have site-specific standard operating procedures and response plans in place prior to the initiation of research activities at the proposed NBAF.

Comment No: 6                      Issue Code: 25.3

DHS notes the commentor's opposition to the Umstead Research Farm Site Alternative.

**Brown, Bruce**

**Page 1 of 1**

WD0827

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**From:** Bruce Brown [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, August 25, 2008 6:38 PM  
**To:** NBAFProgramManager  
**Subject:** NBAF

1| 5.4 | Just wanted to weigh in. The NBAF belongs in Kansas. Our state's agricultural heritage, work force, transportation  
2| 8.4 | network and central location makes it best suited for a national bioscience project focused on food safety, animal  
3| 24.4 | health and human health. Kansas is uniquely qualified for the NBAF because it has scientific assets and expertise  
that can be applied immediately. It doesn't get any better than that! So I'm asking you do the right thing and put the  
NBAF at Kansas State University.

Sincerely,  
Bruce Brown

Comment No: 1                      Issue Code: 5.4

DHS notes the commentor's support for the Manhattan Campus Site Alternative.

Comment No: 2                      Issue Code: 8.4

Please refer to the response in Comment No. 1.

Comment No: 3                      Issue Code: 24.4

Please refer to the response in Comment No. 1.

**Brown, James**

**Page 1 of 1**

WD0184

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**From:** James Brown [jab\_cab@sbcglobal.net]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 05, 2008 1:19 PM  
**To:** NBAFProgramManager  
**Subject:** Kansas as a NBAF location

1|24.4

I wish to express my complete support of the possible NNAF location in Kansas. Kansas is the heart of the animal industry with supporting infrastructure. Kansas State is just opening a state of the art Bioscience Research Lab which would be a great benefit to a NBAF site. The security of such a site has the protection of being in the center of the US. I am in strong support of this project.

Thank you for your time.

Jim Brown  
Owner, Key Feeds (a feed manufacturing company)  
1504 5th St.  
Clay Center, Kansas 67432

Comment No: 1

Issue Code: 24.4

DHS notes the commentor's support for the Manhattan Campus Site Alternative.

Brown, Margaret

Page 1 of 1

WD0863

From: Margaret Brown [REDACTED]  
 Sent: Monday, August 25, 2008 10:04 PM  
 To: NBAFProgramManager  
 Subject: FW: last day to comment on NBAF

From: [REDACTED]  
 To: [REDACTED]  
 Subject: RE: last day to comment on NBAF  
 Date: Mon, 25 Aug 2008 21:48:39 -0400

1| 25.2 | No absolutely not I do not feel that this is the correct location for this facility, in our area which is [REDACTED]  
 Ga. I believe that it needs to be located in a much more remote area, perhaps an uninhabited island.  
 2| 5.0 | Thank you for your consideration in this important matter. Margaret Brown

[REDACTED]

> Subject: last day to comment on NBAF  
 > Date: Mon, 25 Aug 2008 16:32:58 -0400  
 >  
 > Hi everybody,  
 >  
 > Today is the last day to send comments to the Department of  
 > Homeland Security concerning the location for the National Bio- and  
 > Agro-Defense Facility. You probably know that the Athens location for  
 > this huge facility is on S. Milledge Ave. next to the Georgia Botanical  
 > Gardens.  
 >  
 > The DHS says that community input will be considered in their  
 > decision.  
 >  
 > Eleanor and Dennis  
 >  
 > The address is : nbafternprogrammanager@dhs.gov  
 >  
 > nbafternprogrammanager@dhs.gov  
 >

Comment No: 1                      Issue Code: 25.2  
 DHS notes the commentor's opposition to the South Milledge Avenue Site Alternative.

Comment No: 2                      Issue Code: 5.0  
 Please refer to the response in Comment No. 1.

Brown, Victor

Page 1 of 2

MD0145

U.S. Dept. of Home Land Security  
Science & Technology Directorate  
James V. Johnson  
MAIL STOP #2100  
245 MURRAY LANE SW; Bldg 410  
WASHINGTON, DC 20528

8-18-08  
DG/2

DEAR MR. JOHNSON:

My comments re: Selection of Plum Is. for a BSL-4 facility relate to the type of accident events not cited - hence not covered (?) - on health & safety portion of DHS presentation, as follows:

21.1  NO provisions, or consideration, given for insects, ANIMALS (OR combination of both) possibly penetrating <sup>BIOCONTAINMENT</sup> AREAS.  
Example: Some minor loss of biocontainment shield allowing insects, animals (or combo) to be exposed to LAB pathogens.

ONE Scenario: A DEER ENTERING PLUM IS. SECURITY SPACE (SWIMMING ASHORE) - AT NIGHT, IN FOG, during storms, etc. - when NOT detected. SAID ANIMAL MAY be susceptible to disease through <sup>EXPOSURE FROM</sup> a minor loss of disease containment. ALSO, Lyme diseased TICKS, dropped from the deer, could be picked-up by humans & brought into secure LAB areas. These TICKS could get on other (diseased) ANIMALS, or, possibly, returned to humans, and carried back to the mainland.

\* Note: Although it's unknown, the extent to which mosquitoes <sup>and ticks</sup> can be disease vectors, it is known that midges (flies) CAN play a significant role during epidemics, and, lets say the connection between Lyme ticks, deer (hosts) & humans is scary! There are now thousands of deer in Suffolk County, and it's very likely some will swim ashore at Plum Is. Many have in the past.

end of →

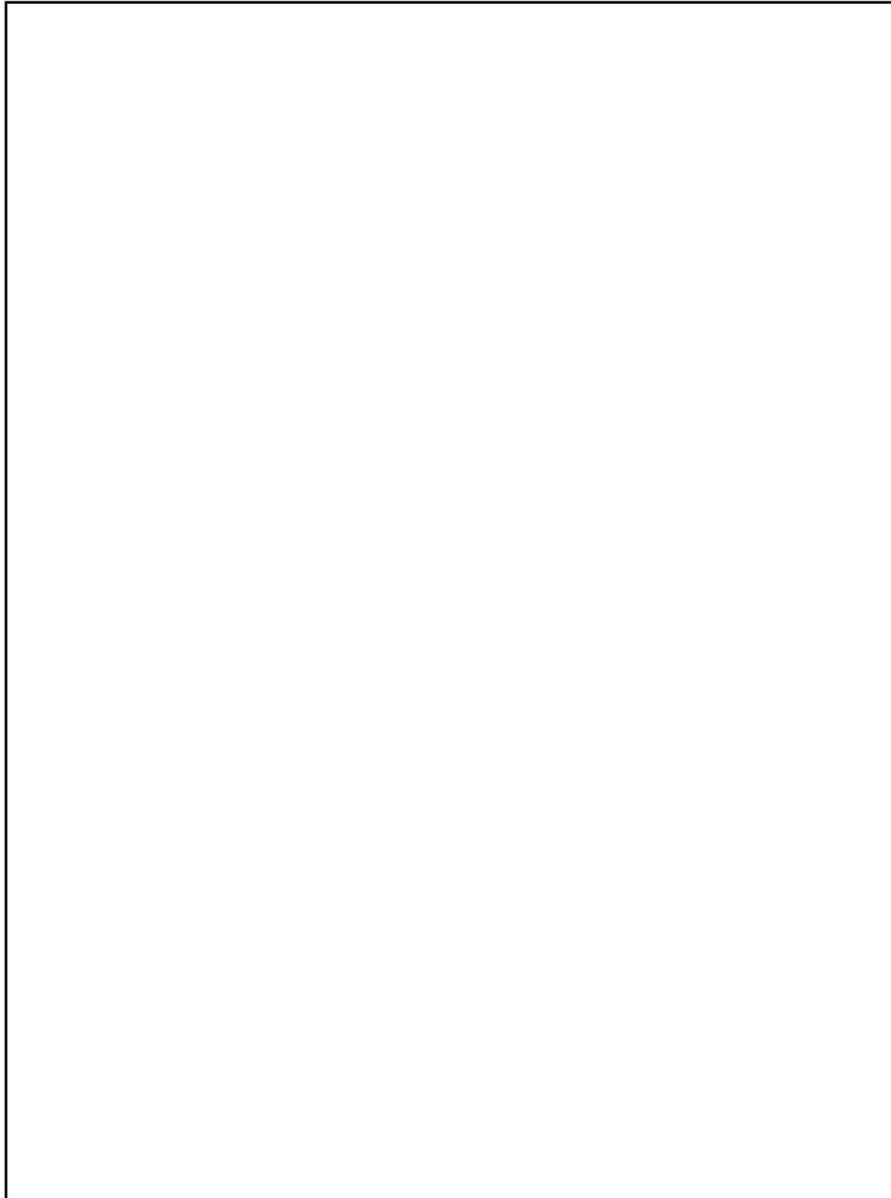
Comment No: 1

Issue Code: 21.1

DHS notes the commenter's concerns. Section 3.14 and Appendix E of the NBAF EIS evaluate the potential effects on health and safety of operating the NBAF at the six site alternatives. Accidents could occur in the form of procedural violations (operational accidents), natural phenomena accidents, external events, and intentional acts. Although some "accidents" are more likely to occur than others (e.g., safety protocol not being followed), the chances of an accidental release are low. The specific objective of the hazard identification, accident analysis, and risk assessment is to identify the likelihood and consequences from accidents or intentional subversive acts. In addition to identifying the potential for or likelihood of the scenarios leading to adverse consequences, this analysis provides support for the identification of specific engineering and administrative controls to either prevent a pathogen release or mitigate the consequences of such a release. The risk of an accidental release of a pathogen is extremely low. The risk of an accidental release of a pathogen is extremely low, but the economic effect would be significant for all sites. An analysis of potential consequences of a pathogen (e.g. Rift Valley fever [RVF] virus) becoming established in native mosquito populations was evaluated in Sections 3.8.9, 3.10.9, and 3.14 of the NBAF EIS. DHS would have site-specific standard operating procedures (SOP) and response plans in place prior to the initiation of research activities at the NBAF. RVF and foot and mouth disease SOPs and response plans would likely include strategies that are similar. However, the RVF response plan would also include a mosquito control action plan. The potential consequences of pesticide use would be evaluated during the preparation of a site-specific response plan.

DHS notes the commenter's concern regarding potential storm impacts to the NBAF. A site-specific emergency response plan would be developed and coordinated with the local emergency management plan regarding evacuations and other emergency response measures for all potential emergency events including accidents at the NBAF. The NBAF would be designed to withstand the normal meteorological conditions that are present within the geographic area of the selected site. The basis for establishing the anticipated wind speeds were the International Building Code, ASCE 7 and the local jurisdictions. However, because of code specified building importance modification factors and normal factors of safety incorporated into the structural design, the facility would resist wind pressures up to 170% of the code specified 50-year wind pressures. This means the building's structural system could resist a wind speed that is expected to occur, on the average, only once in a 500 year period.

In the unlikely event that a 500-year wind storm strikes the facility, the exterior walls and roofing of the building would likely fail first, and this breach in the exterior skin would cause a dramatic increase in internal pressures leading to further failure of the building's interior and exterior walls. The loss of these architectural wall components would decrease the overall wind loading applied to the building and therefore diminish the possibility of damage to the building's primary structural system. Even with the failure of these interior and exterior wall systems under an extreme wind loading event, the robust construction used to construct BSL-3Ag and BSL-4 spaces, reinforced cast-in-place concrete



walls, would resist these wind forces and the primary bio-containment envelope would not be breached. The containment walls will be designed to withstand a 200 mph wind load, which is equivalent to an F3 tornado according to the FEMA Design and Construction Guidance for Community Shelters standards.

Brown, Victor

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MD0145

SELECTION OF PLUM IS./BSL-4, CONT

PG 2 of 2

21  
15.1  
① Additional Thoughts/Comments (more susceptible) due to the exceptionally high % of senior citizens living on the North Fork (over 60%) & very near Plum Island, any accidental release of pathogens could have much more serious consequences. EVACUATION MAY BE IMPOSSIBLE!

② DHS fails to place much importance on Plum Island's immediate proximity <sup>ACTIVE</sup> to populated areas. We are no longer a sleepy, rural community. More over, a huge volume of cross-sound ferry traffic passes through our area many times daily. Further, DHS appears to have the (false) assumption that Plum Island's separation from the mainland largely assures its safety - through geographic containment.

1 cont.  
21.1  
③ Finally, this area's extreme vulnerability to coastal storms has not been factored <sup>by DHS</sup> in within the last week. I received a letter from my Home Owner INSURER announcing the increase of my deductible (connected with hurricane damage) to \$5400 due to this area's extremely high exposure rating for such events. My over-all deductible for all other loss events is \$500,000.

31  
25.1  
Thanks in advance for NOT placing a BSL-4 LAB facility on Plum Island,

Victor A. Brown

Victor A. Brown  
N.Y.

Comment No: 2 Issue Code: 15.1

DHS notes the commentor's concern about the human health and safety of the surrounding residents. Chapter 3, Section 3.14 investigates the chances of a variety of accidents that could occur with the proposed NBAF and consequences of potential accidents. Although some "accidents" are more likely to occur than others (e.g., safety protocol not being followed), the chances of an accidental release are low. A site-specific emergency response plan would be developed and coordinated with the local emergency management plan and individual facility plans regarding evacuations and other emergency response measures for all potential emergency events including accidents at the NBAF, and which would include stipulations for all special-needs populations.

Comment No: 3 Issue Code: 25.1

DHS notes the commentor's opposition to the Plum Island Site Alternative.

Browning, Nancy

Page 1 of 2

MD0143

**Name and complete address:**

Nancy S. Browning  
 [REDACTED] NC [REDACTED]

**Comment:**

11/12.3

My concern about the proposed NBAF site in Butler, NC is our water supply. I live within 5 miles of the proposed site in Durham County, NC. This area has experienced an extreme, severe or moderate drought for the last 2 yrs. Everyday I cross the Lake Michie bridge and see water receding. I don't have to listen to the news to know that our water system is experiencing extreme stress. I also know that <sup>most of</sup> the communities surrounding the proposed NBAF site use well water for personal + livestock needs, in this area ground water has become harder to find. Many people have had to redig wells. Others are finding that their wells take longer to recover after use. It has been largely reported that the aquifers in NC (including this area) are not recovering from this drought. How are you going to address this problem when you begin tapping into the ground water? You cannot conserve due to the nature of your research. Have you thought about the consequences to the surrounding communities that depend on ground water for their basic needs. Estimating usage of 39,500,000 gallons of water a year means to mean that your usage will be far more especially when you expand the facility. This area cannot handle that much water being consumed. Along with all the other horrible concerns your facility could devastate a rural lifestyle that residents to this area are trying to conserve.

Comment No: 1

Issue Code: 12.3

DHS notes the commentor's concerns and acknowledges the current regional drought conditions. Described in Section 3.7.7.3.1 of the NBAF EIS, the South Granville Water and Sewer Authority has 3 to 4 million gallons per day of excess potable water capacity and could meet NBAF's need of approximately 110,000 gallons per day, currently less than 0.4% of the Authority's total current capacity. The NBAF annual potable water usage is expected to be approximately equivalent to the amount consumed by 210 residential homes. Section 3.13.8 describes the waste management processes that would be used to control and dispose of NBAF's liquid and solid waste. Sections 3.3.7 and 3.7.7 describe standard methods used to prevent and mitigate potential spills and runoff affects. Section 3.10.7.1.3 describes local response capabilities and Section 3.14.4.5 describes an accidental release's site specific consequences.

Browning, Nancy

Page 2 of 2

MD0143

From Nancy Browning

[Redacted]

RESEARCH TRIANGLE REGION  
NC 276 1 T  
22 AUG 2008 PM



RECEIVED BY S&T EXEC SEC  
2008 NOV 13 A 11: 14

Soi

US Dept. of Homeland Security  
Science & Technology Director  
James V. Johnson  
Mail Stop #2100  
245 Murray Lane SW  
Washington, DC 20528



20528X0004



**Brownlee, Karin**

**Page 1 of 2**

WD0785

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**From:** Doug & Karin Brownlee [dbrownlee10@comcast.net]  
**Sent:** Monday, August 25, 2008 5:45 PM  
**To:** NBAFProgramManager  
**Cc:** Senator Karin Brownlee  
**Subject:** letter supporting NBAF in Kansas  
**Attachments:** NBAF support letter 8-08.pdf

Please see the attached letter supporting the Kansas selection for the NBAF facility.

State Senator Karin Brownlee, Kansas

Brownlee, Karin

Page 2 of 2

STATE OF KANSAS

SENATOR, 23RD DISTRICT  
14725 S. CHALET DRIVE  
OLATHE, KANSAS 66062  
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SENATOR KARIN BROWNLEE  
ASSISTANT MAJORITY LEADER

**WD0785**

**COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS**  
COMMERCE, CO-CHAIRPERSON  
FEDERAL & STATE AFFAIRS  
FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS & INSURANCE  
INTERSTATE COOPERATION

**JOINT COMMITTEES:**  
ADMINISTRATIVE RULES & REGULATIONS  
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT  
CORRECTIONS AND JUVENILE JUSTICE

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August 25, 2008

Mr. James Johnson  
DHS Science & Technology Directorate  
Mail Stop #2100  
245 Murray Ln, SW; Bldg 410  
Washington, DC 20528

Dear Mr. Johnson,

1) 24.4 I would like to add my voice to those from Kansas who support the proposal to locate the National Bio and Agro-Defense Facility (NBAF) in Manhattan, Kansas. Kansas has been purposely pursuing bioscience companies and facilities to our state since the Legislature created the Kansas Bioscience Authority in 2004. Recently Kansas was recognized in *The State Bioscience initiatives 2008 Report* for having the greatest growth rate of all states with newly established companies in the research, testing and medical laboratories subsector. 2006 saw Kansas grow with 241 companies in this category.

NBAF will complement the efforts that Kansas has made in this area already with our Biosecurity Research Institute (BRI) which will be NBAF's neighbor. BRI's state of the art facility will allow the mission of NBAF to be jump-started from day one. BRI is already working on the serious pathogens that can be a threat to our livestock and food supply.

Kansas is ready to be the home of NBAF. We have legislative support for this facility as well as the expertise to supply the needed workforce. We are home to the Animal Health Corridor which has a tremendous concentration of companies which are world leaders in providing the best science possible for caring for animals.

Thank you for considering my comments on NBAF. We excitedly await the decision of the team which will be making this important decision for the future of Kansas and the United States.

Sincerely,  
  
State Senator Karin Brownlee

Comment No: 1

Issue Code: 24.4

DHS notes the State Senator's support for the Manhattan Campus Site Alternative.

## Brownson, Charlene

## Page 1 of 1

PD0108

August 19, 2008

Hi,

1|25.4 | I wanted to make a comment. My name is Charlene Brownson. I live in [REDACTED] Kansas and I'm very much opposed to the bio hazard lab coming to Manhattan and to the University.

2|21.4 | I think it's a great danger to the community and I'm very much opposed to that.

Comment No: 1                      Issue Code: 25.4

DHS notes the commentor's opposition to the Manhattan Campus Site Alternative.

Comment No: 2                      Issue Code: 21.4

DHS notes the commentor's statement regarding the danger posed by the NBAF to local communities. The NBAF would be designed, constructed, and operated to ensure the maximum level of public safety and to fulfill all necessary requirements to protect the environment. As described in Chapter 3 and summarized in Section 2.5 of the NBAF EIS, the impacts of activities during normal operations at any of the six site alternatives would likely be minor. Section 3.14 and Appendix E of the NBAF EIS, investigates the chances of a variety of accidents that could occur with the proposed NBAF and consequences of potential accidents. Accidents could occur in the form of procedural violations (operational accidents), natural phenomena accidents, external events, and intentional acts. Although some accidents are more likely to occur than others (e.g., safety protocol not being followed), the chances of an accidental release are low. Appendix B to the EIS describes biocontainment lapses and laboratory acquired infections. Laboratory-acquired infections have not been shown to be a threat to the community at large. Should the NBAF Record of Decision call for the design, construction, and operations of the NBAF then site specific protocols would be developed, in coordination with local emergency response agencies, that would consider the diversity and density of populations residing within the local area. DHS would have site-specific standard operating procedures and response plans in place prior to the initiation of research activities at the proposed NBAF. In addition, oversight of NBAF operations, as described in Section 2.2.2.6 of the NBAF EIS, will be conducted in part by the Institutional Biosafety Committee (IBC), which includes community representative participation, and the APHIS Animal Research Policy and Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee.

**Brummitt, III, Jim**

**Page 1 of 1**

WD0480

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**From:** Jim Brummitt III [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, August 22, 2008 12:01 PM  
**To:** NBAFProgramManager  
**Subject:** NBAF ETS

1/25.3 | Aire-Wise, Inc in [REDACTED] NC. is in favor of the NBAF Draft Environmental Impact  
Thanks Jim Brummitt III

Comment No: 1      Issue Code: 24.3  
DHS notes the commentor's statement.

**Bryan, Joe**

**Page 1 of 1**

**WD0319**

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**From:** JOSEPH BRYAN [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, August 18, 2008 12:12 PM  
**To:** NBAFProgramManager  
**Subject:** (ADDING MY ADDRESS)BIO-DEFENSE FACILITY IN BUTNER, NC.

08-18-08

1|24.3 | I AM VERY MUCH IN SUPPORT OF THE PROPOSED BIO-DEFENSE FACILITY IN  
| BUTNER, NC.

JOE BRYAN, PRESIDENT  
JOE BRYAN & ASSOCIATES, INC.

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] NC [REDACTED]

Comment No: 1      Issue Code: 24.3  
DHS notes the commentor's support for the Umstead Research Farm Site Alternative.

**Buchanan, Mary**

**Page 1 of 1**

PD0307

August 25, 2008

1| 24.5 | This is Mary Buchanan. I live in the [REDACTED] Mississippi, Jackson area, and would be proud to have the facility here.

Thank you for the opportunity.

Good bye.

Comment No: 1

Issue Code: 24.5

DHS notes the commentor's support for the Flora Industrial Park Site Alternative.

**Buchanan, Michael**

**Page 1 of 1**

WD0253

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**From:** carmaster [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 14, 2008 1:50 PM  
**To:** NBAFProgramManager  
**Subject:** plum island research facility

1|5.1 | I am a Connecticut resident and I would like to say that I have no objection to a larger facility on Plum Island. I boat on Long Island Sound and am in the area frequently and believe that the NIMBY concerns of my fellow residents is unwarranted. Thank you. Michael Buchanan [REDACTED]  
CT. [REDACTED]

Comment No: 1      Issue Code: 5.1  
DHS notes the commentor's support for the Plum Island Site Alternative.

**Buchanan, Pat**

**Page 1 of 1**

WD0451

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**From:** Pat Buchanan [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, August 22, 2008 3:43 PM  
**To:** NBAFProgramManager  
**Subject:** kansas in support of NBAF

1| 24.4

This would be a great facility in the heartland of America. Kstate is known thru out the world for it's agricultural education and this would solidify that ranking. I am in support of this facility at Kansas State University.

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Comment No: 1

Issue Code: 24.4

DHS notes the commentor's support for the Manhattan Campus Site Alternative.

**Buck, David**

**Page 1 of 1**

WD0817

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**From:** david buck [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, August 25, 2008 5:52 PM  
**To:** NBAFProgramManager  
**Subject:** NBAF

1| 19.4 | As a resident of [REDACTED] Kansas, I am concerned about the safety of having this facility at Kansas State University.  
Thank You,  
David Buck

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Comment No: 1      Issue Code: 19.4

DHS notes the commentor's concern regarding the siting, construction and operation of the NBAF at the Manhattan Campus Site. Section 3.14 and Appendix E of the NBAF EIS investigate the chances of a variety of accidents that could occur and consequences of those accidents. Accidents could occur in the form of procedural violations (operational accidents), natural phenomena accidents, external events, and intentional acts. Although some accidents are more likely to occur than others (e.g., safety protocol not being followed), the chances of an accidental release are low. The specific objective of the hazard identification, accident analysis, and risk assessment is to identify the likelihood and consequences from accidents or intentional subversive acts. In addition to identifying the potential for or likelihood of the scenarios leading to adverse consequences, this analysis provides support for the identification of specific engineering and administrative controls to either prevent a pathogen release or mitigate the consequences of such a release. The risk of an accidental release of a pathogen is extremely low.

**Bunch, John****Page 1 of 1**

WD0573

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**From:** John Bunch [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Sunday, August 24, 2008 3:57 PM  
**To:** nbafterprogrammanager@dhs.gov  
**Subject:** Germ Lab comments.

1| 25.0 | I am writing to register my opposition to the further development of "Germ Labs" or the support of biological weapons research in University settings.

2| 25.4 | The current search for a new facility location is ill advised given the inability of anyone to insure that the public will not be in danger from laboratory accidents or outbreaks.

To pursue this line of activity is not responsible. I live near [REDACTED] KS and would be very upset if the lab was located at Kansas State University.

John Bunch

[REDACTED] KS [REDACTED]

Comment No: 1                      Issue Code: 25.0

DHS notes the commentor's opinion. The NBAF's mission is defensive and would not involve offensive bioweapons research or development. The international treaty, known as the Biological and Toxin Weapons Convention, to which the United States is a signatory, prohibits the development, production, stockpiling and acquisition of such weapons. DHS's mission is to study foreign animal and zoonotic (transmitted from animals to humans) diseases that threaten our agricultural livestock and agricultural economy. The purpose of the NBAF would be to develop tests to detect foreign animal and zoonotic diseases and develop vaccines (or other countermeasures such as antiviral therapies) to protect agriculture and food systems in the United States.

Comment No: 2                      Issue Code: 25.4

DHS notes the commentor's opposition to the Manhattan Campus Site Alternative.

Bunch, Shawn

Page 1 of 1

PD0276

August 24, 2008

Hello. My name is Shawn Bunch. I am a nurse practitioner. I live in Kansas; I do not live in Manhattan.

I'm very concerned about a facility of this type being built where anyone or any animal can possibly be affected. In my life I have seen some local small disasters and we have studied for larger disasters. And I do not believe that our country or our population, certainly not our State, can handle any kind of disaster that might involve anything of this magnitude.

1| 25.4  
2| 15.4

I would urge whoever is in charge of this facility to move it away from where it could possibly be a problem for any person if any of the organisms got out into the population. Perhaps not even on land, perhaps out in the ocean or up on the moon perhaps or maybe not at all. I'm quite concerned about this. I will continue to research. I think people need to be really smart right now.

3| 5.0

Thank you.

Bye.

Comment No: 1                      Issue Code: 25.4

DHS notes the commentor's opposition to the Manhattan Campus Site Alternative.

Comment No: 2                      Issue Code: 15.4

DHS notes commentor's concern. The evaluation of an accidental release of FMD virus presented in Section 3.10.9 and Appendix D of the NBAF EIS included national-scale economic consequences as well as local economic consequences for all sites including the Manhattan Campus Site Alternative that took into account outbreak control costs. The risk of a pathogen release from the proposed NBAF at each of the proposed sites was evaluated in Section 3.14 of the NBAF EIS and was determined to be low for all sites.

Comment No: 3                      Issue Code: 5.0

DHS held a competitive process to select potential sites for the proposed NBAF as described in DEIS Section 2.3.1. A multi-disciplinary team of engineers, scientists, lawyers, academics and communicators from the departments of Homeland Security, Agriculture, Health and Human Services, and Defense reviewed the submissions based primarily on environmental suitability and proximity to research capabilities, proximity to workforce, acquisition/construction/operations, and community acceptance. Ultimately, DHS identified five site alternatives that surpassed others in meeting the evaluation criteria and DHS preferences, and determined that they, in addition to the Plum Island Site, would be evaluated in the EIS as alternatives for the proposed NBAF. It has been shown that modern biosafety laboratories can be safely operated in populated areas. An example is the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in downtown Atlanta, Georgia, where such facilities employ modern biocontainment technologies and safety protocols, such as would be employed in the design, construction, and operation of NBAF.

**Bunck, Betty**

**Page 1 of 1**

WD0717

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**From:** Bunck Seed Farms [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, August 25, 2008 12:19 PM  
**To:** NBAFProgramManager  
**Subject:** Manhattan, Kansas

1|24.4

Manhattan Kansas should be first choice for the National Bio and Agro Defense Facility. Because of it's research expertise, excellent animal health industry and their ability to protect American's food supply it should be selected as the site. Manhattan is located in the middle of the United States, near enough to an international airport for easy access but far enough for safety purposes. Manhattan Kansas should definitely be the first choice. Thank you. Betty Bunck, a former Kansas Wheat Commissioner.

Comment No: 1

Issue Code: 24.4

DHS notes the commentor's support for the Manhattan Campus Site Alternative.