In accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), the U.S. Marine Corps Marine Forces Reserve (MARFORRES) is preparing an environmental assessment (EA) for the construction and operation of a 50,000 square foot Marine Corps Reserve Training Center (MCRTC) at the Marine Corps owned Clinton Local Training Area (LTA) in Clinton, Pennsylvania (PA). MARFORRES ground units that currently train at the North Versailles MCRTC located approximately 35 miles northwest would meet their operational training requirements at the Clinton MCRTC.

The purpose of the proposed action is to provide access to a range and training area that would meet MARFORRES training requirements in the Pittsburgh area.

The North Versailles MCRTC is unsafe, structurally deficient, and does not meet the training and operational requirements criteria of the MARFORRES ground units.

The need for the proposed action is to ensure that Marine reservists meet current Marine Corps individual and/or unit level operational readiness training requirements in a training facility that meets the current criteria for security, functionality, sustainability, and energy efficiency.

The MCRTC would construct a single story training center west/northwest of the Air Force small arms firing range. The MCRTC would include a vehicle maintenance facility; tactical vehicle parking area; closed-loop vehicle wash rack system; an armory; drill hall; and offices. Parking areas to accommodate up to 206 privately owned vehicles would be constructed adjacent to the training center. Security fencing and signs would be placed around the perimeter of the property and an electronic security system with a remotely controlled sliding entrance gate would be installed. New utility infrastructure and service connections would be installed within the PA Department of Transportation right-of-way.

Several small structures within the Clinton LTA would be removed; two concrete and earthen bunkers would remain intact. In total, approximately 39 acres would be disturbed to implement the proposed action.
The Marine Corps is consulting with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, PA Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers regarding the potential effects on biological and water resources and with the PA State Historic Preservation Office regarding the potential effects on cultural resources.

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Your comments are requested by February 26, 2020.