

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE 23D CIVIL ENGINEER SQUADRON (ACC) MOODY AIR FORCE BASE GEORGIA

John L. Eunice, III Deputy Base Civil Engineer 23d Civil Engineer Squadron 3485 Georgia Street Moody AFB GA 31699-1707

Mr. John S. Quarterman Suwanee Riverkeeper PO Box 88 Hahira GA 31632

Dear Mr. Quarterman:

The United States Air Force (Air Force) has prepared an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) in accordance with the Council of Environmental Quality guidelines for the implementation of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA) for the Comprehensive Airspace Initiative for Moody Air Force Base (AFB). The Notification of Availability for the Draft EIS will appear in the Federal Register on September 25, 2020.

The Draft EIS evaluates the potential impacts on the human and natural environment as a result of the proposal to modify existing and create new Military Operations Areas (MOAs) in the Moody Airspace Complex to support the training missions at Moody AFB, Georgia. As required by NEPA, a No Action Alternative, where low-altitude MOAs would not be charted in the Moody Airspace Complex is addressed in the Draft EIS.

The Moody Airspace Complex, located above 28 counties in south Georgia and north Florida, consists primarily of mid- to higher-altitude Special Use Airspace with limited low-altitude Special Use Airspace. A-10C, A-29, HH-60G, and HC-130J aircrews assigned to Moody AFB have severely constrained access to few existing, overly congested low-altitude Special Use Airspace wherein they can conduct required training operations at low-altitude. The Proposed Action would configure new low-altitude MOAs immediately underneath and within the lateral confines of the existing Corsair North, Corsair South, Mustang, Thud, and Warhawk MOAs and Restricted Area R-3008C and would lower the floor of the Moody 2 North MOA. Moody AFB would assign and schedule the new low-altitude MOAs to provide adequate low-altitude floors for training operations at low altitude. Existing training operations at low altitudes conducted from Moody AFB would be shifted to the new MOAs and no new training operations are proposed.

The Proposed Action would not require changes in the types or numbers of aircraft based at Moody Air Force Base, appreciable increases in the number of flights or sorties, alterations in