

Congress of the United States Washington, DC

April 9, 2021

Lieutenant General Jon Jensen, USA
Director, Army National Guard
National Guard Bureau
1636 Defense Pentagon
Washington, DC 20301

RE: PROPOSED MPMG RANGE at CAMP EDWARDS, MASSACHUSETTS

Dear Lieutenant General Jensen,

We are writing to share our concerns and request additional action prior to construction of the proposed Multi-Purpose Machine Gun (MPMG) Range at Camp Edwards on Joint Base Cape Cod (JBCC) in Massachusetts.

Since the public became aware of this project last summer, our offices have received numerous correspondence from our constituents expressing their concerns over the impact of the MPMG project on the environment and surrounding communities. The majority of the concerns shared with our office echoed the public comments submitted to the Massachusetts National Guard bureau and shared with our offices by the Association to Preserve Cape Cod subsequent to their successful request under the Massachusetts Public Records Law.

We believe in the mission of the Guard, and we also agree with our constituents that our State & Federal government has an obligation to take all possible care in determining any potential impacts that the construction of this range may incur – even if that means going above and beyond what is required by statute. JBCC is more than just an essential part of the Cape Cod community and a driver of the local economy; JBCC also sits atop the sole aquifer on Cape Cod and is the home to forty-one listed species. For too long, activities on the land now known as JBCC did not take environmental impact into account, but JBCC had evolved over the years into a model for renewable, environmentally sensitive defense installations. Since the cleanup of JBCC began there has been an ongoing dialogue and collaboration between JBCC, local officials, and environmental groups to ensure that training activities protect Cape Cod's water supply and that collaboration must continue to ensure that the greater Cape Cod community continues to support the base.

The overwhelming majority of constituents who have contacted our offices believe that further review of the project should be required beyond the standard study that was conducted, despite the draft Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) that the Guard has indicated will be finalized this week. With this in mind, we would also request a congressional staff briefing on the MPMG, including details about the FONSI.

On behalf of our constituents, we respectfully request that you determine whether a full Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) is warranted for the Multi-Purpose Machine Gun (MPMG) Range at Camp Edwards, and that you include consideration of stakeholder input from both abutters and those who rely on water from Cape Cod's sole source aquifer.

We thank you in advance for your attention to this matter. If you have any questions, please contact Garrett Donovan in Congressman Keating's office at (202) 225-3111 or by email at ghdonovan@mail.house.gov.

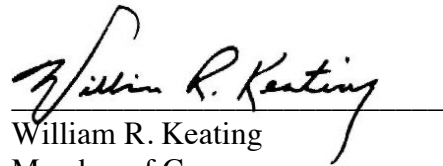
Sincerely,



Elizabeth Warren
United States Senator



Edward J. Markey
United States Senator



William R. Keating
Member of Congress