

NATIONAL RADIO ASTRONOMY OBSERVATORY  
Green Bank, West Virginia

November 29, 1983

TO: Coordinating Committee

FROM: B. Peery

SUBJECT: Environmental Impact Statements (EIS)

We have checked a number of prospective sites that might be located at existing installations as to what must be done to comply with any requirements for an EIS. It is understood that what has been done in the past at these locations for projects similar to and larger than ours, is to write a brief description of the project and submit it to a planning group or similar committee in their organization for review, approval, and the submitting of an appropriate statement to the required agency. It was their opinion that anything we did on their site would follow the same procedure. Those sites we contacted submit their descriptions to the agency or organization listed below:

Los Alamos - Local Committee (DOE)

Kitt Peak - NSF

McDonald - University of Texas

Owens Valley Observatory - California Institute of Technology, and  
City of Los Angeles

Haystack - Massachusetts Institute of Technology

It was my understanding that the Master Plan or "Complex Development Plan" for Mauna Kea would cover an installation there in a similar manner.

Pie Town, N.M., Orville, Wash., and North Liberty, Iowa would require that we work through NSF in a similar manner to that described for Kitt Peak. It is my opinion that a brief description and a statement that a comprehensive statement is not required would meet the EPA requirements. It will not be a major action or impact in the area on employment, population, or business. The environment and terrain will not be disturbed by major excavations or the like. The end result is equivalent to a large residence on an area of approximately one and one-half acres near an existing highway. There will not be any discharge of liquids or gases from the installation. The skyline will be changed slightly by the antenna which should not be objectionable as the sites will be in remote areas.

All local health and safety codes will be complied with and once the exact plot of ground is being negotiated for, the EIS requirements will be reviewed in detail and complied with.

The AOC might or might not be similar to an individual site depending upon the final decision of its location.

BP/bbs