

Ellington Air Guard Station, TX

Recommendation: Realign Ellington Field Air Guard Station, Texas. The 147th Fighter Wing's F-16s (15 aircraft) will retire. The wing's expeditionary combat support (ECS) elements will remain in place. Ellington retains the capability to support the Homeland Defense mission. The 272d Engineering Installation Squadron, an ANG geographically separated unit moves into available space on Ellington.

Justification: Ellington (80) ranked low in military value. The reduction in F-16 force structure and the need to align common versions of the F-16 at the same bases argued for allowing Ellington's F-16s to retire in place with no fighter mission backfill. Ellington is realigned to preserve the homeland defense Air Sovereignty Alert (ASA) site using aircraft assigned elsewhere and operating from Ellington on a rotational basis as tasked by US Northern Command. In a related recommendation, the Lackland Air Force Base, Texas Air National Guard F-16 initial training unit is increased in size to capitalize on Ellington's trained pilots and maintainers.

Payback: The total estimated one-time cost to the Department of Defense to implement this recommendation is \$1.6 million. The net of all costs and savings to the Department during the implementation period is a savings of \$0.1 million. Annual recurring savings to the Department after implementation are \$0.4 million with a payback expected in five years. The net present value of the costs and savings to the Department over 20 years is a savings of \$3.6 million.

Economic Impact on Communities: Assuming no economic recovery, this recommendation could result in a maximum potential reduction of 5 jobs (3 direct jobs and 2 indirect jobs) over the 2006-2011 in the Houston-Baytown-Sugar Land, Texas Metropolitan Statistical economic area, which is less than 0.1 percent of economic area employment. The aggregate economic impact of all recommended actions on this economic region of influence was considered and is at Appendix B of Volume I.

Community Infrastructure Assessment: A review of community attributes indicates no issues regarding the ability of the infrastructure of the communities to support missions, forces and personnel. There are no known community infrastructure impediments to implementation of all recommendations affecting the installations in this recommendation.

Environmental Impact: There are no anticipated impacts to air quality; cultural, archeological, or tribal resources; dredging; land use constraints or sensitive resource areas; marine mammals, resources, or sanctuaries; noise; threatened and endangered species or critical habitat; waste management; water resources; or wetlands. No impacts are anticipated for the costs of environmental restoration, environmental compliance, or waste management activities. The aggregate environmental impact of all recommended BRAC actions affecting the installations in this recommendation have been reviewed. There are no known environmental impediments to the implementation of this recommendation.