

Nationwide Differential GPS (NDGPS) Program Update

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Nationwide Differential GPS (NDGPS)

System Description

- 85 Nationwide Remote Broadcast Sites throughout the United States and territories
 - o 92% nationwide signal coverage
 - Better than 10 meter accuracy
 - \circ 10 second integrity alarm to the user
 - o Satisfies Harbor/Harbor Approach requirements
 - o 99.7% availability requirement
 - o 99.9% availability requirement for VTS
 - o Sites equipped with out-of-tolerance user alerting



Stakeholders

- U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE)
- Department of Transportation (DOT)
- National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration:
 - GPS Surface Observing System (GSOS)
 - Continuously Operating Reference Stations (CORS) network



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Operations

- Redundant equipment at sites
- Redundant controls stations at NAVCEN

Planned Site Closure/ Reduction of Caretaker Sites

- DOT "Caretaker" Sites (GWEN) being removed from Property Rolls
 - No new NDGPS construction planned; no budget support
 - Presidential memorandum Disposing of Unneeded
 Federal Real Estate
 - Reducing maintenance and lease costs
 - 19 locations
 - 4 without infrastructure already released
 - 15 with infrastructure under environmental review



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DOT NDGPS Program Status

- Inland (DOT) Tower Recapitalization
 - Upgrade reference stations/integrity monitors/antenna
 - Install IP-based operations system
 - Upgrade transmitters
 - Set long-term O&M baseline, 15 year service life
 - Set a single "plug and play" configuration across all NDGPS sites
 - Full funding received; Scheduled for completion 9/17/2014
- Relative Budget Consistency
 - Strong support for an O&M "floor"
 - USCG Billets (FY2016 commitment current)
 - Aided by several cost control measures



Analysis - Future NDGPS Investment Decisions

- Identify and assess alternatives
 - Technical assessments of impacts of alternatives
 - Cost assessments of alternatives/use cases
 - Requires site-by-site assessment as well as systemic
 - Need to include costs for various scenarios:
 - Continuation/partial continuation/phased continuation
 - Partial/staged decommissioning by site/use cases
 - Transfer to other parties
 - Hybrid alternatives
 - Ongoing O&M; environmental assessment and remediation; deconstruction; cost/benefit assessments



Decision Timeline

- Decision Not Earlier Than (NET) Fall/Winter 2014
 - Support FY17 budget request (implement NET FY17)
 - Existing O&M budgets (USCG and DOT) cannot support deconstruction and site remediation, especially if continuing service
 - Support planning/decision processes within USCG and USDOT



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Continuing Responsibilities

- Uninterrupted NDGPS service to users as currently provided
 - Routine operations and maintenance of 86 NDGPS sites (49 USCG/Maritime, 29 DOT/Inland sites, 7 ACOE).
 - Watchstanding, troubleshooting, systems support engineering, systems analysis and reporting
- Public/user community information/involvement in decision processes and Next Steps
- Continuation of DOT site recapitalization
 - Full funding received and work in progress
 - Sets long-term low-cost O&M baseline, 15 year service life
 - Sets a single "plug and play" configuration across USCG and DOT sites for reduced outyear O&M costs
 - Enables all possible alternatives/use cases for decision
 - Expected Completion 9/17/2014



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Questions?

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