

## Discussion Points

### MILITARY SERVICES

#### General Provision #89 of the FY Appropriations Act

1. General Provision #89 of the FY 2019 Appropriations Act authorizes State agencies to obtain employment and income information from third-party commercial consumer reporting agencies for the purpose of obtaining real-time employment and income information to help determine program eligibility. The intent of the general provision is to achieve cost savings, improve timeliness, and minimize fraud.

- **Answer: General Provision #89 of the FY 2019 Appropriations Act is not applicable to the Department.**

#### Impact of Minimum Wage

2. P.L.2019, c.32 established several multiyear schedules for gradually raising the State minimum wage from currently \$8.85 per hour to not less than \$15.00 per hour. The increase may affect department staff, third parties that provide services to or on behalf of the department, and programs with means-tested eligibility criteria.

In FY 2020, the general State minimum wage will rise as follows: 1) on July 1, 2019 to \$10.00 per hour; and 2) on January 1, 2020, to not less than \$11.00 per hour. The general minimum wage schedule will increase to at least \$12 per hour on January 1, 2021; \$13 per hour on January 1, 2022; \$14 per hour on January 1, 2023; and \$15 per hour on January 1, 2024.

- **Questions: Please quantify the fiscal impact to the department in FY 2020 of the increases in the minimum wage of department employees from \$8.85 to \$10 per hour on July 1, 2019 and from \$10 to \$11 per hour on January 1, 2020, and the number of employees who will be impacted by each increase. Relative to current compensation levels, please provide the same information assuming an hourly minimum wage of \$12, \$13, \$14, and \$15.**
- **Questions: Please quantify the fiscal impact to the department in FY 2020 of the increases in the minimum wage of employees of third parties that provide services either to the department, including temporary employment services, or on behalf of the department according to contractual agreements. Relative to current compensation levels, please provide the same information assuming an hourly minimum wage of \$12, \$13, \$14, and \$15.**
- **Questions: Please quantify the fiscal impact to the department in FY 2020 of the increases in the minimum wage of enrollees in programs run by the department that have means-tested eligibility criteria. Relative to current compensation levels, please provide the same information assuming an hourly minimum wage of \$12, \$13, \$14, and \$15. Please list the programs with income-based eligibility criteria that will be affected by P.L.2019, c.32 and for**

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each such program specify the law's projected effects on enrollment, the benefits provided to enrollees, and the projected cost savings to the department.

- Answer: The minimum wage issue does not have an impact on the Department.

### Executive Order No. 4 of 2018 (Murphy)

3. Executive Order No. 4 of 2018 (Murphy) required "all State entities that regularly interact with the public shall undertake reasonable measures, to the extent permitted by law and budgetary constraints, to provide information to the public regarding the Affordable Care Act marketplace and ways to enroll. The Executive Order required each State entity to prepare and submit a report to the Governor by May 31, 2018 regarding the actions it has taken to comply with the order and to submit an updated report to the Governor by August 31, 2018.

In response to OLS FY2019 Discussion Point #1, the Department indicated that it was complying with the Governor's Executive Order and would be able to prepare and submit a report to the Governor by May 31, 2018.

- Answer: The HR Division as part of DMAVA does not routinely meet with the "public" as it relates to the Affordable Care Act.

### Sea Girt Regional Training Institute Construction

4. The department) broke ground in FY 2015 on a Regional Training Institute (RTI) at the National Guard Training Center in Sea Girt, an 86,000 square foot facility that includes trainee housing, classrooms, and an administration building. The RTI will allow the 254<sup>th</sup> Training Regiment, a premier Army National Guard training unit in the Northeast, to expand training for soldiers around the region. Construction of the RTI, 100 percent federally funded, was completed in 2017 at a total construction cost of about \$33 million.

The first major event held at the facility was an Environmental Bootcamp. It was attended by about 60 National Guard construction management and environmental professionals from across the country. During fiscal year 2018-2019 the RTI is currently scheduled to host nine Advance Leadership courses for Infantry Non-Commissioned Officers and ten Medic sustainment courses, which are both multi-week courses. Additionally, the Regiment plans to host approximately 22, week-long courses at the facility that will include eight Office of Emergency Management Courses, four Project Management professional Course prep courses, and two Supply Chain Management certification courses. The facility will be utilized for numerous one-day seminars, and on drill weekend for the States Officer Candidate School OCS program.

The FY 2020 budget for the department anticipates receipt of federal funds of \$10 million in both FY 2019 and FY 2020 for RTI construction projects.

- With the original RTI project completed and in use, what additional construction projects at RTI does the department expect to receive funding for in FY 2019 and FY 2020?

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- Answer: Additional construction projects at Regional Training Institute consist of the department requesting funds from the federal government for an estimated \$4.5 million renovation of the Sea Girt Dining facility. The building is an existing structure on the base that is used not only by the National Guard, but by all State tenant agencies who train at the base. The Department may receive these funds either at the fiscal year end of FY2019 or in FY2020.
- **Has the department made specific proposals for new RTI construction projects, or has the Army National Guard proposed additional projects and offered funding?**
- Answer: There are no proposals for new RTI construction projects for the immediate future. The Department is currently focusing our efforts towards receiving federal Military Construction Dollars to replace our aging Readiness Centers such as the proposed new Readiness Center for Newark.
- **What additional training needs essential the department's mission are not met by the current facility?**
- Answer: The Department hopes to receive federal funding for a Field House at the Sea Girt Training Center to support the new Army Physical Fitness Test Requirement to meet current essential training needs. This facility would be open pavilion structure, but covered from the elements with an anticipated construction cost of under a million dollars.

### Federal Funding for Super Storm Sandy Construction Projects at Sea Girt

5. The Disaster Appropriation Act, Public Law 113-2, provided over \$20 million to fund six Super Storm Sandy related projects at the National Guard Training Center in Sea Girt. The projects are replacing damaged facilities and utilities at Sea Girt and include a medical clinic/instruction building, a data and communications duct bank, two maintenance shops, and a back-up power generation station.

In response to an OLS FY 2019 Discussion Point, the department provided an update of the Super Storm Sandy related projects at the National Guard Training Center in Sea Girt as illustrated in the Table 1. All projects were then under construction (except he TELECOM Duct project, completed in 2016). There are no State matching funds required to fund the projects

Table 1

Project	Percent Complete	Completion Date	Expended Federal Funds	Expected Total Cost
TELECOM Duct	100%	September 13, 2016	\$ 1,720,338	\$ 1,720,338
Maintenance Shop	100%	August 7, 2018	\$ 1,181,337	\$ 3,192,808
Engineering Building	100%	August 7, 2018	\$ 1,645,951	\$ 4,448,518
Medical Clinic	100%	June 15, 2018	\$ 4,918,231	\$ 5,232,161
Instruction Building	100%	June 15, 2018	\$ 5,107,171	\$ 5,433,161
Power Plant Building	100%	May 31, 2018	\$ 2,198,030	\$ 2,415,418

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Source: Department of Military and Veterans' Affairs

- **Have all of the projects been completed? Please provide an update of the status of the Super Storm Sandy projects.**
- **Answer: Yes, all of the projects been completed. The current status of the Super Storm Sandy projects is that all projects are complete and the facilities are fully occupied.**

### Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC)

6. In an effort to counter any potential federal policies that would reduce or close military installations in this State, the department was appropriated \$200,000 per year in FY 2015 - FY 2019 for the Council on Armed Forces and Veterans' Affairs, an advocacy group composed of State officials and members of the public who work collectively with the public and private sectors to preserve military installations. Executive Orders 134 and 154 (Christie) created the New Jersey Military Installation Growth and Development Task Force to study the long term viability of the State's five military bases and options for insulating them from closure. The five bases are: the Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst; the 177<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing at Atlantic City Airport in Egg Harbor Township; the Coast Guard Station at Cape May; the Picatinny Arsenal in Morris County; and the Earle Naval Weapons Station in Monmouth County. Upon the recommendation of the Task Force, in 2015 the former Governor issued Executive Order 192 extending the life of the task force and creating the Military and Defense Economic Ombudsman in the Department of State's Business Action Center. The mission of the Ombudsman was to preserve, enhance, and strengthen the State's military installations. The Legislature then approved and Governor enacted the Military and Defense Economic Ombudsman Act, P.L.2017, c.359, establishing that office in DMVA.

The mission of Military and Defense Economic Ombudsman is to coordinate and implement a strategy to fortify and ensure the economic vitality of federal military installations in New Jersey, and to improve the economic environment for the defense industry in this State. The ombudsman's duties include identifying vulnerabilities of and threats to the viability of the State's military installations; recommending strategies and best practices to improve economic outcomes for the State's military installations and defense industry; coordinating the State's efforts by promoting opportunities for defense industry investments and working to create defense industry clusters at each military installation; developing productive relationships with the various governmental, industry, and community stakeholders; and disseminating information on the attributes and benefits of the State's military installations which make them attractive to current and future defense planning, industry investment, and economic growth.

In addition, the ombudsman is to facilitate the permit and application approval process for businesses with projects related to or supporting military installations; conduct marketing efforts; provide information to federal contactors; create a program to establish mentorship relationships between large and small businesses; organize events at military installations to bring together stakeholders focusing on economic development and growth; and, in collaboration with the Office of the Secretary of Higher Education, foster synergies

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between institutions of higher education and the defense industry in this State, which may include the development of a centralized database of higher education contacts and assets.

- **Has anyone been appointed to be the Military and Defense Economic Ombudsman? If not, is there any intent to fill the appointment?**
- Answer: The Adjutant General has recommended a person to be assigned as the Military and Defense Economic Ombudsman. The Governor's appointment office is in the process of vetting the individual. In the meantime, the Department is comprehensively involved in protecting missions, tracking the issues of the five bases, and maintaining current missions. Understanding that the military is the second largest employer of the State, the importance of maintaining and growing missions at the bases in New Jersey has been on the forefront of this Department's agenda. DMAVA currently attends Defense Enhancement Coalition and Picatinny Enhancement Coalition meetings, which are meetings attended by businesses that work on the bases and around the bases. BG Beale and BG Piferski chair the Armed Forces and Veterans Affairs Council meetings and work hand-in-hand with our current Military consultants, Cassidy & Associates. Through the Armed Forces Council, the Department partners with other New Jersey departments such as, Department of Environmental Protection, Department of Transportation, Department of Higher Education, Department of the Treasury, and the Department of State, to ensure that we are forwarding a "One New Jersey" plan and program to enhance the economic stability and economic growth of the State. Both Senate and Assembly members sit on this Council as well.
- **What efforts have been undertaken thus far to fulfill its mission and its statutory duties? How is the \$200,000 in funding in the department's budget that intended to preserve the State' military installations being used?**
- Answer: DMAVA is also working with Cassidy & Associates through a past contract. This consultant group is directed to enlighten and alert Congressmen, US Senators, and DoD Personnel on situations and opportunities at our bases. Currently, the contract with Cassidy & Associates will be expiring on 30 April, 2019. At this point in time, the \$200,000 funding will be used to contract a consulting group to continue the State's presence in Washington DC.

## Renovation, Rehabilitation, Lease/Use, Sale, and Demolition of New Jersey Armories

7.a. Federal National Guard Program Support for maintenance, renovation, and rehabilitation of New Jersey armories is anticipated at \$7 million in FY 2020, the same as in FY 2019. In FY 2018 the department received \$5.3 million to repair the brick exterior and roof of the Jersey City armory and \$3.6 million to restore the roof and heating and cooling system at the Cherry Hill armory.

In FY 2017 the department funded four major boiler replacements; one at the Joint Force Headquarters at BLDG 3601, Fort Dix, and three others were at Field Maintenance shops, located in Somerset, Teaneck, and Vineland. Due to the type of facility and the activities at the facilities, these projects were 100 percent federally reimbursed and cost approximately \$1.2 million.

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The department also began a program to improve the quality and quantity of available restrooms and locker rooms across all of the State-owned armories, which were of advanced age (average 64 years old) an unsuitable for female soldiers. In FY 2016, the department funded a study and the designs to right size the available facilities at these armories. Commencing in FY 2017, DMAVA began the renovation and rehabilitation of the latrines and showers facilities at the Jersey City, Teaneck, Somerset, and Westfield armories. These projects totaled approximately \$3.3 million to complete and were 50 percent reimbursed through federal funding.

FY 2018 projects that are currently awarded or are under advertisement focus on life-cycle replacement of building components: boiler or heating system replacements at the maintenance shops in Cape May and Westfield, and at the Teaneck and Woodbury armories; three roof replacement projects programmed to commence in FY 2019 at the Lawrenceville operations center, the Picatinny Armory, and BLDG 9 at Sea Girt. In addition, the department is planning to renovate the latrine and locker rooms at Cherry Hill and Morristown, and planning vault expansion projects at Hammonton, Woodbridge, and Westfield. These projects total \$9 million in projected spending of which approximately \$5 million will be federally reimbursed.

Table 2 provides a list of the primary lease/use agreements of DMAVA properties. Many of these use agreements are no cost to the State agreements in order to provide support for Veterans organizations or Department of Defense supported youth activities, such as the Civil Air Patrol and the Sea Cadets. The department also has emergency use agreements with schools to serve as a rally points in case of the need to evacuate schools. Many of the facilities are rented out for community and commercial use, seasonal activities such as indoor soccer and single day events such as weddings, flea markets, and vendor shows. The department receives revenues from renting its armories to these various public and private groups for recreational and other activities. In 2015, the department received \$2.2 million in armory rental receipts.

Table 2

<b>Department of Military and Veterans' Affairs Properties</b>	
<b>Armory</b>	<b>Types of Rentals</b>
Atlantic City	Youth Track Events, Commercial Parking
Bridgeton Armory	Pallet Processing Company, Garden Center, and Church
Cherry Hill Armory	Civil Air Patrol (CAP), 112 <sup>th</sup> FA Association, Dog Shows
Dover Armory	Food Truck-MUA Trash & Recycling
Franklin Armory	Littell Center
Freehold Armory	CAP
Jersey City Armory	Local Recreation Program, Sports Events, Prayer Events
Lawrenceville Armory	Sea Cadets, Local Recreation, Sports, County Record Storage
Lodi Armory	Recruiting Naval Militia, Sea Cadets
Mercer Armory	CAP
Morristown Armory	Boy Scouts, Civil War Museum Meetings, Various Private Events and Parking
Riverdale Armory	Motor Cycle Safety Course, Dog Shows

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Somerset Armory	Military Association Activities, Voting Use, Firefighter Testing, Private Events
Teaneck Armory	CAP, Jr Police Academy, Sports, Carnivals, Flea Markets
Vineland Armory	CAP, Private Events
Washington Armory	Graduation Event, Grounds for Use for Model Airplanes
West Orange Armory	Essex Club Use, Motor cycle Safety course, Storage, Sports, Private Events
Westfield Armory	Military support and Association Activities, Sports, School Use, Flying Model Airplanes, Private Events

Source: Department of Military and Veterans' Affairs

- Please provide a chart illustrating by armory the armory rental receipts that the department received annually since FY 2015.

<b>Chart Illustrating By Armory The Armory Rental Receipts That The Department Received Annually Since FY 2015</b>				
<b>Location</b>	<b>FY 2015 Fees Collected</b>	<b>FY 2016 Fees Collected</b>	<b>FY 2017 Fees Collected</b>	<b>FY 2018 Fees Collected</b>
Atlantic City	\$ 17,660.00	\$ 12,920.00	\$ 15,488.00	\$ 15,716.00
Bordentown	\$ 2,973.75	\$ 2,794.50	\$ 2,595.00	\$ 2,645.00
Bordentown CSMS	\$ 13,229.16	No Longer in Inventory		
Bridgeton	\$ 45,903.00	\$ 45,903.00	\$ 45,903.00	\$ 45,903.00
Burlington	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Cape May	\$ 150.00	\$ 225.00	\$ 150.00	\$ 250.00
Cherry Hill	\$ 10,263.50	\$ 5,838.00	\$ 1,992.50	\$ 8,559.00
Dover	\$ 81,800.00	\$ 83,600.00	\$ 82,300.00	\$ 81,725.00
Flemington	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 409.00
Franklin	\$ 26,475.00	\$ 28,950.00	\$ 29,970.00	\$ 30,270.00
Freehold	\$ 8,625.00	\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00	\$ 779.00
Hammonton	\$ 25.00	\$ 25.00	\$ 100.00	\$ 25.00
Jersey City	\$ 242,483.50	\$ 189,852.08	\$ 197,966.58	\$ 216,685.56
Jersey City Naval Mil	\$ 275,000.00	\$ 275,000.00	\$ 275,100.00	Collect for Treasury
Lawrenceville (Trenton)	\$ 14,636.45	\$ 26,097.25	\$ 23,647.50	\$ 18,366.25
Lawrenceville HQ	\$ 58,075.00	\$ 58,075.00	\$ 58,075.00	\$ 58,150.00
Lodi	\$ 259,249.00	\$ 259,245.00	\$ 259,245.00	\$ 259,245.00
Mercer	\$ 261,950.00	\$ 261,953.00	\$ 265,502.18	\$ 263,351.00

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Morristown	\$ 118,835.80	\$ 107,878.37	\$ 140,278.90	\$ 152,272.05
Mount Holly	\$ 1,513.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Newark	\$ 10,280.67	\$ 15,023.89	\$ 11,854.67	\$ 970.00
Princeton	\$ 2,357.00	\$ 2,357.00	\$ 2,357.00	\$ 2,357.00
Riverdale	\$ 18,221.50	\$ 26,417.25	\$ 27,209.00	\$ 32,369.25
Sea Girt	\$ 36,502.27	\$ 26,948.27	\$ 38,032.27	\$ 35,766.50
Somerset	\$ 4,509.75	\$ 2,398.00	\$ 7,797.50	\$ 10,740.75
Teaneck	\$ 320,928.67	\$ 289,194.58	\$ 320,198.25	\$ 302,812.00
Toms River	\$ 25.00	\$ 1,302.50	\$ 25.00	\$ 25.00
Veterans Haven North	\$ 325.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Veterans Haven South	\$ 655.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Vineland	\$ 758.00	\$ 411.00	\$ 251.00	\$ 25.00
Washington	\$ 101.00	\$ 76.00	\$ 101.00	\$ 516.00
West Orange	\$ 270,373.75	\$ 239,308.75	\$ 246,514.34	\$ 249,853.45
Westfield	\$ 128,356.75	\$ 117,529.50	\$ 116,416.00	\$ 128,368.25
Woodbridge	\$ 4,271.25	\$ 1,235.00	\$ 75.00	\$ 75.00
Woodbury	\$ 75.00	\$ 178.00	\$ 75.00	\$ 1,642.50
Woodstown	\$ 75.00	\$ 75.00	\$ 75.00	\$ 75.00
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>\$ 2,236,662.77</b>	<b>\$ 2,080,910.94</b>	<b>\$ 2,169,394.69</b>	<b>\$ 1,919,946.56</b>

- **Is the department obligated to reinvest receipts from each armory in only that facility, either as a condition of using federal funds for projects or otherwise?**
- Answer: The Department is required to comply with 10 USC § 18236(c) when renting out federally supported readiness centers. This federal code requires that income received from such rentals is used to support maintenance of the readiness centers. The Department is not obligated to spend the funds on the specific building from which income is generated but it must be spent to support readiness centers. In addition, as a condition of continued Federal support, the grantee (the State) must increase its contribution to the agreement by at least the amount of all identifiable incremental costs (IIC), for which it receives Federal support (e.g. utilities)...

7.b. Table 3 provides a list of properties that were declared excess properties and were sold in the last ten years and those that have been declared as excess property, but are pending sale.

Table 3

Department of Military and Veterans' Affairs Excess Property						
Date Declared Excess	RPR#	Location	Method of Disposal	Sale Price	Date completed	Notes
1/18/1995	05-01	Pittman Armory	Sold	\$135,000	6/19/2007	Sold to municipality
4/19/2005	05-29	Plainfield Armory	Sold	\$926,000	6/03/2015	HOPES Community Action Partnership
4/24/2005	05-30	Phillipsburg Armory	Sold	\$350,000	4/24/2008	Reverter clause on land, sale of Improvements only
8/9/2011	12-07	Bordentown	IDT	Transfer	4/05/2016	Interdepartmental

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		CSMS				transfer to DOT
3/04/2011	11-18	Bridgeton Armory				At Treasury for Auction of Direct Sale
5/22/2012	13-04	Franklin Armory				At Treasury for Auction of Direct Sale
<b>4/05/2011</b>	<b>11-19</b>	<b>Newton Armory</b>				<b>Pending Environmental Remediation</b>
7/07/2016		Jersey City Colgate Clock site				No action on RPR
5/05/2017	17-13	Tuckerton Armory				

Source: Department of Military and Veterans' Affairs

Of note is the Newton Armory which is undergoing remediation. A November 2016 environmental report concluded that the armory property had environmental concerns regarding an abundance of lead in the soil from munitions. In addition, State testing of the property over the past decade discovered buried fuel tanks and other contaminants in the soil. The fuel tanks have been removed, the armory building has been demolished, and most of the contaminated soil issues have been addressed, leaving the lead contamination to be remediated. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has been deployed to evaluate the extent of the contamination in the soil so that the property can be cleaned, rehabilitated, and made ready for sale.

As background, the property was originally owned by the Town of Newton and was sold to the State to be used as an armory. The armory was in operation fifty-one years, from 1956 until 2007. It was declared excess property in 2011. The deed of sale specified that if the property was no longer used as an armory, it would revert back to the town but, prior to the reversion, the Town required the State to remediate the property. Shoprite is interested redeveloping the property.

- **Please discuss in detail, the extent of the all of the environmental issues with the Newton armory and what actions the State undertook to resolve the problems.**
- Answer: The Newton Armory consists of one armory building, one Field Maintenance Shop (FMS) building, a small hazmat building, and an aluminum garage. The armory, FMS, and hazmat building were built in 1956. An addition was built onto the armory in 1977. An Outdoor Small Arms Firing Range (SAFR) was also present. The armory closed in 2008 and most buildings were demolished in 2018.
- Environmental Areas of Concern have been identified as:
  - A 2000-gallon gasoline underground storage tank (UST) was installed in 1958. During the removal of the UST, visual evidence of contamination was only observed around the fill port and/or soils overlying the tank. A remedial

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investigation (RI) was conducted in 2016 which confirmed the presence and delineated the extent of the contaminants of concern in soil and groundwater. The plume is contained within the site and is in shallow groundwater above underlying shale bedrock.

- A former 2,000-gallon heating oil UST (MVSF building) was listed on an August 1986 NJDEP Registration form as being installed in 1957. A UST Closure and Remedial Investigation Report was prepared by Active Tank and Environmental Service in Feb. 1996. Contaminated soil was encountered and the excavation was extended to 20 feet below the ground surface. Some associated piping was still in place. NJDEP issued a No Further Action (for the tank) in 1997. There were no samples collected beneath the fill lines. Maximum concentration of total petroleum hydrocarbons (5,640 milligrams/kilograms (mg/kg)), Methylene chloride (9,394 mg/kg), 1,4 - Dichlorobenzene (253 mg/kg) and xylenes (373 mg/kg) were reported in the 2016 PA Report.
- The Outdoor Range, Military Tank Staging Area and Areas of Fill (southern portion of Site). The Small Arms Firing Range was identified as a potential AOC in March 2016 PA Report. The range was used for training and tanks were observed staged in the range floor in a 1961 aerial photograph. Wetlands are present in the range floor and the potential for unexploded ordnance exists from former operations. The wetlands delineation was completed and an NJDEP wetlands GP-6 Permit was obtained in April 2017 for the soil disturbance work. A munitions and explosives of concern survey/clearance is required prior to conducting the SI/RI field work.
- The Drainage swale / Spillway – South, and Drainage swale / Spillway - North, Pole Mounted Transformers and Areas of Fill down-slope of pavement. These AOCs were identified in the March 2016 PA Report. Soil samples were collected within each of these AOCs during the 2016 SI work and the results indicated exceedances of the NJDEP soil remediation standards for polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs) and metals. All these AOCs are suspect fill areas.
- Cleanup Strategy: Additional delineation of soil and groundwater is underway at the AOCs. A Remedial Investigation Report will be completed followed by a decision document (DD). NJARNG is working with the NGB, Town of Newton, and the NJDEP to identify appropriate property restriction notices that may be used in the developing the clean-up strategy.
- **Given that a drainage gully provided a backstop behind the target range, was there water contamination?**
- Answer: Regarding the drainage gully issue, response is addressed above in Environmental Areas of Concern #4:
  - Drainage swale / Spillway – South, Drainage swale / Spillway – North, Pole Mounted Transformers and Areas of Fill down-slope of pavement. These AOCs were identified in the March 2016 PA Report. Soil samples were

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collected within each of these AOCs during the 2016 SI work and the results indicated exceedances of the NJDEP soil remediation standards for polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs) and metals. All these AOCs are suspect fill areas.

- **What process will the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers undertake to test for and remediate lead contamination?**
- Answer: The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers does not have a role in the testing and remediation of lead contamination. Responsibility for testing and remediating lead is a NJDMAVA responsibility as the land owner and the DOD is supporting cleanup on contaminations that can be traced back to the federal training mission. The Army Corp of Engineers involvement is due to the federal funding and the Army National Guard has utilized them as our agent in the site investigation/clean up
- **Do other armories have the same problem that was uncovered at Newton?**
- Answer: DMAVA has not identified similar problems at other armories. However, given that the average age of a State owned Army National Guard Readiness Center is approximately 70 years old and given the evolution in environmental standards through the years, there may be Areas of Concern still undiscovered at this time. The NJARNG has worked diligently to investigate any known Areas of Concern and has a proactive environment compliance program.

7.c. Also of note is the "Colgate Clock" which is located on the property of the Jersey City armory. The armory property is owned by the State, and the armory is operated by the department. The department receives approximately \$200,000 per year in lease payments from Colgate-Palmolive for the right to have the "Colgate Clock" located on the property. The department uses this funding for armory operations and maintenance.

The "Colgate Clock" was placed on the former site of the Colgate-Palmolive factory in Jersey City in 1924. It was 50 feet in diameter and was, at one time, the largest clock in the world and could be seen from Manhattan. Over time it became an iconic landmark. The current clock is a replacement of the original "Colgate Clock" that was built in 1906 in celebration of Colgate's centennial anniversary. In 1910, Colgate moved its corporate headquarters to Jersey City and remained in Jersey City until 1985 when the company moved its headquarters to New York City. Media reports indicate that the property is sought for park land in Jersey City.

In FY 2017 the money received by the Department of Military and Veterans' Affairs from Colgate-Palmolive from use for operations and maintenance at the Jersey City armory was shifted to the General Fund. In July 2016 the Jersey City clock site was declared excess property, but no action has been taken on the RPR.

- **Is the Jersey City clock site declared as excess property a separate parcel from the Jersey City armory or is it part of the Jersey City armory property?**
- Answer: The Colgate Clock is NOT on the site of the Jersey City Armory. These are two separate and distinct parcels of land. The Army National Guard Facility is 678

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Montgomery Ave and the Colgate Clock is on a parcel of land that the department owns on the Jersey City Waterfront, Block 14502, Lot 10 at the corner of Hudson and Essex Streets.

- The property that the clock is on was acquired from the U.S. Navy for use as a station for the NJ Naval militia. To the Department's knowledge, it was never used for that purpose nor has the Naval Militia shown any requirement for its use.
- **Is the Jersey City armory operational as a military or veterans' facility?**
- The Jersey City Armory is an active Readiness Center and is home for two (2) Infantry Companies from the 113th Infantry Battalion, one (1) Medical Company from the 250th Brigade Support Battalion (BSB) and an Army National Guard recruiting Station. There is a Veterans Service Office (VSO) within the facility; however, the facility itself is considered a military facility.
- **Please discuss the plan for the future of the Jersey City armory. If the clock site is sold, what will happen to the clock?**
- Answer: The department has declared the property excess so any sale or transfer of the property is negotiated by Treasury's Department of Property Management.

7.d. Many armories are now called readiness centers. The United States Army National Guard conducted a three-year study that produced individual state master plans reviewing the existing readiness condition and suitability to meet current and future needs for each state, territory, and the District of Columbia (DC). The individual state reports were consolidated into a national plan called the Readiness Center Transformation Master Plan.

- **What did the New Jersey report recommend as the transformation strategy for New Jersey's armories?**
- Answer: The Transformation Strategy for the NJ Army National Guard called for a combination of new construction and of facility modernizations when the facilities were suitable for expansion/alternation.
- **What did it conclude regarding the condition and suitability of the armories for current and future training, readiness, and drilling of Army National Guard soldiers?**
- Answer: The Army National Guard of New Jersey's existing Readiness Centers' space, which provide crucial training space for NJARNG Soldiers, totals 1.28 million Gross Square Feet. However, to meet 21st century demands, the NJARNG requires 1.98M GSF. That means current facilities provide only 65 percent of the required space. Most of the RCs were built over 60 years ago with outdated criteria that created an imbalance of functional space for today's force. The older buildings are inflexible to fully meet today's workplace arrangements and have limited IT infrastructure that is critical to current and future training practice.

## Discussion Points (Cont'd)

- The space deficit is not only for soldiers but also for parked equipment and the Soldiers' personal vehicles. In recent years, the ARNG has acquired new equipment, but RC space was not expanded to accommodate it. Storage for unit and individual equipment is, on average, 35% less space than required. Classroom shortfalls mean that less than 40% of the required space is available to support training and simulation equipment.
- **What is the status of the implementation of the New Jersey-Readiness Center Transformation Master Plan (RCTMP)?**
- Answer: National attention has shifted off of the re-capitalization of National Guard Readiness Centers, and the Department of Defense seems to have little interest in committing limited military construction dollars towards the RCTMP. The NJARNG leadership continues to inform and educate our Congressional Delegation on the issue and works through our professional organizations, such as the National Guard Association of the United States and the Adjutant Generals Association of the United States, to keep attention on the underfunding of these critical facilities within our communities.

### New Jersey National Guard Youth ChalleNGe Academy (NJYCA)

8.a. The NJYCA program is part of the United States National Guard Youth ChalleNGe program, and for the most part federally funded. The program consists of a 22-week residential phase at Fort Dix and a 12-month post-graduate, post-residential phase during which the participants are matched with a mentor. The cadets are able to earn their New Jersey State High School diploma while at the academy.

The department indicates that its goal is to address "At Risk Youth" as the primary function of the Academy and that every cadet that crosses the graduation threshold is no longer considered "At Risk". To accomplish this, the department provides a comprehensive life skills program that reaches beyond academics and assists the Cadets in exploring and preparing for career options through career assessments, interest inventories, and skills training. The program provides additional classes on hygiene, nutrition, substance abuse prevention, human sexuality, family planning, and communicable diseases to prepare cadets to make positive life choices. The Cadets participate in a structured living environment designed to increase self-awareness, self-discipline, and independent living skills. Further instruction teaches the Cadets the importance of goal setting, managing personal finances, and coping mechanisms.

According to the Department, the NJYCA is a first step to prepare youths interested in joining military service and to introduce them to what being in military service entails. It would seem that transitioning into military service after graduation would be seamless for those who would choose to join the military. However, joining right after graduation is not possible for all cadets because of various service branch requirements that prevent immediate transition. Thus, eligibility to join the military right after graduation is limited and explains why only 4 percent of NJYCA graduates can and do join the military within a year after graduation.

**Discussion Points (Cont'd)**

Table 4

New Jersey Youth ChalleNGe Post-Graduation /Post Residential Phase Placement						
Class #	Graduation Date	Number of Graduates	High School Diploma	Work Force	Education	Military
48	9/2018	74	26%	As of month 7 49%	45%	0%
47	3/2018	60	33%	63%	50%	10%
46	9/2017	82	46%	52%	52%	6%
45	3/2017	81	26%	19%	21%	2%
44	9/2016	82	27%	61%	41%	4%
43	3/2016	109	33%	52%	34%	6%
42	9/2015	100	43%	63%	39%	4%
41	3/2015	100	45%	58%	34%	7%
40	9/2014	57	40%	74%	46%	2%
39	3/2014	101	27%	27%	20%	4%

Source: Department of Military and Veterans' Affairs.

- **Has the department found that Cadets who have graduated from the academy and are eligible to join the military eventually join?**

- Answer: There are Cadets that graduate from the academy who have joined the military. We have a large portion of our graduates who express interest in a military career. To facilitate this we invite military service recruiters into the academy to interview and work with eligible candidates. There are some obstacles they must overcome to achieve this goal. The first being age of candidate. Sixty percent of our residents are not of age to join the military at the time of graduation and must wait until they are age eligible. Also, our residents have recently been granted a reprieve as of November 2018. The age requirements and the GED Tier system for entry into the military have been adjusted to better serve GED holders who are less than 18 years of age. The change in GEG Tier system change has already triggered an increase in eligible candidates, and we are currently working to enlist four Cadets from our current class.

- **Now that the program is well established is there continued enthusiasm for the program at the State and federal levels as well as continued federal funding and policy support for the program?**

Answer: Throughout our efforts to have an open dialog with our partners at the State and federal levels, it is quite evident that there is great support and enthusiasm for what our program stands for and the opportunities it provides to hundreds of at-risk youth annually. Youth ChalleNGe has in operation for 25 years, and is currently recruiting candidates for our 50<sup>th</sup> residential session. The support we receive from all levels continues to be robust. This year New Jersey Youth ChalleNGe received an increase to our Federal Operation budget moving our 75/25 budget to \$4 million. This budget is also supplemented with State discretionary funding for salaries and full-time fringe benefit packages for our employees.

## Discussion Points (Cont'd)

- **In the department's estimation is the program reaching enough "at risk" youths in New Jersey or is there more the program could do?**
- Answer: To expand our reach to youth, the Department annually reviews and publishes a marketing plan that is reviewed by State and Federal authorities. Guidance Memorandums are published to guide efforts and track the program's progress. The State Plan that outlines Operations with Annual Strategic Goals receives annual evaluations to determine feasibility. Social media is being used to expand the program's reach as well as meeting with local and state stakeholders that have a tremendous pulse in communities to assist us in the program's efforts.
- **Could the department expand the program's capacity while maintaining or improving its effectiveness?**
- Answer: Expansion comes at a cost in facility and personnel requirements. Hence, expansion would require additional operational resources to reach maximum "at risk" youth in our State. The current facility can bed down 150 candidates during acclimation with some facility limitations. Moving our program to the next tiered level (125 target graduation rate accomplished in two sessions per FY) would place an acclimation pool of candidates to at least 225 candidates on day one for each class period. This is due to the 30% attrition rate we are currently experiencing during the first two weeks of residential programming. While Class 49's attrition rate was dramatically reduced, the program would need a few more classes to make sure we are tracking a sustainable decrease in attrition.
- **Please update Table 4 for the September 2017, March 2018, and September 2018 classes.**
- Answer: Table 4 has been updated.
- **Were there any Cadets who did not graduate in September 2017, March 2018, and September 2018? If so, how many in September 2017, March 2018, and September 2018 did not graduate?**
- Answer: The number of Cadets that did not graduate were 59 for September 2017, 62 for March 2018, and 54 in September 2018. There are always Cadets that do not complete the program to graduation as Cadets can withdraw from the program or be expelled for conduct.

8.b. In addition to schooling and training, Cadets are involved in community service activities throughout the State. According to the Department of Military and Veterans' Affairs cadets volunteered approximately 11,110 hours of service on average over the past twenty two classes (11 years), providing approximately \$2.8 million in value to communities across New Jersey. Over the past three years, Cadets participated in cleaning State parks, assisting with "Trunk or Treat" events to provide safe trick or treating at Halloween for children, restocking shelves and painting for Habitat for Humanity, writing to military members overseas, assisting with military base events such as Read Across America, 5K races, air shows, and military picnics, distributing items to homeless individuals with the Trenton Rescue Mission, putting flags on graves of fallen military members at Arlington cemetery, sewing hospital gowns for cancer patients for Hug Wraps,

## Discussion Points (Cont'd)

assisting in Boys and Girls Club activities for MLK Day of Service, and assisting with afterschool events at the Pemberton Early Education Center.

Table 5

New Jersey Youth ChalleNGe Community Service			
NJYCA Class #	Graduation Date	Total # of Hours	Value of Service
48	9/2018	3,702	\$ 101,656.92
47	3/2018	3,393	\$ 103,517.00
46	9/2017	4,215	\$ 119,589.90
45	3/2017	3,770	\$ 103,524.20
44	9/2016	4,355	\$ 110,312.15
43	3/2016	5,965	\$ 151,093.15
42	9/2015	5,433	\$ 137,605.22
41	3/2015	4,350	\$ 110,185.50
40	9/2014	3,221	\$ 81,587.93
39	3/2014	4,578	\$ 115,960.74
38	9/2013	4,255	\$ 110,247.00
37	3/2013	7,160	\$ 185,516.40
36	9/2012	7,160	\$ 183,582.40
35	3/2012	7,590	\$ 194,607.60
33/34	3/2011-9/2011	11,000	\$ 235,000.00
31/32	3/2010-9/2010	6,902	\$ 143,900.00
29/30	3/2009-9/2009	13,091	\$ 331,595.03
27/28	3/2008-9/2008	12,281	\$ 230,653.80
25/26	3/2007-9/2007	13,940	\$ 353,100.20
<b>Total</b>		<b>126,361</b>	<b>\$3,103,235.14</b>

Source: Department of Military and Veterans' Affairs

- **Please discuss how the department partners with communities to develop and structure community service projects for the Cadets.**
- Answer: Members of our instructional, support, recruitment and leadership teams visit and develop relationships with schools, organizations, institutions, and individuals as part of their work to have partnerships in place so that our Cadets actively engage in service opportunities during their 22-weeks with us. Some of the activities are designed for small groups (less than 10), while others welcome 12 or more cadets to serve a particular endeavor we are asked to be a part of. In addition, having Youth ChalleNGe located on a United States military base allows our Cadets many other opportunities for serve the military community as needed.
- **In the department's estimation, how does the community service participation component of the program affect the outlook of the Cadets?**
- Answer: The National Youth Leadership Council (nylc.org), a nonprofit organization which exists "to create a more just, sustainable, and peaceful world with young people, their schools, and their communities through service-learning," defines service-learning as "an approach to teaching and learning in which students use academic knowledge and skills to address genuine community needs." The purpose

## Discussion Points (Cont'd)

- of our community service projects is to use a service-learning approach to facilitate the transition of at-risk adolescents into responsible social roles.
- There are many reasons why students drop out of school, but the most common ones are boredom and disaffection. Service-learning is an active learning strategy that connects students to the Academy and the real world. Personal and social development are also influenced and students learn a sense of responsibility (Leming, 1998; Scales & Blyth, 1997). Students have the opportunity to work as a team, build their self-esteem and self-efficacy, and collaborate with positive adult role models.
  - **Does community service provide the Cadets with purpose and access to future productivity?**
  - Answer: Service learning for children of all ages is incredibly beneficial as it promotes, enhances, and encourages strong character; respect for and connectedness to local, state, or national communities; and is an opportunity for students to actively participate in civic activities. Authentic service learning has many dimensions and includes building an understanding of needs and partnerships in students' own communities. It does not place emphasis on hours spent in short-term community service projects; rather, the emphasis is on the learning and greater understanding that takes place from doing the work.
  - **Please expand the list of activities that the cadets have participated in and choose one to describe in detail.**
  - Answer: Table 5 has been updated above. The Cadets have visited Fort Mifflin multiple times, conducted community service with Habitat for Humanity, and visited Dover Air Force Base.
  - Serving the elementary school community, early childhood grades in particular, empowers our Cadets to act as and be seen as leaders to young members of a local community. It also reignites their empathy skills, memories of childhood, and strong sense of family and child development.
  - Based on survey data collected, as well as post-activity debriefings with each cadet, it was quite apparent that these experiences had an immediate and long-lasting impact on each one of them. It enabled our Cadets to use their voices, skills, and critical thinking abilities to make a positive impact in the school community they served during various visits.
  - Cadets were welcomed at their assigned primary school multiple times in order to reach a desired level of comfort and be highly productive at the tasks and activities assigned. Specifically, they were active participants in the school's "Breakfast with Santa" and "Secret Santa" events, as well as Parent-Teacher organization's basket raffle at schools that was a very large school community event with children, their families, and teachers.

## Discussion Points (Cont'd)

8.c. The department is concerned that the proportion of graduates earning a GED has declined, due to the increased rigor of the exam, the reduced academic level of incoming Cadets, and the impact of chronic absenteeism throughout during a Cadet's K-12 education on incoming academic achievement levels. The NJYCA has an average increase of two grade levels. To address the decline in the academic performance levels of Cadets, the department is administering the Adult Basic Education (TABE) Locator Test. The TABE test is used to assess a student's academic readiness and ability and is expected to help improve the academic quality of the Cadets and to improve the ratio of academic credentials awarded per class.

The NJYCA revised curriculum is currently under intensive development. DMAVA recently hired a new Educational Programs Coordinator who is developing curricula for all content areas, i.e., Math, ELA, Social Studies, and Science as well as 21<sup>st</sup> Century skills. Language and Visual/Performing Arts is infused throughout the curriculum to satisfy both National Guard Bureau and New Jersey Challenge Youth Academy graduation requirements simultaneously.

The curriculum considers divergent learning styles and varying educational needs of the students. Built into the curriculum design are accommodations and modifications designed to address empirically researched constructs that impeded academic development of at-risk students. In addition, the curriculum is inclusive and culturally relevant diffusing instructional material that is reflective of the student demographic in and interdisciplinary manner.

Each content area is divided into units and each unit is aligned with New Jersey Core Curriculum and GED progress indicators. Because the Cadets range in age from 16 to 18 and from grades 9 through 12, the curriculum is written using 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> grade standards. Some 8<sup>th</sup> grade standards are used in Math for a review and reiteration of skill sets necessary for Geometry for progressive implementation of the skills at higher levels.

- **Are the youths currently entering the program younger than the youths who entered the program five to ten years ago?**
- **Answer: The entrance requirements for age have remained the same. Candidates must be 16-18 years of age. They may turn 19 after enrollment Day One.**
- **What other differences are apparent in the recent youth population applying to and enrolling in the academy?**
- **Answer: There are number of issues impacting the Cadets:**
  - **Increased number of Cadets prescribed psychotropic medications.**
  - **Increased number of Cadets requiring clinical behavioral intervention.**
  - **Increased number of Cadets previously hospitalized for stress.**
  - **Increased number of Cadets with gang affiliation.**
  - **Locator testing using TABE testing material has shown a decrease in academic standing for the pool of candidates.**

## Discussion Points (Cont'd)

- **How does the New Jersey program rank in each category measured compared to the programs in other states? Please compare the New Jersey program to other states' programs and identify components of other programs that could benefit the New Jersey program.**

**Answer:** The design of the Youth Challenge Programs does not offer a Federal State by State ranking. Each State-run program is unique in its operational engagement. While there are similar measures, the employment is not computable numerically to rank New Jersey compared to the other 38 programs.

### Alternative Energy and Conservation

9. The U.S. Department of Energy's Federal Energy Management Program (FEMP) conjointly with the Interagency Energy Management Task Force recognizes individuals and organizations for significant contributions to energy and water efficiency within the federal government through the annual Federal Energy and Water Management Awards Program. The U.S. Army has taken a lead in energy management and water efficiency conservation and is a significant contributor to these efforts. It has received numerous awards from the U.S. Department of Energy's Federal Energy Management Program. Likewise, the New Jersey Department of Military and Veterans' Affairs has become a leader in statewide conservation efforts and has received five Federal Energy and Water Management Awards since 2006. The Picatinny Arsenal in New Jersey has also won several Federal Energy and Water Management Awards since 2006.

Most recently the department, in collaboration with Rowan University, developed a comprehensive energy and water conservation program, the Clean Cut Campaign, which led to a 64 percent decrease in energy use intensity from the 2003 baseline. "The Clean Cut" Campaign ties together all of the New Jersey Army National Guard's (NJANG) existing energy and water conservation efforts under one main goal: to reduce the NJANG's impact on the environment by promoting a sustainable culture throughout the organization. Before the campaign, the NJANG was implementing various conservation measures throughout its facilities, but lacked a detailed plan to ensure its measures complied with federal regulations. The campaign brought these efforts together to increase efficiency, maximize resources, and lay out a clear path to a sustainable future. Campaign components include a 15-year comprehensive energy and water master plan, a high efficiency lighting initiative, a statewide solar photovoltaic development plan, and an education and awareness campaign. The department won a Federal Energy and Water Management Program Award in 2016 for its efforts.

According to the department, the conservation goal in the comprehensive energy and water master plan has been a 3 percent reduction in energy each year since 2003. All photovoltaic projects are monitored to provide real time verification of generated energy, monthly reporting to the National Guard Bureau (NGB) for utility usage, and long range project program to build and retrofit facilities.

The department notes that the latest targets established for the Department of Defense (DoD) activities were established in Executive Order (EO) 13693 signed March 19, 2015. This EO called for the DoD activities to achieve a 20 percent reliance on clean energy for building electric energy by FY 2022 and a 25 percent reliance by FY 2025. The

## Discussion Points (Cont'd)

current estimate for the department's overall reliance on clean energy for electric energy is 24 percent, which exceeds the EO target.

The department adds that the one objective of the program is to upgrade to LED lighting in all facilities using utility company programs and State, federal, and BPU program funding. In some cases, an LED replacement fixture can result in an 80 percent cost-savings over traditional incandescent and fluorescent bulbs. An example would be replacing a 100-watt incandescent bulb with a 15-watt LED equivalent which would provide the same illumination with a greatly reduced electric consumption. By 2025, the department estimates that all of the department's sites and buildings will experience significant energy efficient improvements from the High Efficiency Lighting (HELP) Program.

The department concludes that energy use reduction is slowing and the reduction in costs to the department will be limited by new larger facilities that are now in operation at the Sea Girt training center. The annual cost per KW for utilities increases annually so the reduction in energy consumption is better characterized as cost avoidance rather than reduced expenses as energy costs per KW are increasing.

- **What work is required to change the current lighting to LED lighting, i.e., is it a matter of just replacing light bulbs or is additional electric work required?**
- Answer: The work required to change the current lighting to LED lighting varies from location to location. In some instances it is as simple as replacing the bulb. In other cases, for example, where florescent bulbs are used, the fixture requires the use of a ballast to regulate the amount of electricity going to the lightbulb. LED lights do not require this ballast; therefore, the entire fixture should be replaced to achieve the desired effects. Finally, when changing other types of fixtures, such as high-pressure sodium, plug in CFL, and halogen fixtures, additional electrical work is required.
- **What is the strategy to accomplish the goals of the water master plan? How are these conservation efficiencies measured?**
- Strategies used to accomplish the goals of the Water Master Plan include reduction in facility water use, installation of water saving measures, and personnel awareness and education. Reduction in water use consists of either decreasing the frequency of certain activities, such as watering landscaping or washing vehicles, or removing the activity entirely if it's determined to be unnecessary. Installation of water saving measures includes installing aerators in sink faucets, replacing toilets with low volume equivalents, installing waterless urinals and replacing appliances (clothes washing machines, dishwashers) with newer, more water efficient models. Personnel awareness and education includes signage informing personnel about how to use less water for certain activities, reminders to shut off faucets and hoses when not in use, along with personnel training classes geared specifically to water reduction efforts.
- These conservation strategies will be measured through the water utility bills provided by the water companies servicing each DMAVA facility. The usage and cost

## Discussion Points (Cont'd)

will be tracked monthly and will be compared between the current and previous fiscal year to determine usage and cost reductions.

- **What actions were needed to ensure compliance with federal regulations?**

- As noted in the narrative above, the latest targets established for Department of Defense activities were established in Executive Order 13693 signed March 19th, 2015, which called for 20% reliance on clean energy for building electric energy by FY 22 and a 25% reliance by FY 25 for DOD installations. While this EO was revoked by EO 13834, the NJARNG is still striving to exceed the standards set by 13693 since 13834 didn't specify any new targets. The NJARNG is currently exceeding the goals set out in EO 13693. This exceedance was achieved by designing and installing additional solar arrays at NJARNG facilities and also through reducing overall energy consumption at these facilities by implementing recommendations from building energy audits.

- **Which facilities will benefit the most from implementation of the water master plan in terms of cost reduction or avoidance?**

- While all DMAVA facilities in NJ will benefit from the water efficiency measures outlined in the Water Master Plan, facilities with the largest current water usage will benefit the most from the implementation of the Water Master Plan. These include facilities that are operated daily and are consistently staffed with a considerable amount of personnel, including the JFHQ and Battle Lab facilities at Fort Dix as well as the Sea Girt NGTC. These facilities use a significant amount of water to operate latrine and shower facilities, kitchens, laundry facilities, vehicle maintenance, and landscaping. Correctly implementing the water saving measures noted under point 2 above should result in water use reduction at these facilities, which should compound over time as more personnel are educated and newer, more water efficient technology and practices become available.

- **How are the conservation efficiencies achieved by the department translated into cost avoidance in State appropriations from a FY 2020 baseline?**

- Conservation efforts by the department include energy audits and solar SREC generation. These efforts are translated into Cost Avoidance through the following methods. Energy audits are conducted by Rowan University through an internship program with Rowan University that enables the Department to conduct the federally mandatory audits of 25% of the state's federally supported facilities each year. SRECs generated through NJARNG's solar arrays are sold on the open market by a 3<sup>rd</sup> party for NJARNG. These SRECs generate alternative income, and this income is directly applied to energy efficiency projects, reducing the state and federal burden to fund the projects.

- **Why are there no budgetary reductions from LED lighting conversion in existing facilities with the same energy usage, such as veterans' homes?**

**Discussion Points (Cont'd)**

- The LED lighting conversions have only recently occurred in most of the Army National Guard facilities, and there is not yet enough billing data with the LEDs installed at the facilities to accurately estimate potential savings. Additionally, unit rates per KWH generally increase yearly, so even though energy consumption may decrease, costs may stay the same. The Veterans homes have not benefitted from DMAVA's renewable and energy efficiency projects as most of these efforts have been federally funded by the Department of Defense and the State Veterans Homes are not eligible for DOD support. The Homes are enrolled in the State's Energy Saving Improvement Plan. The Vineland home is well along in the design process for a major energy efficiency upgrade project and both the Paramus and Menlo Park Homes are expected to be advertised this summer for feasibility studies for potential energy efficiency projects.
- **What actions has the department undertaken with respect to the education awareness campaign component of the program?**
- The Department has held classes for staff to educate them on steps the department is taking to achieve energy efficiency. Quarterly meetings are held to inform staff of year-to-year and quarter-to-quarter improvements in efficiency. If it's noted that a facility is not performing to specification (i.e. an increase in energy consumption when there should be a decrease), the facility and its operations can be investigated to determine where the inefficiencies are occurring and how they can be corrected.

**Photovoltaic Energy Projects Solar Energy Systems**

10. The department has eight photovoltaic projects (solar energy systems) across the State and has received U.S. Department of Defense and National Guard Bureau approval for additional photovoltaic projects in Lawrenceville, Somerset, and Sea Girt as well as a solar thermal system at a facility within the Picatinny Arsenal. In addition, the department reports that one of its biggest energy initiatives will be a MICRO-GRID system that will allow electrical independence at the National Guard Training Center in Sea Girt.

During FY 2018 the department was to complete a photovoltaic carport project at the Somerset armory. The project cost was \$860,000, was 100 percent federally funded and will produce 230 KW. Table 7 lists the federally funded projects completed between FY 2014 and FY 2017.

Table 7

<b>Federally Funded Photovoltaic (PV) Projects Completed FY 2014 – FY 2017</b>				
Year	Size (KW)	Location of Project	Federal Cost	Source of Funding for Project
FY 2015	200KW	Lakehurst Aviation Facility PV	\$350,000	Department of Defense
FY 2016	608KW	Sea Girt PV carport	\$3.2 million	Department of Defense
FY 2016	174KW	Lawrenceville PV carport	\$750,000	Department of Defense

Source: Department of Military and Veterans' Affairs

## Discussion Points (Cont'd)

The Micro-grid is not currently in design. The department mentions that it has done a feasibility study and determined that before a micro-grid could be considered the Sea Girt training center's electrical infrastructure had to be upgraded. As a result, the department is currently designing a federally supported project which will upgrade the existing infrastructure and move much of it underground to improve the systems' resiliency during storms. The micro-grid would only support the Sea Girt Training Centers buildings so that the base may remain operational in the instance of a power outage. It would allow the National Guard to isolate from the grid and provide a platform from which the National Guard could support relief and assistance during the domestic emergencies, but it would not provide power to the neighboring communities.

- **Please identify the federally funded projects that have been completed since FY 2016 and please identify the amount and source of the federal funds.**

- Answer: The federally funded projects that have been completed since FY 2016 by DoD are as follows:

- FY 2017 – Lawrenceville, DMAVA HQ PV Array; DoD funded: \$671,250
- FY 2018 – Joint Base MDL PV Array; DoD funded: \$950,000
- FY 2018 – Somerset Armory PV Array; DoD funded: \$645,000

- **Please identify the amount and source of the federal funds for the additional projects planned for construction.**

- Answer: The Department requested the five projects to be funded by the Department of Defense. There is no indication that the Department will receive funds for these projects in FY2019 or FY2020. However, the Department is prepared to execute should federal funds become available. The Sea Girt National Guard Training Center Electrical Distribution replacement is a large project that may be funded incrementally.

- **What is the department's estimate of the efficiencies experienced by using photovoltaic energy?**

- Answer: In 2018, 2,873 MWh were produced from the Photovoltaic systems that the Department has installed. This resulted in approximately 28% of the National Guard's energy requirements that came from renewable sources.

- **How has it added to the New Jersey alternative energy efforts?**

- Answer: The percentage of electricity consumed from renewable sources increased by 6% from FY2015 to FY2018 and has brought the Department very close to achieving a 30% reliance on renewable resources for the federally supported facilities.

## Solar Renewable Energy Credits (SRECs)

## Discussion Points (Cont'd)

11. The department receives revenue from solar renewable energy credits (SRECs). One SREC is equivalent to the production of 1,000 KWh of electricity using solar energy. SREC receipts are in addition to cost avoidance savings. The department indicates that alternative energy and conservation efforts have allowed the department to avoid nearly \$1.5 million in electrical costs since 2009. In FY 2016, the department's alternative energy projects generated 2.4 million kilowatt hours of electricity for a cost avoidance of \$300,000. As listed on page C-14 of the FY 2020 Detailed Budget, actual energy program receipts totaled \$445,000 in FY 2018, 12 percent less than in FY 2017 collections of \$517,000, but are anticipated to total \$500,000 in FY 2019 and FY 2020. Budget language authorizes use of these revenues by the department for "other energy program projects."

According to the department, it plans to use SRECs to replace energy inefficient lighting at ten armories, fund the design for photovoltaic projects at Cherry Hill and Mount Holly armories, and conduct energy audits at five locations using interns from the Rowan partnership.

The department indicates that calculating savings from energy initiatives is difficult because of changes in building use, occupancy, weather, utility rates and feeds, and the addition of new buildings. From FY 2015 to FY 2017, the department reports that overall grid supplied energy, measured in terms of MMBTU, has increased by 6 percent, but Energy Use intensity (EUI) decreased by 7 percent. The decrease in EUI would equate to approximately \$205,000 annually in energy savings from October 2014 to September 2017, which the department directly attributes to its energy awareness program, renewable energy, and the lighting replacement program.

The department advised that it is pursuing a 30 percent reliance on renewable energy goal by 2022. Given the current estimated PV production of 24 percent of their electrical power requirements, the department believes that this goal is attainable. The estimated power generation is expected to be 3 Mega-Watts by June 30, 2019.

- **Is the department on track to implement the projects noted above?**
  - Answer: The Department is on track to implement the projects noted above has completed the replacement of lighting at the 10 Readiness Centers and all the scheduled energy audits has completed. The Department has utilized the SREC income to fund the designs of two (2) solar PV array projects at the Mount Holly and Cherry Hill Readiness Centers and have requested federal funding to support construction in the future.
- **Is it on track to achieve its energy reliance goal in 2022?**
  - Answer: The National Guard anticipates reaching the EO 13693 FY22 goal.
- **By the end of FY 2020 how much generation capacity will the department achieve from all of its photovoltaic systems and how much closer to the 2022 goal will that bring the department?**

## Discussion Points (Cont'd)

- Answer: The Department anticipates the production of approximately 3.05 MWh of electricity annually with the Somerset and JB MDL PV arrays being added to the energy program. With additional energy use reduction efforts, the department anticipates achieving the goal of 30% reliance on renewable energy production by the end of FY 2020, two years ahead of the EO 13693's target.

## SERVICES TO VETERANS

### Veterans' Diversion Program

12. P.L.2017, c.42 creates a Statewide Veterans' Diversion Program to divert eligible service members and veterans away from the criminal justice system and into appropriate case management and mental health services if they commit a non-violent petty disorderly person offense, disorderly person offense, or crime of the third or fourth degree. The law requires the New Jersey Department of Military and Veterans' Affairs to prepare and disseminate a directory of Veterans' Diversion Resource Entities within New Jersey that facilitate law enforcement's diversion. The department is also required to develop a registry of volunteer mentors.

The department reports that as of May 2018, the Veterans' Diversion Program is up and running and service members and veterans have been diverted by individual prosecutors. Under the law, the department is required to maintain statistics on the number of diversions and the outcome. To accomplish this, the department consulted with the Administrative Office of the Courts, the Department of Health, the New Jersey State Bar Association, the New Jersey State Parole Board, and the 21 county prosecutors to develop the Veteran's Diversion Program Resource Entity Directory, the revised second edition, and to determine the mentor training requirements.

Each Veterans' Diversion Resource Entity is a point of entry to facilitate law enforcement diversion or referral of eligible members into existing case management and mental health service offered by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs, the New Jersey Department of Human Services, or other appropriate case management and mental health services that are available to veterans or persons with mental illness. A Veterans' Diversion Resource entity, or an agency to which an eligible service member is referred to by the Veterans' Diversion entity, is capable of providing screening, counseling, treatment and case management for mental health issues and other co-occurring health disorders to eligible service members who are veterans, or coordinating such services through the appropriate federal, State, and local government agencies that offer assistance to veterans.

The current directory provides points of contact for the Department of Military and Veterans' Affairs Veteran Service Offices (VSOs) and the June 2018 edition of the directory includes points of contact for county prosecutors, county government veteran service offices, housing, and veterans' service organizations. The Veterans' Resource Directory currently has 31 entities identified for inclusion in the directory.

## Discussion Points (Cont'd)

According to the department, as of April 2018, 21 individuals had applied to be veteran mentors and it is in the process of developing standard operating procedures with county prosecutors to ensure that all applicants undergo a criminal background check.

- **Have the Courts, departments of Health and Human Services, and law enforcement entities in partnership with DMAVA given any feedback with regard to the success of the program, the progress the program has made keeping veterans out of the judicial system, and its impact on court workload?**

- Answer: DMAVA has not received formal feedback from the courts, the Department of Health and Human Services, or law enforcement entities.

- **Are the Veterans' Resource Entities Directory and Mentor Registry available on-line?**

- Answer: In accordance with P.L.2017, c.42, DMAVA maintains the Veterans' Resource Entities Directory and recruits and trains mentors. The Veterans' Resource Entities Directory and Mentor Registry are available on-line.

- The Veterans' Resource Entities Directory is available at <https://www.nj.gov/military/veterans/diversion-program/docs/veterans-diversion-resource-entities-directory.pdf>. In addition, physical copies of the directory were disseminated to the Administrative Office of the Courts, the New Jersey Parole Board, and the twenty-one county prosecutors.

- The Mentor Registry is available at <https://www.nj.gov/military/veterans/diversion-program/#apply>.

- **How many mentors are now available to assist eligible service members and veterans?**

- Answer: As of April 1, 2019, 38 mentors successfully completed the DMAVA training. Mentors complete a mandatory DMAVA training and a subsequent background check administered by the Department of Law and Public Safety. Prosecutors are notified of those that have successfully completed the process and DMAVA maintains an internal registry.

## Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder

13.a. According to the United States Department of Veterans' Affairs, National Center for Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder, post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) is an anxiety disorder that can occur following the experience or witnessing of a life-threatening, traumatic event. In veterans, PTSD is a result of engaging in combat. Prior to its designation as a mental health disorder, PTSD was known as "soldier's heart" in the United States Civil War, "shell shock" in World War I, and "combat fatigue" in World War II. Other terms used to describe PTSD include "war neurosis" and "operational fatigue." In 2013, the American Psychiatric Association revised the PTSD criteria in its Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders (DSM V) from an anxiety-related disorder to a new category, Trauma and Stressor-Related Disorders.

**Discussion Points (Cont'd)**

The DMAVA PTSD program provides counseling for veterans and their families at no cost through a network of professional providers. According to DMAVA, the State PTSD program provides counseling for up to seven years. In the first years of enrollment, a typical veteran and the veteran's family attend counseling at least four times per month. The frequency of sessions diminishes over time with group sessions substituted for individual counseling. Many State PTSD program enrollees utilize the full 84 months of service available. The program is funded through an annual appropriation of \$1.3 million. The initial evaluation of a patient seeking treatment for PTSD costs \$375. The average cost of an individual session is \$130 per hour while the average cost of a group session is \$65 per hour, and medication management costs \$75 a year. Typically, a patient remains in the program for approximately seven years attending sessions once a week in the beginning and reducing the frequency of sessions over time as healing occurs. The total estimated cost for an individual for the duration of the seven-year program is approximately \$11,070.

Table 8

<b>History of Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder Statistics and Budget Information FY 2005 through FY 2019</b>					
<b>Fiscal Year</b>	<b># of Cases</b>	<b># of Counseling Sessions per Year</b>	<b># of Counseling Sessions per Month</b>	<b>Program Cost per Year</b>	<b>Annual Appropriations</b>
2005	245	6,466	2.19	\$ 427,555	\$ 300,000
2006	342	9,591	2.33	\$ 793,000	\$ 800,000
2007	575	12,701	1.80	\$ 992,000	\$ 800,000
2008	624	17,380	2.32	\$1,377,000	\$ 1,300,000
2009	677	18,328	2.25	\$1,500,000	\$ 1,300,000
2010	604	16,390	2.26	\$1,341,000	\$ 1,300,000
2011	655	17,797	2.26	\$1,137,000	\$ 1,300,000
2012	744	18,845	2.11	\$1,245,000	\$ 1,300,000
2013	724	20,029	2.30	\$1,300,000	\$ 1,300,000
2014	707	19,584	2.30	\$1,248,000	\$ 1,300,000
2015	853	22,023	2.15	\$1,323,000	\$ 1,300,000
2016	684	19,151	2.33	\$1,300,000	\$ 1,300,000
2017*	586	18,240	2.5	\$1,300,000	\$ 1,300,000
2018*	560	14,040	2	\$1,300,000	\$ 1,300,000
2019*	458	10,560	2.5	\$1,300,000	\$ 1,300,000
2020	?	?	?	?	?

Source: DMAVA Responses to the FY 2018 OLS Discussion Points, FY 2018 Governor's Budget.

\*Estimate.

Table 9

<b>New Jersey National Guard PTSD Individual and Group Session Statistics FY 2013 to FY 2020</b>								
<b>Fiscal Year</b>	<b>2013</b>	<b>2014</b>	<b>2015</b>	<b>2016</b>	<b>2017</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2020*</b>
Clients	724	707	853	684	786	560	458	575
Individual	9,183	9,957	9,108	10,997	10,142	9,181	6236	10000

**Discussion Points (Cont'd)**

Sessions								
Group Sessions	5,668	4,077	7,083	7,436	7,068	4,623	3593	6075
Other	4,804	6,399	3,943	1,045	184**	216	731	525
Total Sessions	20,029	19,584	22,023	19,151	18,240	14,020	10,560	16,600

Source: Department of Military and Veterans' Affairs

\*Projected

- **Please update Tables 8 and 9 for FY 2018, FY 2019, and also provide projections for FY 2020.**
- Answer: Tables 8 and 9 have been updated above.
- **Have there been any increases in the cost of counseling sessions since FY 2018?**
- Answer: There has been an increase from \$130 to \$140 for individual counseling and an increase from \$65 to \$75 for group counseling. DMAVA does not have access to Federal counseling provider rates; nor can we determine the number of veterans that attend State versus Federal or both. The overall success of DMAVA PTSD program has been positive. DMAVA has increased outreach to our female veteran population and increased providers throughout the state to accommodate the needs of all veterans.
- **How does State counseling session rate compare with the federal counseling session rate?**
- Answer: The Department is unable to compare the cost of counseling because the State contracts its counseling services; whereas, the VA conducts its counseling sessions in-house with VA medical staff.
- **Do more veterans access the State counseling sessions or the federal counseling sessions?**
- Answer: It cannot be determined if State Counseling sessions are used more often than Federal counseling sessions due to HIPPA restrictions.
- **What has been the department's assessment of the overall success regarding the outcome of the individuals who complete the seven-year program?**
- Answer: Every individual suffering with PTSD is treated differently and recovers in their own individual timeframe. Patients can utilize the full 84 months of coverage, if needed.
- **Please provide a thorough discussion of how the effectiveness of the program. Without the program, what could have happened to these individuals inflicted**

**Discussion Points (Cont'd)**

**with PTSD and how would that have affected the social fabric of the family and community in which these veterans live?**

- Answer: It is difficult to assess the effectiveness of a PTSD program. PTSD is a very complex disorder and no two veterans and families are alike. Some veterans only need an opportunity to put some issues to rest, while others may need intensive counseling. DMAVA cannot speculate on the consequences on a veteran or their families not having our counseling sessions available. The effects on a veteran and their family is just as individual as everyone reading this response.

13.b. According to the Department, more than one in three soldiers who have served in Iraq and Afghanistan report mental health problems; however there is no way to accurately predict how many veterans will need help over time. Since December 2010, the Division of Veterans' Services–Veterans' Benefits Bureau has tracked Service Type and War Era clients under the PTSD program.

Table 10

PTSD Cases by Service Type and War Era			
Type of Service	Number of Clients	Captured War Era	Number of Clients
Air Force	123	OIF/OEF(1)	1,031
Army	1,492	Vietnam	2,482
Coast Guard	17	Gulf	36
Marine	514	WWII	134
National Guard	146	Korea	89
Navy	279	Other	176
Reserve	15	-	-

Source: Department of Military and Veterans' Affairs

Notes: (1) Operation Iraqi Freedom/Operation Enduring Freedom.

The department provides reintegration services and benefit briefings with other Reserve Components, upon request. The department is required to remain cognizant of the most common issues faced among the returning veterans: mental health, traumatic brain injury, co-occurring disorders, depression, and consistent need for interpersonal sensitivity all may be experienced by the veterans during reintegration. The department works collaboratively with the Federal Veterans' Administration Transition and Care Management Team. For example, if a New Jersey State Veterans' Service Officer (VSO) is unable to schedule a counseling appointment with the Federal VA within twenty-four hours of a soldier making a request, an appointment will be scheduled with a State network provider.

In addition to the reintegration program, the department contacts each veteran that is discharged from the military. Upon receipt of the veteran's DD214 discharge form the veteran is sent a welcome home letter which includes a veteran's guide, the soldier's closest Veterans' Service Officer's information and location, and an application for State benefit awards. In FY 2018, the department sent letters to 3,000 veterans. These measures supplement federal services and procedures to address PTSD. Federal funding is available to place the service member on orders for a certain number of visits to a VA facility. Service members can also be referred to other available state programs as needed, for example the Vet2Vet program.

## Discussion Points (Cont'd)

- **Has the department improved outreach to discharged veterans by using the DD214 to locate veterans (that are not New Jersey National Guard veterans)? How this affected the department's ability to address military-related PTSD, TBI, homelessness, and suicide in among veterans in New Jersey?**
- **Answer: A veteran, who is leaving military service, has to elect to have a DD214 sent to their home of record state. If DMAVA does receive a veteran's DD214, we then engage with the veteran to provide services.**
- **What is the prevalence of addiction in the PTSD, TBI, and homeless veteran population and what programs exist either through the State, the federal government, or joint efforts to address the problem?**
- **Answer: The Department cannot determine the prevalence of addiction as health care is handled privately or by the Federal VA.**
- **Has the Veterans' Diversion Program enhanced the State's ability to improve the physical health, mental health, and social health of veterans? Please provide statistics if available.**
- **Answer: Refer to Question 12 regarding the Veterans' Diversion Program.**

## Veterans' Benefits and Outreach – Homeless Veterans

14. The department operates two facilities: Veterans Haven South and Veterans Haven North. Veterans Haven South is a 99 bed homeless Veterans transition facility funded by State appropriations, and by the United States Veterans Affairs (VA) through a Grant and Per Diem program established on October 1, 2017. The approved Grant and Per Diem program is for 6 bridge housing beds, 35 clinical treatment center beds, and 40 service intensive transitional housing beds. Under a zero tolerance policy with respect to substance abuse that complies with the VA program, veterans that have relapses are placed in an Intensive Response to Relapse (IRR) program. Veterans Haven South provides a 24-hour staff and certified staff including a clinical social worker, registered nurse, vocational case manager, housing case manager, and addictions case manager. Veteran Haven South currently has 76 Residents and the home's current success rate stands at 94%.

Veterans Haven North is a 100 bed homeless Veterans transition facility funded by State appropriations and aided since May 1, 2017 by resident food service provision from Hunterdon Developmental Center. The facility operates with a self-imposed census cap of 75. Veterans Haven North provides 24-hour staff and certified staff including a clinical social worker, two master's level counselors, two master's level social workers, and a registered nurse. Currently Veterans Haven North has 61 Residents with a success rate of 83%.

- **Why are the beds in Veterans Haven South and North only 76 percent and 61 percent occupied, respectively?**

## Discussion Points (Cont'd)

- Answer: Both facilities occupation rate fluctuates throughout the year. As of April 1, 2019, Veterans Haven North occupation is 96% and Veterans Haven South is 73%. One contributing factor at Veterans Haven South is the closure of 12 rooms due to steam heating issues. More important is the success rate of both facilities. Veterans Haven South has a 96% successful discharge rate and Veterans Haven North has a 78% discharge rate. This level of successful discharge well surpasses the VA criteria of 65%.
- **Is the funding insufficient to fill 100 percent of the beds, or are there not enough eligible homeless veterans to fill the beds?**
- Answer: Both facilities participate in the VA Grant Per Diem. Veterans Haven South is approved for six bridge housing beds, 35 clinical treatment center beds, and 40 service intensive transitional housing beds. Estimated receipts from the VA is \$1.2M for Veterans Haven South. Veterans Haven North is approved for 37 service intensive transitional housing beds with estimated receipts of \$600,000 from the VA.
- **What are the demographics of the homeless population and how does that affect the residency of the homes?**
- Answer: Although there is no exact number of homeless veterans in NJ, we believe there are adequate resources available for veterans within state, county, and private sector programs. According to our housing program statistics, the average age of our population is 56 years of age.
- **Why is the success rate of Veterans Haven South 12 percent higher than that of Veterans Haven North?**
- Answer: Veterans Haven South and Veterans Haven North are not exact replicas. As stated earlier, Veterans Haven South is approved for six bridge housing beds, which is a short duration stay for Veterans. The length of stay for Bridge Housing is usually below 120 days, which produces a high successful discharge rate in the course of a year. The other 75 beds can stay up to two years. However, the average length of stay is less than one year. Veterans Haven North is more of the traditional transitional housing model, which veterans can remain up to two years. Geographic location also plays a role in the level of success between the two facilities. Veterans Haven South is located in Camden County and has a large Philadelphia Metro Area population. Veterans Haven North is located in Hunterdon County with a more rural population.
- **Do the two homes have the same residency requirements?**
- Answer: Residency requirements are the same for both facilities.

### Discussion Points (Cont'd)

- How have Executive Order Number 92 and the VA Program requirements affected the residency, administration, operation, and programming of the Veteran Haven homes?
- Answer: There are no indicators that Executive Order Number 92 has impacted the facilities.