

“This proposal threatens the health and safety of our community. A few dozen jobs aren’t worth the substantial negative impact for families and our community. Our region should focus on creating jobs that don’t hurt our most vulnerable individuals and negatively impact our neighborhoods.”

State Rep. Chris Taylor (WI-76)



“I am very concerned. This is the time for the public to raise their voices about the F-35s.”

**County Supervisor
Yogesh Chawla (Dist 6)**

- **F-16 designer Pierre Sprey** says the F-35 project is ineffective and unnecessary, calling it an “exceptionally dumb piece of Air Force PR spin,” in *Scientific American*.
- **Time** has called the F-35 the “costliest weapons program in human history” at a lifetime program cost exceeding \$1.7 trillion.
- **Military historian and Air Force vet Robert Dorr** says, “the F-35 shows repeatedly it can’t live up to the promises made for it... it’s that bad.”
- **The F-35 is marred by setbacks**, including five crashes since 2014, contractor delays, and giant cost overruns. *nytimes.com, bloomberg.net*

“You cannot simultaneously prevent and prepare for war. The very prevention of war requires more faith, courage and resolution than are needed to prepare for war.”

- Albert Einstein

safeskiescleanwaterwi.org



NO F-35 Jets in Madison

Madison has been chosen to receive a squadron of eighteen F-35 fighter jets by 2023.

ACT NOW

Contact elected officials:

Tammy Baldwin 608-264-5338

Ron Johnson 608-240-9629

Urge them to withdraw their support for the F-35s!

Rep. Mark Pocan 608-258-9800

Dane Co Exec Joe Parisi

608-266-4114

Mayor Satya Rhodes-Conway

608-266-4611

Madison Alders

Dane County Board Supervisors

Governor Tony Evers

Urge them to voice strong public opposition to the F-35 “beddown” at Truax

More information:

safeskiescleanwaterwi.org

WHY WE’RE OPPOSED

Noise

The F-35 will be at least 4x louder and will result in more frequent flights than currently: 47% more military operations initially, and eventually 27% more. According to the *Wisconsin State Journal*, more than 1000 homes would be “incompatible for residential use.”

Racial, Social & Economic Injustice

Disproportionate impact on minorities, children & lower income communities on Madison’s North and East Side, including need for relocation.

Health

Negative impacts of noise on children include cognitive impairment, reading, memory and post-traumatic stress. Emissions from increased use of jet fuel affect air quality.

Safety

There have been five F-35 crashes in the last five years. (*airforcetimes.com*)

Nuclear Weapons

F-35s are designed to carry B61-12 nuclear bombs.

We don’t need the F-35

We can create more jobs by investing in civilian areas such as clean energy, public education, and health care.

Cost

Wisconsin taxpayers paid \$201.33 million in 2017 towards the project but the Pentagon says the new F-35 jets would bring just 64 jobs and \$2 million/yr.

Dangerous Noise Levels

- **The F-35s are expected to be four times louder than the current F-16s. There will be an initial 47% increase in military operations.**
- This level of noise can have a detrimental effect on a variety of people including those with PTSD, autism, mental illness, and other neurological and sensory vulnerabilities. Children will especially be affected.
- There will be *at least* 292 people living in the 132 homes that will be in the 70-75 dB DNL* zone. There are 1,318 households and 2,766 people exposed to noise within the 65 dB DNL* zone. These areas are deemed “potentially incompatible with residential use” in the Environmental Impact Statement.
- Some noise abatement funding may be available after a lengthy review process which would not begin until approximately two years after beddown is initiated and flights are stabilized. There will be an initial increase in flights due to having both F16s and F35s on base.

* DNL is the sound level averaged over a 24-hour period. The EIS used this calculation to determine the zone for homes that are “incompatible for human habitation.” However, this number does not convey the immediate impact of the sound at take-off. The actual sound at take-off in the back yard of a home in the 75db zone is equivalent to a rock concert next to the speakers, and a close up power saw in the 65db zone.

Racial, Social and Environmental Justice

- **A disproportionate number of vulnerable houses are occupied by low income and minority populations.**
- Children will be particularly impacted by increased noise levels, producing cognitive impairment, negative effects on reading and memory, and post-traumatic stress.
- Medical studies have shown that noise has a far-reaching impact that can lead to stress, sleep disturbance, high blood pressure, heart disease, and strokes.

Other Pollution

- **No analysis has been done for hazardous air pollutants regulated by the EPA/DNR.**
- The WI DNR ordered Dane County Regional Airport, Wisconsin Air National Guard, and City of Madison to investigate and remediate PFAS pollution at Truax Field, which is discharging high amounts of the highly-toxic PFAS chemicals into Starkweather Creek daily. Fishing advisories must also be posted. A drinking water well is closed and others are being tested.

Nuclear Weapons

- **Madison has been a nuclear-free community since 1983.**
- Pilots at Truax will be training to fly F-35s. The F-35 has been designated as part of the US strategic nuclear bomber force in the Dept. of Defense 2018 Nuclear Posture Review.
- All F-35s will eventually be capable of carrying two B61-12 variable capacity nuclear warheads – up to four times more powerful than the bombs that destroyed Hiroshima and Nagasaki, which caused hundreds of thousands of deaths. Even the smallest bomb would cause complete devastation to structures and kill everyone in the primary target area.
- Truax will not initially have nuclear capable jets, but if the jets were given a nuclear mission, the military is not required to disclose this to the public.

Costs

- **Dane County is responsible for all noise abatement.**
- A portion of the costs for Truax to accommodate the F-35 will be borne by state and local taxpayers, including clean-up of existing contaminants at the base and mitigation and re-housing for residents in the surrounding neighborhoods. (*angf35eis.com*)
- Costs could reach tens of millions to relocate people and soundproof homes in the area potentially incompatible for residential use. There will be no funding for abatement for the homes of the 60,000 people immediately surrounding that area, who will also be affected.
- Each F-35 jet costs nearly \$100 million, and each flight hour will cost \$42,000. (*Disquieting, Isthmus, July 5-11, 2018 - Air Force data.*)

We don't need the F-35

- **Investment in clean energy, public education, and health care** creates up to twice as many jobs as similar spending on the military. (*watson.brown.edu/costsofwar/costs/economic*)
- **Lockheed Martin claims that “The F-16 can fly and fight to 2070 and beyond”** and that “the F-16 remains the world’s most successful, combat-proven multirole fighter.” (*lockheedmartin.com*)

