



ACQUISITION
AND SUSTAINMENT

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THE UNDER SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
3010 DEFENSE PENTAGON
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Department of Defense
OFFICE OF PREPUBLICATION AND SECURITY REVIEW

MEMORANDUM FOR SECRETARIES OF THE MILITARY DEPARTMENTS
CHAIRMAN OF THE JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF
UNDER SECRETARY OF DEFENSE FOR POLICY
COMMANDERS OF THE COMBATANT COMMANDS
DIRECTORS OF THE DEFENSE AGENCIES
DIRECTORS OF THE DOD FIELD ACTIVITIES

SUBJECT: Improving Defense Installation Resilience to Rising Sea Levels

Consistent with section 2805 of P.L. 115-232, the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) for FY 2019, as amended by section 2804 of P.L. 116-92, the NDAA for FY 2020, the Department must integrate appropriate planning and design standards that account for projected sea level rise.

Accordingly, the Department of Defense (DoD) will integrate the DoD Regional Sea Level (DRSL) database into installation and facilities planning at coastal locations to account for future sea level change. This database and its accompanying report, *Regional Sea Level Scenarios for Coastal Risk Management*, were developed by the DoD-led Coastal Assessment Regional Scenario Working Group to provide a consistent, authoritative approach to account for changing sea levels at 1,774 DoD sites worldwide. When using the DRSL database, Components must determine the planning horizon and regional scenario appropriate to the mission and tolerance for risk, and apply the vertical datum (such as the North American Vertical Datum of 1988) appropriate to the location. The DRSL database is available at <https://sealevelscenarios.serdp-estcp.org>.

Within 180 days, the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Sustainment and the Military Department Secretaries, acting through their DoD Engineer Senior Executive Panel representatives, must incorporate the use of the DRSL database into DoD Unified Facilities Criteria for determining future inundated areas, floodplains, flood design elevations, and related parameters at coastal locations. The Assistant Secretary of Defense for Sustainment shall update the DRSL database and other supporting tools at such intervals as necessary for appropriate technology transfer, data currency, and system functionality.

Ellen M. Lord

cc:
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Commander, Naval Facilities Engineering Command
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