



**DEPARTMENT OF
ENVIRONMENTAL
PROTECTION**

59-17 Junction Boulevard
Flushing, New York 11373

**Emily Lloyd
Commissioner**

Tel. (718) 595-6565
Fax (718) 595-3525
elloyd@dep.nyc.gov

**Angela Licata
Deputy Commissioner**

**Bureau of Environmental
Planning & Analysis**

Tel. (718) 595-4398
Fax: (718) 595-4479
alicata@dep.nyc.gov



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**NOTICE OF COMPLETION OF THE FINAL SUPPLEMENTAL
ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT**

**HUNTS POINT WATER POLLUTION CONTROL PLANT
PHASE III UPGRADE**

CEQR No. 05DEP023X

July 12, 2007

A Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) has been prepared by the New York City Department of Environmental Protection (NYCDEP) for the proposed Phase III Upgrade and carbon and polymer addition facilities at the Hunts Point Water Pollution Control Plant (WPCP). Acting as lead agency, NYCDEP is hereby certifying this FEIS as complete in accordance with New York City's Executive Order 91 of 1977 and its amendments establishing the City Environmental Quality Review (CEQR) Process, Article 8 of the Environmental Conservation Law establishing the State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA), and its implementation regulations (6NYCRR Part 617), and the State Environmental Review Process (SERP) as required by the State Revolving Loan Fund Program.

Public review of the Draft EIS (DEIS) began on December 19, 2006 with the issuance of the Notice of Completion and the DEIS. Public hearings were held to afford the interested public the opportunity to provide oral comments on the DEIS in the Hunts Point neighborhood of the Bronx, New York. The meeting was held on April 12, 2007 at The Point Community Development Corporation, 940 Garrison Street, Hunts Point, the Bronx, New York. The period for submitting written comments remained open until April 23, 2007. Notification of the time and location of the public hearings and of the written comment period appeared in The New York Daily News, The Bronx Times, Hoy, and El Diario, and the New York State Environmental Notice Bulletin. In addition, flyers were distributed throughout the community (in both English and Spanish), and notices of the public hearing were mailed to all those who commented on the Draft Scope of Work. The DEIS was also available for inspection by the public at repositories within the Borough of the Bronx, New York City.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The Hunts Point Water Pollution Control Plant (WPCP) is located in the Hunts Point section of the Bronx, in the City of New York, and treats wastewater from portions of the Bronx, Rikers Island, City Island, and Hart Island. NYCDEP, on behalf of the City of New York, is currently upgrading the WPCP under two upgrade plans—the Phase I and Phase II Upgrades. The Phase I Upgrade is being undertaken to address the plant's peak wet weather capacity. The Phase II Upgrade is being undertaken to address the plant's nitrogen removal capabilities.

The FEIS assesses the potential for impacts from additional improvements to the WPCP. The "proposed action" considered in the FEIS consists of two components, the first, which is known as the Phase III Upgrade, would involve construction and upgrading to improve the solids handling facilities at the plant. The second component would be undertaken to enhance nitrogen removal. The Phase III Upgrade would involve construction of two new egg-shaped sludge digesters and a digester

gallery, replacement of sludge thickener collector mechanisms, replacement of a gas holding tank, replacement of existing waste gas flares with three new enclosed waste gas burners, renovation of existing digesters and sludge storage tanks, installation of an emergency generator, and installation of odor controls on the plant's primary effluent channels. The Phase III Upgrade is required to rehabilitate or replace facilities that are at or nearing the end of their useful life. The Phase III Upgrade requires construction and construction staging on the existing plant site and on an additional 5.5-acre vacant parcel of City-owned land located to the northwest of the existing plant boundary. This vacant 5.5-acre property is under NYCDEP's jurisdiction and consists of a 4.3-acre area where the proposed new egg-shaped sludge digesters would be built and an approximately 1.2-acre area that would be used for construction staging. This 1.2-acre area will be transferred to the New York City Department of Parks and Recreation (NYCDPR) and mapped as parkland for inclusion in the adjacent Barretto Point Park when the area is no longer needed for construction staging.

The enhanced nitrogen removal elements would include carbon and polymer addition facilities. Carbon addition facilities would be constructed to address future 2014 nitrogen reduction goals, and polymer addition facilities would be constructed to enhance nitrogen removal facilities being constructed as part of the Phase II Upgrade.

Together, the Phase III Upgrade and the carbon and polymer addition facilities are the proposed action analyzed in the FEIS. The FEIS also assesses the potential for impacts from implementation of an additional two digesters (for a total of four—the "four-digester scenario"). These two additional digesters would be required in the future as the existing digesters (to be renovated under the proposed action) near the end of their useful life.

For a more detailed description of the facilities and connections necessary at each site and at off-site locations, please refer to the Executive Summary and Chapter 1, "Project Description," of the FEIS.

REQUIRED APPROVALS

There are several potential State and City discretionary actions that require environmental review under State and City regulations. For a detailed list of discretionary actions and approvals required please refer to the Executive Summary or Chapter 1, "Project Description," of the FEIS.

SIGNIFICANT IMPACTS AND MITIGATION

Potential significant adverse impacts identified for the proposed action at the Hunts Point WPCP include Visual Character and Construction-related Traffic. The following potential significant adverse impacts have been identified for the operation and construction of the proposed action:

- The proposed action and four-digester scenario would result in a potential significant adverse impact on visual character for Barretto Point Park users looking east toward the 4.3-acre additional parcel on which the digesters would be constructed. The proposed 130-foot-tall egg-shaped digesters would be prominent additions to the study area. While they would be in keeping with the area's industrial character, the height and bulk of the egg-shaped digesters (both the two and four-digester scenarios) would be much greater than the relatively low-lying, boxy industrial buildings in the area surrounding the plant. Because it is in an industrial area, there are few viewers or views that would be affected. For Barretto Point Park users looking east toward the 4.3-acre additional parcel on which the digesters would be constructed, there would be a potential significant adverse impact on visual character. This impact would be very limited and no views of or access to the waterfront would be affected. Only views looking east from the park would be affected, and park users' overall enjoyment of the park would not be significantly diminished.
- Potential significant adverse traffic impacts were identified for one study area intersection (Bruckner Boulevard and Tiffany Street) under 2011 proposed action peak construction conditions and throughout the duration of the construction period; however, these impacts are not permanent and their effects would lessen in non-peak construction years.

NYCDEP has examined mitigation measures to reduce the potential significant adverse impacts identified above where feasible or practicable. With respect to the construction-related significant traffic impact, mitigation measures that include signal timing adjustments for the affected intersection were identified. With respect to the visual character impact, there are no practicable or feasible mitigation measures; therefore, this potential significant adverse impact would remain unmitigated.

In addition, temporary noise impacts from construction activities would occur on the park. A noise mitigation plan will be prepared pursuant to the Noise Control Code and a construction wall at least 8 feet in height would also be built around the area of digester construction; however, the wall would not provide shielding during construction of the digesters at greater heights. For a detailed description of the potential significant impacts and their mitigation measures, where feasible, at the Hunts Point WPCP please refer to the Executive Summary, Chapter 4, "Visual Resources and Shadows," Chapter 17, "Construction," Chapter 21, "Mitigation," and Chapter 22, "Unavoidable Significant Adverse Impacts."

The FEIS will be available for inspection by the public at repositories listed on the following page.

CONTACT PERSON(S)

Julie Stein, EIS Project Manager
Bureau of Environmental Planning and Analysis
New York City Department of Environmental Protection, 11th floor
59-17 Junction Boulevard
Flushing, New York 11373
Phone: (718) 595-4397
FAX: (718) 595-4479



Angela Licata
Deputy Commissioner

REPOSITORY LIST

Hunts Point Public Library
877 Southern Blvd
New York, NY 10459

Borough President's Office
851 Grand Concourse
Bronx, NY 10451

Community Board 2
1029 East 163rd Street, Room 202
Bronx, NY 10459

NYC Department of Environmental Protection
59-17 Junction Blvd, 11th Floor
Flushing, NY 11373-5108

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Elena Conte, Sustainable South Bronx
Maria Torres, The Point Community Development Corporation
Srita Parker, Mothers on the Move

CC :

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Tymeisha Massey, ACTION

Robert Ingram, ACTION

Yosenia Dorno, The Point Community Development Corporation

Mineka Mohan, Sustainable South Bronx

CC (Notice and Repository List only):

Emily Lloyd, NYCDEP Commissioner

Matt Osit, NYCDEP Bureau of Engineering, Design and Construction

John Romano, NYCDEP Bureau of Engineering, Design and Construction

Esther Siskind, NYCDEP Bureau of Environmental Planning and Analysis

Chung Chan, NYCDEP Bureau of Environmental Planning and Analysis

Julie Stein, NYCDEP Bureau of Environmental Planning and Analysis

Loncey Connyers, NYCDEP

Lisa Fuerst, NYCDEP

John Chack, URS

Mike Lee, AKRF

Allison Ruddock, AKRF