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Angela Licata
Deputy Commissioner
Sustainability

59-17 Junction Blvd. Flushing, New York 11373

# NOTICE OF THE COMPLETION OF THE DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT FOR THE PROPOSED IN-CITY WATER SUPPLY RESILIENCY PROJECT

**Project: In City Water Supply Resiliency** 

CEQR No. 15DEP029Q

November 9, 2017

Acting as Lead Agency, the New York City Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) is hereby certifying this Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for the In-City Water Supply Resiliency Project as complete. While a DEIS is not required for this project, DEP is conducting a voluntary environmental review to identify and disclose any potential adverse significant environmental impacts from renewal of the existing permit and the potential future implementation of temporary treatment systems at DEP's existing well stations.

The DEIS has been completed in accordance with the State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA) (Section 8-0113, Article 8 of the Environmental Conservation Law) as set forth in 6NYCRR Part 617, the City Environmental Quality Review (CEQR) process, as set forth in 62 RCNY Chapter 5 and Executive Order 91 of 1977 and its amendments, and the State Environmental Review Process (SERP), as required by the New York State Revolving Loan Fund Program.

For the Draft Scope of Work for the Environmental Impact Statement, public hearings were conducted on Wednesday, June 21, 2017, at the Theodore Roosevelt Legislative Building in Mineola, Nassau County, New York and on Wednesday, June 28, 2017 at the Robert Ross Johnson Family Life Center in St. Albans, Queens County, New York to accept comments on the Final Scope of Work. Written comments were accepted until July 10, 2017. Testimony from the public hearings and written comments were reviewed. The Draft Scope of Work was edited and amended where appropriate and a Response to Comments was prepared. The Final Scope of Work and Response to Comments document were published on October 11, 2017 and posted on the NYCDEP website.

The DEIS is being circulated for public review with this Notice of Completion. Dates for public hearings on the DEIS will be determined by DEP. The public comment period will remain open until at least 10 days after the last public hearing. Details on how to view or obtain a copy of the DEIS are listed at the end of this notice.

#### Program Description

The New York City (City) water supply system was developed to deliver an abundant and reliable supply of clean drinking water to the City. DEP is currently responsible for supplying clean drinking water to over eight million City residents and one million upstate customers in sufficient quantity to meet present water demands and to maintain the water supply system to meet future water demands. DEP has owned, maintained, and operated a groundwater supply system in southeastern Queens since 1996. The Queens Groundwater system is comprised of 44 well stations, which house a total of 68 water supply wells. These wells collectively have a permitted capacity of up to a five-year running average of 22,568 million gallons per year or 62 million gallons per day (mgd) with a 24,807 million gallon maximum in any single year or 68 mgd.

Since the acquisition of the system from the Jamaica Water Supply Company, DEP has reduced the utilization of these assets in its distribution supply. DEP has not used the groundwater system for drinking water purposes since 2007. However, DEP has retained the system in order to have a supplemental supply to the City's upstate surface water system in times of drought and unforeseen system outages or emergencies. As a result, DEP renewed its Water Supply Permit with the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation in 2008. DEP intends to renew this permit when it is up for renewal in the end of 2017.

The Proposed Project is the renewal of the existing Water Supply/Water Withdrawal permit and the potential implementation of temporary treatment systems at DEP's groundwater wells to allow for the operation of the existing groundwater supply system in response to a water supply shortage due to drought or planned and/or unplanned infrastructure outages. The proposed project would include an evaluation of necessary upgrades to support the use of the well stations for potable water supply at the currently permitted capacity. No new wells would be installed as part of the Proposed Project, nor would DEP seek to increase the capacity of existing wells. For a more detailed description of the proposed project, please refer to the DEIS.

The DEIS will be available for review on the DEP website (<a href="http://www.nyc.gov/html/dep/html/environmental">http://www.nyc.gov/html/dep/html/environmental</a> reviews/in-city-water-supply-resiliency.shtml). The DEIS will also be available for review by the public at the repositories listed in the attachment. To obtain a hard copy of the DEIS or to submit written comment, please contact the Project Manager listed below. Public hearings will be scheduled to receive comments on the DEIS. The public hearing will provide an opportunity for the public to provide oral and written comments on the DEIS. The public comment period will remain open for a minimum of an additional 10 days after the close of the public hearings. Notification of the public hearings will be sent to all parties receiving this Notice of Completion and will appear in regional and local newspapers at least 14 days before the hearing. This will be followed by preparation and circulation of the Final EIS (FEIS), which will include written responses to address public comments made on the DEIS. Written comments should be sent to the contact person listed at the end of this Notice.

# Significant Impacts and Mitigation

A full assessment of potential impacts was undertaken in preparation of the DEIS. The impact analyses did not identify any potential significant adverse impacts. The DEIS was undertaken to fully disclose the complex issues associated with the proposed action.

### **Contact Person:**

Kathryn Kelly, Senior Project Manager
Office of Water Supply Infrastructure and Watershed Assessment
Bureau of Environmental Planning and Analysis
New York City Department of Environmental Protection
59-17 Junction Boulevard, 11<sup>th</sup> Floor
Flushing, New York 11373
Email: EIScomments@dep.nyc.gov

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Deputy Commissioner

Attached:

Repository List
Distribution List

**Draft Environmental Impact Statement** 

# In-City Water Supply Resiliency Draft Environmental Impact Statement of Work Repository List

# **Repository List**

New York City Department of Environmental Protection Attn: Kathryn Kelly, Project Manager 59-17 Junction Blvd. 11<sup>th</sup> Floor Flushing, New York 11373

Manhasset Public Library Second Floor, Reference Desk 30 Onderdonk Avenue Manhasset, New York 11030

# In-City Water Supply Resiliency Draft Environmental Impact Statement of Work Distribution List

### **Involved and Interested Agencies and Parties**

New York State Assembly
New York State Department of
Environmental Conservation
New York State Department of Health
New York State Department of State
New York State Department of
Transportation
New York State Office of Parks, Recreation
and Historic Preservation
New York State Senate
New York City Clerk
New York City Council
New York City Department of City Planning
New York City Department of Health and

Mental Hygiene

Addisleigh Park Civic
Albertson Water District
All Our Energy
Bayville Village Water Department
Beach to Bay Civic Association
Bethpage Water District
Brinkerhoff Action Association
Cambria Heights Civic Association
Carle Place Water District
Carter Community House
Cathedral Gardens Water District
Citizens Campaign for the Environment
City of Long Beach
Clergy United for Community Empowerment

Citizens Campaign for the Environment
City of Long Beach
Clergy United for Community Empowern
Concerned Citizens of Laurelton
Eastern Queens Alliance and Springfield/
Rosedale Civic Association
Farmingdale Village Water Department
Federated Blocks of Laurelton
Franklin Square Water District
Freeport Village Water Department
Garden City Park Water District
Garden City Village Water Department
Glen Cove City Water District

New York City Department of Parks and Recreation

New York City Department of Transportation
New York City Landmarks Preservation
Commission

New York City Office of Environmental
Coordination

New York City Queens Borough President
New York City Queens Community Board
Chairs

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

U.S. Geological Survey

U.S. House of Representatives

U.S. Senate

Glenwood Water District Greater Allen AME Church **Greater Triangle Civic Association** Hempstead Village Water Department Hempstead Water Department Hicksville Water District Jericho Water District Locust Valley Water District Long Beach City Water Purification Long Island Clean Air Water and Soil Long Island Commission On Aquifer Protection (LICAP) Long Island Water Conference Manhasset Lakeville Water District Massapequa Water District Mill Neck Water System Mineola Village Water Department

Nassau County Department of Health
Nassau County Department of Public Works
Nassau County Executive
Nassau County Water Resources Board
Nassau County Legislature
Nassau Suffolk Water Commissioner's

Association

Natural Resources Defense Council

Nature Conservancy

New York American Water

New York City Clerk

New York Public Interest Research Group

Old Westbury Village Water Department

Oyster Bay Water District

Plandome Village Water District

Plainview Water District

Port Washington Water District

Queens Village Civic Association

Residents For A More Beautiful Port

Washington

Rockville Centre Village Water Department

Rosedale Civic Association

Roslyn Water District

St. Clare's Church

Sands Point Village Water Department

South Farmingdale Water District

Split Rock Water Supply

Spring/Jam Block Association

Springfield Gardens Civic Association

Suffolk County Executive

Suffolk County Water Authority

Town of Hempstead

Town of Hempstead Water Department

Town of North Hempstead

Village of Flower Hill

Water Authority of Great Neck North

Water Authority of Western Nassau County

Water for Long Island

Wayanda Civic Association

West Hempstead Water District

Westbury Water District

Williston Park Village Water Department