

CHAPTER 4.Q

UNAVOIDABLE ADVERSE IMPACTS

Unavoidable adverse impacts occur when a proposed project results in significant adverse impacts for which there are no reasonably practicable mitigation measures, and for which there are no reasonable alternatives that would meet the purpose and need of the action, eliminate the impact, and not cause other or similar adverse impacts.

A. PUBLIC HEALTH

All of the active ingredients and certain inert ingredients in the pesticides proposed for the *Mosquito Population Control Program in the Rockaways* have been linked to skin and eye irritation in humans. There would be potential adverse skin and eye irritation impacts to people who are sensitive to the active ingredients and inerts. These adverse effects could occur on workers and residents who are directly exposed to the adulticides, especially due to direct contact near the point of application. While these potential adverse impacts would be reduced by public information announcements (both in the media and by police vehicles escorting ground applications), it is assumed that not all of the population would be able to avoid direct contact with the adulticides. Therefore, this would result in potential unavoidable adverse impacts from skin and eye irritation.

B. NATURAL RESOURCES

There may be some adverse impacts and loss of non-target insects and other terrestrial arthropods from the all of the active ingredients as a result of the *Mosquito Population Control Program in the Rockaways*. These losses at the individual level for insects are not considered to be significant adverse impacts, but would be unavoidable adverse impacts.

Although not expected to be significant adverse impacts, there would be predicted unavoidable adverse impacts to aquatic life from storm water runoff from all of the active ingredients.

C. WATER QUALITY

As a result of the application of malathion under the *Mosquito Population Control Program in the Rockaways*, the water quality standard for malathion is predicted to be exceeded when runoff containing this active ingredient drains into Jamaica Bay. This is considered a potential significant adverse impact of the Proposed Action, and would be an unavoidable adverse impact associated with the application of malathion if rainfall follows the application.

If malathion is applied in the Rockaways under this program, water monitoring of the runoff to Jamaica Bay would be performed to determine if the conservative estimates of malathion predicted in the runoff would occur. If the monitored levels are as great as those predicted, this would result in an unavoidable adverse impact.

D. NOISE

Potential significant adverse noise impacts are predicted for the *Mosquito Population Control Program in the Rockaways* from truck application of adulticides and police warning announcements in front of the trucks.

The predicted significant adverse impacts on noise from truck applications would result from the combination of the truck and a police escort vehicle making announcements to warn people about the spraying. This warning vehicle's purpose is to produce announcements that the public can hear, and, therefore, it will produce short-term noise levels that are noticeable and may be considered to be intrusive. Since the function of the police warning announcement is to make the public aware and minimize potential direct impacts on the public, the noise impacts from such operations would not be mitigated. 

CHAPTER 4.Q	4.Q-1
A. PUBLIC HEALTH	4.Q-1
B. NATURAL RESOURCES	4.Q-1
C. WATER QUALITY	4.Q-1
D. NOISE.....	4.Q-2