

## **Chapter 27: Irreversible and Irretrievable Commitments of Resources**

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There are a number of resources, both natural and built, that would be expended in the construction and operation of the proposed development program. These resources include the materials used in construction; energy in the form of gas and electricity consumed during construction and operation of the project; and the human effort (time and labor) required to develop, construct, and operate various components of the program. They are considered irretrievably committed because their reuse for some purpose other than the project would be highly unlikely. Although the Proposed Actions would result in a net overall increase in open spaces and new land uses, the land use changes associated with the development program may also be considered a resource loss. The Proposed Actions constitute an irreversible and irretrievable commitment of the development parcels as a land resource, thereby rendering land use for other purposes infeasible. These commitments of land resources and materials are weighed against the purpose of the Proposed Actions: to facilitate the development of the underutilized parcels, accommodate long-term economic growth, serve the area and the City as a whole through construction of substantial new residential and commercial facilities, and provide publicly accessible open space and views of the East River. \*