

CHAPTER 3: IMPACT METHODOLOGIES

3.1 INTRODUCTION

The proposed Shaft 33B project and associated water mains is expected to involve activities that could potentially impact a number of aspects of the environment, including land use and community facilities; open space; socioeconomic conditions; historic resources; visual resources; neighborhood character; infrastructure and energy; traffic and parking; transit and pedestrians; air quality; noise; vibration; hazardous materials; and public health. Therefore, in accordance with City and State environmental review laws,¹ this Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) examines existing conditions, future conditions without the project, and future conditions with the project, as applicable, in order to determine potential impacts on the environment. The methodologies by which these conditions are assessed are discussed in the following sections under each City Environmental Quality Review (CEQR) technical impact area. The New York City Department of Environmental Protection (NYCDEP) followed the guidance in the *CEQR Technical Manual* in making determinations of the potential significance of adverse impacts from the proposed project. In these determinations, NYCDEP considered the probability that the adverse impact would occur, the duration of the impact, its irreversibility, the geographic scope of the adverse impact, its magnitude and the number of people affected. The distinction between potential significant and temporary impacts is made primarily based on the combination of duration and severity of the effect on a specific sensitive population. Transient and temporary effects have been carefully reviewed and when feasible, measures are being committed to relieve the temporary effects, but in accordance with CEQR guidelines, these short-term effects are not considered significant. For certain CEQR technical areas, including shadows, natural resources, and solid waste and sanitation, detailed analyses were not warranted. The reasons why assessments of these technical impacts were not required are discussed in Chapter 14, “Environmental Screening Analyses for All Alternatives.”



¹ The State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA) as set forth in 6NYCRR Part 617 and the City Environmental Quality Review Act (CEQR), as set forth in Executive Order 91 of 1977.