



NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING AND OPPURTUNITY TO COMMENT ON DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT

Project: Gowanus Canal CSO Facilities

CEQR No. 17DEP040K

December 22, 2017

Vincent Sapienza, P.E.
Commissioner

Angela Licata
Deputy Commissioner
Sustainability

59-17 Junction Blvd.
Flushing, New York 11373

A Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) has been prepared by the New York City Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) for the **Gowanus Canal CSO Facilities** project, acting as lead agency and 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, and 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 State Revolving Loan Fund Program.

The DEIS was issued in September 2017; DEP is inviting comments on this DEIS from other government agencies, local municipalities, public officials, and the public. A public hearing on the DEIS will be held:

Date: January 17, 2018

Time: Begins at 10:00AM

Location: Spector Hall, 22 Reade Street

New York, NY 10007

Written comments will be accepted until January 29th, 2018. The DEIS has been circulated for public review and is available for review by the public on the DEP website:

http://www.nyc.gov/html/dep/html/environmental_reviews/index.shtml.

Project Overview

The New York City Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) must prepare the environmental review to disclose potential significant adverse environmental impacts from the construction and operation of two combined sewer overflow (CSO) tank facilities in order to inform City of New York (City) decision makers prior to any decision for siting two tanks that are the subject of land use approvals under ULURP.

This Project is mandated by the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) to satisfy remediation objectives under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980 (CERCLA, or Superfund). On March 2, 2010, the Gowanus Canal was designated a federal Superfund site under CERCLA and placed on the National Priorities List (NPL). The main goal of the CERCLA process is to remediate constituents of concern in the Canal sediments that were deposited over the Canal's long industrial history.

On September 27, 2013, the USEPA issued a Record of Decision (ROD) identifying actions to be undertaken by various parties to remediate industrial contamination in the Canal. As part of the ROD, USEPA mandated the design and construction of two additional CSO facilities to reduce the volume of combined sewer overflows entering the Canal.

The first of the two CSO facilities, the "Head End Facility," would include an 8-million-gallon (MG) underground tank that would intercept overflow of CSO solids primarily from CSO outfall RH-034 at the "head end," or northernmost portion of the Canal. Construction of the Head End Facility would require the lease or acquisition of three privately owned parcels adjacent to the Canal and is proposed to be located at 242 Nevins Street (Block 418, Lot 1) and 234 Butler Street (Block 411, Lot 24), with an area for construction staging located at 270 Nevins Street (Block 425, Lot 1).

The second facility, the "Owls Head Facility," would include a 4-MG tank that would intercept overflow of CSO solids primarily from CSO outfall OH-007. The Owls Head Facility would be located at the middle of the Canal (approximately 0.5 miles south of the northernmost portion of the Canal) near the northern terminus of 2nd Avenue near the 4th Street turning basin. Construction of the Owls Head Facility would require the use of one City-owned parcel (Block 977, Lot 3) and the lease or acquisition of up to four privately owned parcels adjacent to the Canal. The Owls Head Facility is proposed to be located at 2 2nd Avenue (Block 977, Lot 3), 110 5th Street (Block 990, Lot 21), 122 5th Street (Block 990, Lot 16), 22 2nd Avenue (Block 990, Lot 1), and 5th Street (Block 977, Lot 1), with portions of this area used for construction staging.

Collectively, the Project includes the lease or acquisition of up to seven properties to support the facilities and construction staging areas.

Required Approvals

Implementation of the Project would require federal, state and local permits/approvals, or their equivalents under CERCLA. DEP would closely coordinate with USEPA, New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC), New York State Department of State (NYSDOS), New York State Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation (OPRHP), and New York City agencies as necessary for the Project. For a full list of potentially required permits, approvals, or their equivalents, please refer to the DEIS.

As stated above, copies of the **DEIS** will be available for review on the DEP web site at: http://www.nyc.gov/html/dep/html/environmental_reviews/index.shtml. Written comments on the DEIS can be mailed or emailed to the DEP contact person noted below.

Contact Person

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Attached:
Distribution List