



New York City Department of  
Environmental Protection  
[www.nyc.gov/dep](http://www.nyc.gov/dep)

59-17 Junction Boulevard  
Flushing, NY 11373

**Steven W. Lawitts**  
Acting Commissioner

Tel. (718) 595-6576  
Fax (718) 595-3557

**Angela Licata**  
Deputy Commissioner

**Bureau of Environmental  
Planning & Analysis**

Tel. (718) 595-4398  
Fax: (718) 595-4479  
[alicata@dep.nyc.gov](mailto:alicata@dep.nyc.gov)

## NEGATIVE DECLARATION Notice of Determination of Non-Significance

October 2, 2009

### **The Replacement of the Existing Water Siphons Between Brooklyn and Staten Island CEQR No. 07DEP008Y**

This Negative Declaration has been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the City Environmental Quality Review process as set forth in Executive Order 91 of 1977 and amendments, Article 8 of the Environmental Conservation Law establishing the State Environmental Quality Review Act and its regulations as set forth in 6NYCRR Part 617, and the State Environmental Review Process (SERP) as required to obtain financing under the State Revolving Fund Program. The New York City Department of Environmental Protection (NYCDEP), as lead agency, had determined that the proposed action described below would not have a significant effect on the environment and is herein publishing a Negative Declaration. In accordance with the SERP guidelines, this Negative Declaration will be considered final and effective within thirty (30) days of the date of this notice if no substantive comments are received which would change the conclusion of the environmental review. The Environmental Assessment Statement (EAS) is attached in support of this Negative Declaration.

#### **Project Description**

The New York City Department of Environmental Protection (NYCDEP or Department) proposes to construct a water siphon that would replace the two existing, subaqueous water siphons located beneath Upper New York Bay between Bay Ridge, Brooklyn and Stapleton and Tompkinsville, Staten Island.

New York City currently maintains two existing siphons, which provide secondary/back up water supply for City Tunnel No. 2, the main water supply for Staten Island, across the Anchorage Channel within the Upper New York Bay from Brooklyn. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE)/Port Authority of New York & New Jersey, as part of their New York and New Jersey Harbor Deepening Project, will dredge the this channel to a depth of approximately 54 feet below mean low water. The existing siphons are situated at a depth that could be compromised by the dredging in the channel.

The proposed 72-inch siphon would replace the two existing siphons in order to provide the necessary backup water supply from Brooklyn to Staten Island. The proposed siphon would provide 5 million gallons per day (mgd) of daily water supply to Staten Island under normal conditions. In emergency situations, the new siphon could supply on average 50 mgd, with a peak flow of 150 mgd, thus ensuring a redundant and reliable supply of water to Staten Island.

The proposed project would involve the construction of shafts on both the Brooklyn and Staten Island sides of the harbor, water transmission mains and other related infrastructure improvements to provide for connection to the existing water supply systems already in place and a chlorine station adjacent to the Staten Island shaft.

The proposed project would require approvals from the USACE., New York State Department of Environmental Conservation, Metropolitan Transit Authority / NYC Transit, New York State Department of Health, New York State Office of General Services, New York State Department of State, NYC Department of City Planning, and NYC Department of Transportation

The Bureau of Environmental Planning and Analysis has concluded that the proposed action is classified as an Unlisted Action.

#### **Statement of No Significant Effect**

The NYCDEP has determined the proposed project is not anticipated to have any potential significant adverse impacts on the quality of the environment. No significant adverse impacts are anticipated to occur with respect to land use, zoning, public policy, socioeconomic conditions, community facilities, open space, shadows, historic resources, visual resources, neighborhood character, water resources, hazardous materials, infrastructure, solid waste and sanitation services, energy, air quality, noise, or other impact categories as a result of the proposed action. These conclusions are based on the analyses and determinations provided in the attachment to this negative declaration.

#### **Supporting Statements**

The above determination is based on an environmental assessment which finds that the project, as proposed, would not result in significant effects on the environment which would require the preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement.

#### **For further information, please contact:**

Sangamithra Iyer, Project Manager  
NYC Department of Environmental Protection  
Bureau of Environmental Planning and Analysis  
Office of Water Supply Infrastructure and Watershed Assessment  
59-17 Junction Boulevard, 11<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Flushing, New York 11373  
Phone (718) 595-3585  
[siyer@dep.nyc.gov](mailto:siyer@dep.nyc.gov)

Sincerely,



Angela Licata  
Deputy Commissioner

Enclosures

cc: Stacey Jensen, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
John Cryan- NYSDEC  
Jeffrey Zappieri, NYS Dept of State  
Mike Montysko, NYSDOH  
Alan Bauder, NYS Office of General Services  
Joseph Noto, NYCDOT  
Rajen Udeshi, NYCTA  
James Molinaro, Staten Island Borough President  
Kenneth Mitchell, City Council Member, District 49  
Sean Sweeney, CB 1, Chair  
Joe Carroll, CB 1, District Manager  
Marty Markowitz, Brooklyn Borough President  
Vincent Gentile, City Council Member, District 43  
Dean Rasinya, CB 10, Chair  
Josephine Beckmann, CB 10, District Manager  
John Natoli, DPR  
Maryann Nizzico, DCP  
Wilbur Woods, DCP  
Timothy Burns, EFC  
Randy Fong, DCAS  
Mark Lanaghan, DEP  
James Garin, DEP  
Mark Page, Jr., DEP  
Sangamithra Iyer, DEP