



**New York City Department of Correction
Rikers Island Energy Infrastructure Upgrade
Draft Public Participation Plan**

Michael R. Bloomberg
Mayor

Dora B. Schriro
Commissioner



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New York City Department of Correction Rikers Island Energy Infrastructure Upgrade Draft Public Participation Plan

Introduction

The New York City Department of Correction (NYCDOC) is proposing to upgrade its energy infrastructure at Rikers Island to include a new cogeneration facility (the proposed project). The goals of the project are supportive of Mayor Michael Bloomberg's goals for New York City outlined in *PlaNYC*, and include:

- Decreasing CO₂, particulate, and greenhouse gas emissions;
- Improving local air quality;
- Improving the reliability of utilities on Rikers Island; and
- Achieving energy efficiencies and reducing the amount and cost of purchased energy.

The project is currently in the design stage. Construction and equipment installation is slated to begin in the summer of 2011 with facility startup targeted for year-end 2013. This Public Participation Plan (PPP) is part of NYCDOC's permitting application to the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) to modify the existing Title V Facility Air Permit to include the operation of a cogeneration facility. In accordance with *Commissioner Policy-29 Environmental Justice and Permitting (CP-29)*, DEC requires the permit applicant to develop and execute a public participation plan targeting the local community, and conduct outreach as part of the environmental permit review process.

Background

NYCDOC is one of the largest municipal correctional systems in the United States and currently operates ten jails and numerous support commands on Rikers Island. The island, located in the Bronx, is accessible only via the Hazen Street Bridge from Queens.

Rikers Island operates 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. The island houses approximately 11,500 inmates. Approximately 8,000 employees are assigned to Rikers Island. Rikers Island is a large consumer of energy and, for the safety and security of everyone—employees, visitors, and inmates—it is critical that this supply be dependable. The self-contained 413-acre site also includes libraries, barber shops, commissaries, laundry facilities, storehouses, educational facilities, infirmaries, and food services.

The energy requirements for Rikers Island are currently supplied by electricity from Consolidated Edison (ConEd) and steam from natural gas as follows:

- ConEd delivers the electrical power and owns and maintains some electrical equipment on the island.
- Some 66 fuel oil generators provide backup emergency electrical power for many of the buildings, including all inmate housing.

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- A central steam plant consisting of eight (8) dual-fuel industrial boilers delivers steam to buildings around the island for space heating, domestic hot water and other processes, such as laundry and bakery.
- Natural gas is the primary fuel for the steam plant; fuel oil is used when the gas supplier requests that NYCDOC not use gas due to low outside temperatures.

Proposed Facility

Cogeneration systems are an important component of city-wide energy and environmental objectives. The new infrastructure upgrade is expected to reduce CO₂ emissions by 17 percent and NO_x emissions by 37 percent (approximately 22,000 and 37 tons per year, respectively). Using cogeneration, NYCDOC will be able to provide the island's base load requirements of both electricity and steam. Because cogeneration uses waste heat from the electricity-producing process to produce steam, it is a far more efficient use of natural gas than the gas boilers. The project's proposed cogeneration system will also offset reliance on power from less efficient power plants in the city, and improve the reliability of electrical service in Astoria. Cogeneration increases the reliability of energy on Rikers Island while decreasing its cost. Once the new cogeneration facility is in place, ConEd will continue to deliver power for the balance of the electricity requirements not met by on-island generation.

The facility and associated electrical distribution infrastructure includes:

- Two 7.5-MW combustion turbines with heat recovery, a control room, and staff facilities housed in a building adjacent to the existing powerhouse in the northwest portion of Rikers Island;
- A new substation located in the southwest portion of the island; and
- A new feeder line to connect the cogeneration facility and the substation, running either below or adjacent to Hazen Street.

Public Participation Plan

The draft PPP for this permit application includes a number of activities and tasks that will be undertaken to inform stakeholders about the proposed action and the permit modification being sought from DEC. This will provide stakeholders access to information about the project and permit and encourage dialogue.

Task # 1 -- Identify Affected Area

Because of the project's location (within the NYCDOC property on Rikers Island—with its unique population, as well as being just across the East River from the Hunts Point peninsula), a 1-mile radius from the proposed co-generation site has been selected in consultation with DEC staff, to ensure that outreach to an appropriate area and interested entities (stakeholders) is undertaken. This is shown in **Figure 1**, attached. This area will serve as an initial component in identifying stakeholders. Particular emphasis will be placed on identifying stakeholders representing the area's

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Legend


-  Study Site 1 Mile Radius
-  Rikers Island Study Site

Figure 1

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minority and low-income populations for outreach during the public participation process.

Within this 1-mile radius of the proposed cogeneration facility lies a small portion of the South Bronx (specifically, the southwestern portion of the Hunts Point Peninsula and Oak Point) as well as a very small portion of northern Astoria in Queens (the location of the ConEd power plant). The area of the Bronx that lies within this 1-mile radius is mostly industrial, but also includes some limited scattered residential uses. The area in Queens is located entirely at the existing ConEd power plant property.

Task #2 -- Identify Stakeholders and Create an Outreach Contact List

Stakeholders who may be impacted by the operation of the proposed cogeneration facility will be identified. This will be done in coordination with Community Board representatives and with input from NYCDOC. It is expected that the stakeholders for this plan will include, but may not be limited to:

- NYCDOC employees and contractors who work or visit portions of the island
- Inmate visitors (family, friends, lawyers, support services, etc.)
- Inmates incarcerated on Rikers Island
- Residents/neighborhood groups who reside or are active in the vicinity of the proposed project
- Community boards, local community and civic organizations, environmental and business groups, and any entities recommended by these groups
- Neighborhood religious establishments
- Elected officials
- Other appropriate state and local government officials.

A preliminary outreach contact list of stakeholders is being assembled, including names, addresses, telephone numbers and e-mail addresses (if available) of individuals and organizations (as described above) with a possible interest in the proposed action. This list will be updated regularly to include new stakeholders identified as the public participation process continues. The preliminary outreach contact list, that has been developed to date for this plan, is included in **Attachment A**.

Task #3 -- Prepare Written Information

Written information on the proposed action and the environmental permit review process will be prepared for posting and distribution. The following written materials will be prepared and made available to the public as part of this outreach effort:

- Project Fact Sheet (An outline of the contents of the Fact Sheet has been developed, and is included in the draft PPP as **Attachment B**.)
- Information Availability Notices
- Environmental Justice Analysis

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- Draft Public Participation Plan

Prepared materials will be written in clear, concise language, avoiding legal or overly technical terminology. Materials will be prepared in English; translation into Spanish will be undertaken if necessary, to the extent possible and practical.

Task #4 -- Establish Document Repositories/Distribute Project Information

Easily accessible document repositories will be established at locations close to the proposed project and easily accessible to stakeholders. It is anticipated that these will include local Libraries and Community Board offices in or near the outreach area (defined above), as well as Rikers Island and postings on the NYCDOC website (<http://www.nyc.gov/html/doc/html/home/home.shtml>). The proposed locations of these repositories are shown in **Attachment C**. The availability of any additional repositories will be noted on NYCDOC's website.

The repositories will contain a copy of the written information prepared for the proposed project's PPP, as well as copies of the permit applications, the State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA) Environmental Assessment Form (EAF) documents, and the project's engineering package. The contents of the repositories will be updated regularly, and will be checked regularly to ensure that no documents are missing. A list of document contents will be prepared and updated, to help keep the repositories organized.

The locations and web address of the physical and web-based document repositories will be included in the Project Fact Sheet and in any project notices and/or flyers distributed publicly.

It is envisioned that information will be distributed or made available to staff, visitors, and inmates by the following means: i) an official memorandum would be circulated on Rikers Island containing a brief explanation to be read at 21 Roll Calls to provide information to uniformed staff; ii) the inmates would be notified about the project during their regular weekly Inmate Council Meetings, and flyers could also be posted in housing areas for a brief, finite period of time; and iii) flyers would be posted at each facility's visit house and the Central Visit Building. With the implementation of these measures, adequate notification would be provided to Rikers Island staff, visitors, and inmates to learn about the proposed project, and thus afford them the opportunity to provide comments.

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Task #5 -- Conduct Project Informational Briefings

A series of informational briefings will be held with elected officials and Community Boards of the Bronx and Queens, to provide information about the proposed Rikers Island Cogeneration Facility and the associated DEC permitting process. Stakeholders will also be invited to provide comments on project materials and the draft PPP, via the NYCDOC website or in writing to a specified NYCDOC representative. NYCDOC and consultant team staff members will be available to receive and answer questions about the project at the briefings.

The briefings will be scheduled after consulting Community Board (CB) calendars and municipal and agency officials. This will help to avoid conflicts with important meetings or events that are regularly held or already scheduled within the community. It is anticipated that these informational briefings would be held after the initial draft permit application has been submitted to DEC for review, but several weeks prior to DEC making its decision on the permit application. The schedule for these briefings will be established after the initial draft permit application has been submitted to DEC for review.

No informational meeting will be held on Rikers Island. Rather, project information, and the method for providing comments, will be disseminated to the Rikers Island populations as described in Task 4, above.

Notices of the availability of project information will be sent to all interested parties on the Contact List, along with a Project Fact Sheet. These Project Information Notices will include:

- the name of the project sponsor;
- the name and address of the proposed project;
- a brief description about the project information available for review;
- the description of why the project information is being sent;
- the comment period being provided for submitting comments on the project, and when the comment period will end;
- contact information for any questions about the project information, or how and where to provide comments (written or via website); and
- Where answers to any questions or comments submitted will be made available, and approximately by when, after the comment period has concluded.

Because the primary impact of the project would be to Rikers Island workers, visitors, and inmates, NYCDOC only intends to brief and to provide information and materials to the staff of Bronx Community Board 2 (CB2) and Queens Community Board 1 (CB1). While it is not anticipated that they will be necessary, the need for other project informational meetings can be evaluated in consultation with DEC staff after the initial project briefings have been undertaken.

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Task #6 - Prepare Participation Plan Outreach Summary/Certification Document

A written summary of the outreach conducted under the PPP will be prepared and submitted to the DEC. This report will serve as the participation plan's Certification Document, and will include:

- A summary of PPP milestones, outlining plan implementation;
- Methods used to engage the public and solicit outreach;
- Time and date of project informational briefings;
- Any substantive concerns/issues raised during outreach activities or received during the public comment period from stakeholders or the public at large;
- Descriptions of how the issues raised were addressed; and
- A description of any unresolved or outstanding issues.

The written Certification Document will confirm that the applicant has complied with the PPP, and will include a summary detailing the activities that occurred pursuant to the plan. The Certification Document will become part of the permit application and will be made available to the public at the document repositories. The Certification Document will also include several appendices as follows:

- Copies of written information such as notices, flyers, and briefing invitations;
- Meeting minutes of any informal outreach meetings/activities; and
- Names of attendees at the various project informational briefings (copies of sign-in sheets).

**New York City Department of Correction
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Attachment A – Preliminary Contact List**

COMMUNITY BOARD OFFICES

Bronx Community Board 2

1029 East 163rd Street, Suite 202
Bronx, NY 10459
Phone: 718.328.9125
Fax: 718.991.4974
Email: brxcb2@optonline.net
Chair: Orlando Marin
District Manager: Rafael Salamanca, Jr.

Queens Community Board 1

45-02 Ditmars Boulevard
Astoria, NY 11105
Phone: 718.626.1021
Fax: 718.626.1072
Email: qn01@cb.nyc.gov
Chair: Vinicio Donato
District Manager: Lucille Hartman

UNIFORMED OFFICERS' ORGANIZATIONS

Correction Officers' Benevolent Association, Inc. (COBA)

75 Broad Street, Suite 810
New York, NY 10004
Phone: 212.274.8000
Email: cobanyc@aol.com
Union President: Norman Seabrook

Corrections Captains' Association, Inc. (CCA)

189 Montague Street, Suite 400
Brooklyn, NY 11201
Phone: 718.243.0222
Email: ccanyc@aol.com
President: Patrick Ferraiuolo

Assistant Deputy Wardens/Deputy Wardens Association (ADW/DW Association)

364 Decker Avenue
Staten Island, NY 10302
Phone: 718.273.8687
Email: adw_dw_association@hotmail.com
President: Sidney Schartzbaum
Vice President: Vincent Caputo

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Attachment A – Preliminary Contact List**

COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS

Assembly of Christian Churches—
Eastern District
840 Intervale Avenue
Bronx, NY 10459
718.861.7826
Contact: Reverend Abner Rivera

Bella Vista Health Center
890 Hunt's Point Avenue
Bronx, NY 10474
Tel: 718.589.2141
Fax: 718.589.3573
Website:
<http://www.mcnnyc.org/Agencies/urbanhealthplan.html>
Contact: Paloma Izquierdo-Hernandez,
President

Bronx Parent Housing Network, Inc
1171 Washington Avenue
Bronx, NY 10456
Tel: 917.445.7200
Contact: Victor Rivera, Director

Casita Maria, Inc.
830 Southern Blvd
Bronx, NY 10459
Tel: 718.589.2230
Fax: 718.589.5714
E-mail: casita@gateway.net
Website: <http://www.casita.us/>
Contact: Luann Eldar

Damascus Christian Church of Hunts Point
833 Manida Street
Bronx, NY 10474
718.542.5254

Erma Cava House I
887 Southern Boulevard
Bronx, NY 10459
Tel: 718.893.2604
Fax: 718.893.2604
Contact: Connie Romani, Svc. Coordinator

Fire Department - Engine 94, Ladder 48
1226 Seneca Avenue
Bronx, NY 10474
Fax: 718.991.7567
Contact: Chief William Rendino

Food For Survival-NYC Food Bank
Hunts Point Co-op Market
355 Food Center Drive
Bronx, NY 10474
Tel: 718.991.4300
Fax: 718.893.3442
Contact: Lucy Cabrera, President

Hunt's Point Chamber of Commerce &
Industry Association
355 Food Center Drive
Bronx, NY 10474
Tel: 718.842.1717
Fax: 718.842.6592
Contact: Josephine Infante, Executive
Director

Hunt's Point Economic Development
Corporation
355 Food Center Drive, Room C-104
Bronx, NY 10474
Tel: 718.842.1717, Ext. 22
Fax: 718.842.6592
Email: hpedc@erols.com
Contact: Josephine Infante, President

Hunt's Point Recreational Center
(Department of Parks & Recreation)
765 Manida Street
Bronx, NY 10474
Tel: 718.860.5544
Contact: Fernando Rosa, Manager

Hunt's Point Works
647 Bryant Avenue
Bronx, NY 10474
Tel: 718.842.1000, Ext. 102
Contact: Luis Lopez, Program Director

**New York City Department of Correction
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Attachment A – Preliminary Contact List**

Latin/African American Chaplains
Association (LACA), State of New York
International, Inc.
1112 Garrison Avenue
Bronx, NY 10474
Tel: 718.842.8555
Fax: 718.842.4747
Contact: Fernando Rodriguez, President

La Peninsula Head Start Center #1
711 Manida Street
Bronx, NY 10474
Tel: 718.542.7590
Fax: 718.542.8230
Contact: Renee Sutton, Exec. Director

Mothers on the Move, Inc.
928 Intervale Avenue
Bronx, NY 10459
Tel: 718.842.2224, Ext. 16
Fax: 718.842.2665
Email: wanda@mothersonthemove.org
Contact: Wanda Salaman, Exec. Director

New Season Christian Center
927 Southern Boulevard
Bronx, NY 10459
Tel: 347.271.6699

Nos Quedamos
Office Address: 754 Melrose Avenue
Bronx, NY 10451
Mailing: P.O. Box 524369
Stadium Station, Bronx, NY 10452
Tel: (718) 585-2323
Fax: 718.585.8628
info@nosquedamos.org

GOVERNMENT AGENCY

NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION (DEC)
Division of Environmental Permits
Contact: Elizabeth Clarke, Environmental Analyst 2
1 Hunters Point Plaza
47-40 21st Street
Long Island City, NY 11101-5407
Phone: (718) 482-4900

The New South Bronx Police Athletic
League Youth Center
991 Longwood Avenue
Bronx, NY 10459
Tel: 718.991.2447, Ext. 22
Fax: 718.991.2589
Contact: Mariam Pena, Director

The Point CDC
940 Garrison Avenue
Bronx, NY 10474
Tel: 718.542.4139, Ext. 127
Fax: 718.542.4988
Website: <http://www.thepoint.org/>
Email: kelliethepoint@gmail.com
Contact: Kellie Terry-Sepulveda, Executive
Director

Sustainable South Bronx
890 Garrison Avenue, 4th Floor
Bronx, NY 10474
646.400.5430

-or-

1231 Lafayette Avenue
Bronx, NY 10474
Tel: 646.400.5429
Email: info@ssbx.org
Website: www.ssbx.org
Contact: Miquela Craytor, Executive
Director

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Attachment B – Fact Sheet Outline**

The following is an outline of the proposed contents of the Fact Sheet to be distributed for the co-generation facility permit modification, as part of the outreach materials for the project.

Title of Fact Sheet

We proposed to use:

**Rikers Island Cogeneration Facility
Project Fact Sheet**

Issues/Project Goals

This section would provide a brief outline of the issues with the existing power supply for the island, the project's overall goals, and how they relate to and support the city-wide *PlaNYC* goals.

The Solution – The Co-Generation Facility

This section will include a brief description of the proposed co-generation facility and other related improvements, their proposed locations, and the benefits of operating them. This section will also discuss the time frame associated with the construction of the new facilities. There will be several graphical representations: a graphic explaining the cogeneration process; a graphic showing the relationship of the new co-generation facility to the existing powerhouse and the rest of Rikers Island; an artist's rendering of the new facility; a site plan; and photos of the places where the new facility will be located next to the existing powerhouse.

Public Outreach

This section mentions that this is part of the permit review process, refers to the Public Participation Plan, and indicates where project information is available.

Document Repositories

There will be a special "Information Box" on the Fact Sheet that shows the addresses and locations of the document repositories for the project. There will also be a line indicating a DOC contact and web address for more information.

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Attachment C – Proposed Document Repositories**

NY PUBLIC LIBRARY BRANCH-BRONX

Hunt's Point Library
877 Southern Boulevard
Bronx, NY 10459
Tel: 718.617.0338
Library Manager: Gilbert Arroyo

QUEENS LIBRARY BRANCH-ASTORIA

Steinway Library
21-45 31st Street
Long Island City, NY 11105
Tel: 718.728.1965

COMMUNITY BOARD OFFICES

Bronx Community Board 2
1029 East 163rd Street, Suite 202
Bronx, NY 10459
Phone: 718.328.9125
Fax: 718.991.4974
Email: brxcb2@optonline.net
Chair: Orlando Marin
District Manager: Rafael Salamanca, Jr.

Queens Community Board 1
45-02 Ditmars Boulevard
Astoria, NY 11105
Phone: 718.626.1021
Fax: 718.626.1072
Email: qn01@cb.nyc.gov
Chair: Vinicio Donato
District Manager: Lucille Hartman

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Attachment C – Proposed Document Repositories**

GOVERNMENT AGENCIES

NEW YORK CITY DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTION (NYCDOC)

Robert T. Maruca, Deputy Commissioner

Budget, Management and Planning

Bulova Corporate Center

75-20 Astoria Boulevard—Suite 160

East Elmhurst, NY 11370

Phone: 718.546.0655

Email: Robert.Maruca@doc.nyc.gov

ON-LINE WEBSITE

<http://www.nyc.gov/html/doc/html/home/home.shtml>