

# SECTION 1

## INTRODUCTION

In September 2006, the City of New York issued its Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Plan (SWMP). As an integral component of the overall SWMP, the City of New York Department of Sanitation (DSNY) has proposed a Marine Transfer Station (MTS) Conversion Program. This program would involve the development of four new facilities within the City that would receive DSNY-managed Waste<sup>1</sup>. DSNY-managed Waste would be transported to these facilities by truck and would then be containerized and transported by barges to intermodal facilities within the metropolitan region or to out-of-City disposal facilities. Previously, the DSNY operated eight MTSs within all boroughs of New York, with the exception of Staten Island, and DSNY-managed Waste collected at these facilities was then transported to the Fresh Kills Landfill. The landfill was closed in 2001 and in the interim the DSNY has managed waste within the City through its Interim Export Program that is heavily reliant on truck transport to a series of private transfer stations and/or disposal facilities in and outside the City of New York.

The proposed Converted MTSs would be located at the site of four of the eight existing MTSs. The proposed sites include the North Shore MTS in the College Point section of northern Queens, the East 91<sup>st</sup> Street MTS in eastern Manhattan, the Hamilton Avenue MTS in Brooklyn, and the Southwest Brooklyn MTS in the Bensonhurst section of Brooklyn. The proposed sites are all located on the waterfront. Development of the new Converted MTSs would require various levels of waterfront construction and dredging. As a result, the proposed development is subject to permitting by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC), the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) and the New York City Department of City Planning (NYCDCP).

This Joint Application for Permit has been prepared in support of the proposed MTS Conversion Program. A detailed discussion of the program and the specific development activities proposed

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<sup>1</sup> DSNY is responsible for the collection and/or arranging for disposal of all waste generated by City households, as well as waste from City, state and federal agencies and not-for-profit institutions in the City (DSNY-managed Waste).

for the four sites, as well as supporting documentation, has been included as part of this application. A summary of the organization of the application package is provided below.

- Section 2 - Provides an overview of the SWMP. This section includes a discussion of the evolution of the SWMP, including a discussion of the alternatives that were evaluated as part of the development of the overall plan.
- Section 3 - Within this section is a general discussion of the proposed operating plan for the four proposed Converted MTSs. This section discusses the general basis of design for the proposed Converted MTSs and also includes a discussion of the anticipated operation of these facilities from the receipt of waste to its transport by barge.
- Section 4 - Site-specific information with regard to the four proposed sites is included within this section. This section includes the detail necessary and required by the Joint Application for Permit. Each proposed facility is discussed in detail and includes the following information:
  - Description of the proposed development;
  - Alternatives analysis;
  - Plan, section and detail drawings;
  - Site photographs; and
  - A copy of the Local Waterfront Revitalization Program Consistency Assessment Form and supporting documentation, and a copy of the letter of concurrence from the New York State Department of State.
- Section 5 – Provides a summary of the potential effects of the proposed MTS Conversion Program upon wetland resources due to proposed construction activities. Potential effects of the individual facilities have been summarized in a tabular format and a discussion of the DSNY’s proposed plan for the mitigation of potential effects is provided.

- Appendices – In support of the overall Joint Application for Permit, several appendices have been included that provide information that supports the overall MTS Conversion Program. Several of these have been previously provided to involved agencies under separate cover, but have been included within our Joint Application for Permit for the purposes of completeness. These appendices include the following:
  - Supporting documentation, including spreadsheets, that were utilized to determine the potential effect of the individual proposed facilities and the overall MTS Conversion Program;
  - Drawings which illustrate the existing MTS facilities and the proposed Converted MTSs for each site;
  - A complete set of permit drawings in tabloid format;
  - Summary Report of Previous Sediment Sampling at Existing MTSs (digital copy); and
  - Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) for the SWMP (digital copy) with the Essential Fish Habitat (EFH) Evaluations Report as an Appendix