

**FINAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT FOR THE
CATSKILL/DELRWARE UV FACILITY
METHODOLOGIES**

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3.4. COMMUNITY FACILITIES

3.4.1. Introduction

Community facilities include schools, libraries, health care facilities, ambulance services, day care centers, senior citizen centers, community centers, fire and police protection and other emergency services. Other community facilities such as jails, colleges and universities, or religious and cultural facilities, are usually not analyzed unless the facility is the subject of the proposed project, or if the facility would be physically displaced or altered. The proposed project would not physically displace or alter any community facilities. However, the proximity of some facilities to the Eastview Site and the associated off-site facilities could raise concerns about potential impacts from the construction-related and operational activities. The proposed project may also have a potential indirect impact by increasing demand for community facilities. The guidelines for analysis of community facilities are described below. These criteria provide thresholds for determining when and where detailed community facility analyses are required.

Detailed analyses are required when the following thresholds are exceeded:

- Schools – Introduction of more than 50 elementary/middle school students or 150 high school students.
- Libraries – Greater than a five percent increase in ratio of residential units to libraries in a New York City Borough (although there is no threshold for upstate communities, this threshold was used for the upstate analysis).
- Hospitals and Public Health Facilities – More than 600 low- to moderate-income units will be added.
- Day Care Centers (publicly funded) – More than 50 eligible children based on the number of low/moderate income units by New York City Borough (although there is no threshold for upstate communities, this threshold was used for the upstate analysis).
- Fire Protection – No quantitative thresholds; however, direct effects on the station facility and response times will be analyzed.
- Police Protection – No quantitative thresholds; however, direct effects on the station facility and response times will be analyzed.

Baseline conditions, including Existing and Future Without the Project conditions, are described for each type of community facility. The study area for the Eastview Site and off-site work locations was generally established as one-half mile from the boundary of these project sites. Study areas were expanded on an individual basis if the jurisdiction or service area of a community facility included the project site or if a community facility could be indirectly affected by activities at the project site.

3.4.2. Baseline Conditions

3.4.2.1. Existing Conditions

For the project site, department heads from each municipality were contacted to characterize existing conditions, including police commissioners, fire chiefs, and ambulance corps captains. Information concerning their current capacity to provide service (or “level of service”) and their overall scope of service delivery was requested and then summarized, including geographic jurisdiction, number and frequency of calls for service (i.e., demand), staffing levels, equipment, and facilities. The one-half-mile study area was also visually inspected for community facilities such as day care centers, educational facilities and hospitals as part of the land use task described above.

3.4.2.2. Future Without the Project

Appropriate organizations and agencies were contacted to obtain information on plans for new facilities or modifications to existing facilities in the Future Without the Project.

3.4.3. Potential Impacts

3.4.3.1. Potential Project Impacts

Based on the development of the proposed project and the rehabilitation/modification of the off-site facilities, the potential demand on community services and the potential direct and/or indirect impact of providing services to these sites was determined. Workers at the project site, vendors, and service companies could generate new demands, as could new residents attracted by the jobs at the UV Facility. The determination of a potential adverse impact was based on whether or not the population in the service area would have adequate delivery of services in the Future With the Project.

3.4.3.2. Potential Construction Impacts

An evaluation of the level of disruption caused by the delivery of services during construction activities associated with the proposed project to the operation of community facilities was conducted in order to determine the effects of construction activity on community facilities within the study area.

3.4.4. Mitigation

Mitigation actions were developed if significant adverse impacts to a community facility were identified. In most cases, mitigation measures required cooperation and commitment from the agency with jurisdiction over the affected facility.