

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

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3.18. SOLID WASTE

3.18.1. Introduction

This section discusses the production, management, and collection of solid waste currently and potentially generated for the proposed Catskill/Delaware Ultraviolet Light (UV) Disinfection Facility at the Eastview Site, and associated off-site work locations. The proposed facility would be located at the Eastview Site within the Towns of Mount Pleasant and Greenburgh, NY. The associated work locations are situated near the Kensico Reservoir and the Taconic State Parkway.

3.18.1.1. Baseline Conditions

The New York State Solid Waste Management Act of 1988 (updated 1999 – 2000)¹ and the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) Regulations (Official Compilation of Codes, Rules and Regulations of the State of New York (NYCRR), Part 360-15)² establish a hierarchy of waste management techniques to minimize reliance on landfills by maximizing waste prevention and recycling. In fact, the State established a target goal of reducing waste by eight to ten percent, and having 40 percent of waste being recycled by 1997³. NYSDEC also maintains a comprehensive register of all permitted solid waste landfills within the State of New York.

The Westchester County Refuse Disposal District No. 1 consists of: solid waste transfer stations (Brockway Place Transfer Station, South Columbus Avenue Station, Thruway Transfer Station); a waste-to-energy plant (Charles Point Resource Recovery Plant, Peekskill, NY); a fleet of tractors and transfer trailers for waste hauling and recyclable containers for hauling recyclable materials; a landfill at Sprout Brook, solely permitted for the disposal of ash residue from the Charles Point facility; a Materials Recovery Facility (MRF); and various equipment for organic yard waste processing and transport⁴. The Charles Point Facility has a permitted capacity of 657,000 tons per year (tpy).

3.18.1.2. Existing Conditions

The existing solid waste generation rate was estimated for the project site(s) by applying the appropriate solid waste generation rate to the number of employees, based on the rates recommended in the *CEQR Technical Manual*. The amounts of solid waste generated at the off-site locations were also calculated. A per capita waste generation rate of 13 pounds per week per individual, the estimate for commercial office buildings, was used as an average solid waste

¹ New York State Department of Environmental Conservation. 2000. New York State Solid Waste Management Plan: 1999 – 2000 Update.

² New York State Department of Environmental Conservation. November 24, 1999. Title 6 of the Official Compilation of Codes, Rules and Regulations of the State of New York 6 NYCRR.
<http://www.dec.state.ny.us/website/regs/360v.htm>.

³ New York State Department of Environmental Conservation. 2002.
<http://www.dec.state.ny.us/website/dshm/sldwaste/index.htm>.

⁴ Westchester County Department of Environmental Facilities. 2002. Solid Waste Management.
<http://www.westchestergov.com/envfacil.htm>.

production rate in reference to the project site(s). A standard five-day, 40-hour work-week was assumed. Generation rates for other situations were used where applicable.

The existing solid waste generation rates in the study area, defined in the land use section, were obtained by determining the square footage of existing uses where applicable. The number of people employed per 1,000 square feet of existing use was estimated using industry standards.

3.18.1.3. Future Without the Project

The evaluation of the solid waste generation was estimated for the year 2008 for the anticipated peak year of construction, and 2010 for the anticipated first full year of operation. The associated off-site work locations were evaluated according to the proposed construction and operations schedules. Anticipated changes in the solid waste handling system and volumes of solid waste in the future without the proposed facility were analyzed. Based on planning documents, NYCDEP estimates, information obtained from local officials and owners of individual sites, future changes in the amount of solid waste produced at the sites were estimated.

3.18.2. Potential Impacts

3.18.2.1. Potential Project Impacts

Potential impacts associated with the project site(s) included worker-generated solid waste and waste associated with operation of the proposed UV Facility. Worker-generated solid waste was estimated by multiplying the number of employees working a 40-hour week (Monday - Friday) by the standard 13 pounds a week per employee. For those employees working two days per week (Saturday and Sunday) the standard 13 pounds per week per employee was modified to account for 2.6 pounds per eight-hour work shift (corresponding to generation during one-fifth of the work week). This amount of worker generated solid waste would be collected by a private hauler, and disposed of in the existing Westchester County solid waste system. The amount of waste generated per day by these individuals would only cause an impact on the existing solid waste system if it were to exceed the maximum capacity of the existing solid waste disposal facilities. The amount of facility-generated waste was calculated based on the proposed conceptual design estimates. These data were used to determine disposal options.

3.18.2.2. Potential Construction Impacts

The construction impacts were calculated based on the estimate of the amount of solid waste that would be generated during the anticipated peak year of construction (2008) at the project site(s).

The two principal sources of solid waste that would be generated during the construction period at the project site(s) would include: worker and construction related debris, such as food or paper trash, cardboard, aluminum, plastic, etc.

The construction impacts estimation was based on the number of loads that would be hauled off-site per month, which was based on the proposed construction schedule, resource loading and

project statistics for the proposed facility. The 13 pounds per week per employee were used to aid the estimation of the construction waste.

3.18.3. Mitigation

If solid waste disposal capacity were determined to be insufficient, a mitigation plan would be developed to alleviate the strain on disposal capacity.