

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

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## 4.5. OPEN SPACE

### 4.5.1. Introduction

Open space can be privately or publicly owned land that is accessible to the public for leisure, play, sport, or that has been dedicated to protecting the natural environment of an area. The purpose of the open space analysis for the proposed Catskill/Delaware UV Facility (UV Facility) project is to characterize existing open space conditions and to evaluate both quantitative and qualitative impacts upon open space resources during construction and operation.

The Eastview Site is owned by the City of New York, and was purchased in the early 20<sup>th</sup> Century in anticipation of water treatment needs for the City's Water Supply System. Furthermore, the site is not open to the public and has not been designated for recreational or environmental purposes. Therefore, an analysis of direct impacts on open space is not warranted. The methodology used to prepare an Open Space analysis is presented in [Section 3.5, Data Collection and Impact Methodologies, Open Space Analysis](#).

In addition, the proposed project is not anticipated to have an indirect impact on open space (i.e., increasing the demand) due to the industrial nature of the proposed project and the number and types of employees it would generate on either a short-term construction basis or a long-term operational basis. Construction workers would not be anticipated to utilize open spaces during their workday. They would typically spend their lunch breaks on the construction site. Operation of the proposed project would not generate a substantial number of employees. Furthermore, since the proposed facility would provide an employee lunchroom, employees would most likely eat their meals on-site as opposed to spending time in a nearby park. Moreover, the closest parks, such as the Rockefeller State Park Preserve, are not within walking distance, further minimizing the likelihood that construction workers or project-generated employees would create new demand for open space.

Other NYCDEP projects potentially located at the Eastview Site include a NYCDEP Police Precinct, a water treatment plant for the Croton Water Supply system (Croton project), a NYCDEP East-of-Hudson Administration/Laboratory Building, and the Kensico-City Tunnel (KCT) project. The Police Precinct has been approved by the Town of Mount Pleasant and is planned to be completed by 2006. If the preferred Mosholu Site is determined not to be viable for the Croton project, the Eastview Site would be selected for the Croton project, and the construction period for the proposed UV Facility would overlap with that of the Croton project. In addition, the operation year for the Croton project is anticipated for 2010, similar to the UV Facility. Construction of the KCT project could start in 2009 and may possibly extend fifteen or more years. It is likely that the Eastview Site could be a staging area for this project.

Workers associated with these NYCDEP projects would also be anticipated to spend their lunch breaks on the site, even though a substantial number of employees are anticipated for these NYCDEP projects. As noted above, since the closest parks are not within walking distance, it is unlikely that employees or construction workers generated by other NYCDEP projects would create new demand for open space.