

## Foreword

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This document is the Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) for the Hunts Point Water Pollution Control Plant (WPCP) Phase III Upgrade and carbon and polymer addition facilities (for enhanced nitrogen removal) proposed by the New York City Department of Environmental Protection (NYCDEP), also acting as lead agency. The Phase III Upgrade and enhanced nitrogen removal components are the “proposed action.” The Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) was prepared in accordance with City Environmental Quality Review (CEQR) as set forth in Executive Order 91 of 1977 and its amendments creating the Rules of Procedure for CEQR, adopted by the City Planning Commission (CPC) on June 26, 1991 and revised in October 2001, as well as the State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA), Section 8-0113, Article 8 of the Environmental Conservation Law, as set forth in 6 NYCRR Part 617.

The DEIS was accepted as complete by NYCDEP and issued for public review and comment on December 19, 2006. The issuance of the DEIS with the Notice of Completion on December 19, 2006 marked the beginning of public review under CEQR. On December 19, 2006, a presentation of the DEIS was made to the Hunts Point Monitoring Committee (HPMC) and EnviroSciences (HPMC’s technical consultant to support its review of the DEIS). The DEIS was circulated to interested and involved agencies and members of the public. The DEIS was posted on the NYCDEP Web page, and hard copies of the document were made available in local libraries and the Community Board office.

To allow for additional time for community review of the DEIS, NYCDEP published the DEIS in advance of the New York City Department of City Planning (DCP) certification of the Uniform Land Use Review Procedure (ULURP) application. (The proposed action would require site selection of the 4.3-acre area under ULURP. A second ULURP application for the mapping of Barretto Point Park is also following a parallel schedule.) Typically, the ULURP application is certified by DCP upon publication of the DEIS. The DEIS was published on December 19, 2006, and the ULURP applications were certified on February 26, 2007.

NYCDEP also held technical meetings with EnviroSciences, the consultant to HPMC, on January 17, 2007, January 30, 2007, and March 16, 2007, and also met with EnviroSciences and HPMC on March 19, 2007, to discuss the DEIS methodologies and analyses. These meetings were intended to assist HPMC’s understanding of the scope of the project and to assist the public in its review of the DEIS, and included a substantial question and answer component. Additional outreach efforts are described in Chapter 1, “Project Description.”

As required by CEQR, a public hearing was held during the public comment period on April 12, 2007, to receive oral testimony from the public and from involved or interested public agencies. A public notice advertising the date, time, and location of the public hearing on the DEIS was published in the *City Record* and in newspapers of general circulation in the affected area, including *The New York Daily News*, *The Bronx Times*, *Hoy*, and *El Diario*. Information on the public hearing was also published in NYSDEC’s *Environmental Notice Bulletin*. Flyers were distributed throughout the community (in both English and Spanish), and notices of the public hearing were mailed to those who provided testimony at the public scoping hearing on February

1, 2005. The public hearing was held at The Point Community Development Corporation at 940 Garrison Avenue in Hunts Point, the Bronx. Oral and written comments were accepted at this hearing and throughout the public comment period, which ended on April 23, 2007. A minimum of 30 days for public review after the circulation of the DEIS is mandated by CEQR, but with the early issuance of the DEIS before ULURP certification, this extended the public comment period on the DEIS by an additional 73 days, for a total of 125 days.

In coordination with DCP's certification of the ULURP applications, NYCDEP attended public hearings with CPC (on June 6, 2007), the Bronx Borough President's Office (on April 27, 2007), and the local Community Board (on March 14, 2007, March 28, 2007, April 11, 2007 and April 25, 2007) to present the DEIS.

This FEIS summarizes and responds to all substantive comments made during public review in a new chapter, Chapter 25, "Comments and Responses." Where appropriate, revisions and clarifications have also been made to the other chapters of the document, in response to public comments, as well as project changes that were made subsequent to the issuance of the DEIS. Written comments received on the document are included in Appendix 25. Revisions and changes throughout the FEIS are indicated by double underlines. The major changes include the following:

- NYCDEP has committed to the use of ultra low sulfur diesel (ULSD) fuel in the generators that are being installed under the Phase II Upgrade and the new emergency generator associated with the Phase III Upgrade. The commitment to use ULSD allowed the criteria air pollutant analyses to be updated to reflect the lower PM<sub>2.5</sub> emissions from these units. The modeling analysis for the PM<sub>2.5</sub> 24-hour averaging period was updated using lower PM<sub>2.5</sub> emissions from the generators (with ULSD), more reasonable worst-case operating scenarios for the other plant combustion sources, and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)'s AERMOD dispersion model. NYCDEP has also agreed to reduce the maximum number of emergency generators participating in a Peak Load Management (PLM) program to five of the six 2,000 kW generators that are being installed under the Phase II Upgrade. The 24-hour PM<sub>2.5</sub> increments at places of public access under PLM, maintenance testing, and normal conditions would be less than 2 µg/m<sup>3</sup>, and cumulative construction and operational 24-hour PM<sub>2.5</sub> increments would also be less than 2 µg/m<sup>3</sup>. In addition, NYCDEP will install PM monitoring stations during construction and post-construction operations.
- The analysis of non-criteria air pollutants were updated to reflect that 10 out of 12 sludge thickeners (instead of seven modeled in the DEIS) would normally operate with the proposed action. The analysis conclusions did not change.
- The odor modeling analysis was updated to include 10 out of the 12 sludge thickeners to account for reasonable worst-case operation. The FEIS also notes that NYCDEP will implement enclosure modifications to ensure 100 percent capture of fugitive emissions for three of the odor controlled systems to meet minimum requirements under the EPA Method 204 requirements for total enclosure. The three locations where this would be done are the primary influent channel, thickener distribution box, and sludge storage tank number 10. In addition, NYCDEP has committed to installing odor control on the primary effluent channels to be included in the Phase III Upgrade. These changes were modeled in a revised odor analysis using EPA's AERMOD dispersion model. NYCDEP has committed to install air monitors for H<sub>2</sub>S adjacent to the plant.

- Additional information was provided on alternatives, including renderings, operational and construction considerations, construction costs and durations, and treatment processes.

This FEIS has been distributed in the same manner as the DEIS, and was posted on the NYCDEP Web page, and hard copies of the document were made available in local libraries and the Community Board office. No less than 10 days following completion of the FEIS, NYCDEP will make its Statement of Findings prepared under CEQR/SEQRA.