



NOTICE OF COMPLETION OF FINAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT

**Project: Water for the Future: Upstate Water Supply Resiliency
CEQR No. 15DEP006U**

Vincent Sapienza, P.E.
Commissioner

December 15, 2017

Angela Licata
Deputy Commissioner
Sustainability

59-17 Junction Blvd.
Flushing, New York 11373

A Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) has been prepared by the New York City Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) for the proposed **Water for the Future: Upstate Water Supply Resiliency (UWSR)**. Acting as lead agency and in accordance with the State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA) (Section 8-0113, Article 8 of the Environmental Conservation Law) as set forth in 6NYCRR Part 617, and the City Environmental Quality Review (CEQR) process, as set forth in 62 RCNY Chapter 5 and Executive Order 91 of 1977 and its amendments, and the State Environmental Review Process (SERP), as required by the State Revolving Loan Fund Program, the New York City Department of Environmental Protection is hereby certifying this FEIS as complete.

A Positive Declaration and a Draft Scope of Work for the DEIS was issued on October 10, 2014. A Final Scope of Work (FSOW) was issued on September 16, 2015, finalizing the scope of analysis for the DEIS based on comments received. Based on the FSOW, a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) was prepared by DEP for the proposed UWSR project and issued on September 19, 2016.

Copies of the DEIS were made available for public review at various locations in New York, including the Town of Newburgh Town Hall, the Town of Yorktown Town Hall, the Town of Wawarsing Town Hall, the State University of New York (SUNY) Sullivan Hermann Memorial Library in Loch Sheldrake, and DEP offices located in Queens, Valhalla, and the City of Kingston. The document was also made available for public review on DEP's website. Written comments were accepted throughout the public comment period, which closed on November 14, 2016. DEP held a series of public meetings at various locations to solicit public comments on the DEIS during the comment period. These meetings were held on October 20, 2016 at the Ellenville Government Center, 2 Elting Court, Ellenville, NY; October 24, 2016 at the Yorktown Town Hall, 363 Underhill Avenue, Yorktown Heights, NY; October 25, 2016 at the Town of Newburgh Town Hall, 1496 Route 300, Newburgh, NY; and October 28, 2016 at SUNY Sullivan, 112 College Road, Loch Sheldrake, NY.

Subsequent to the publication of the DEIS, DEP identified an additional element of the UWSR Project. Throughout the planning of the UWSR project, one of DEP's key commitments is to coordinate closely with Outside Community Connections to confirm they have access to adequate water supply independent of the upper Catskill Aqueduct prior to any temporary shutdown. As a result of coordination with the Village and Town of New Paltz (New Paltz), the new project element would involve the development of a new temporary transmission water main to supply New Paltz. This temporary transmission water main would supply water to New Paltz during those periods when DEP would need to temporarily shut down the Catskill Aqueduct for extended periods, as described in the DEIS for the UWSR Project. DEP prepared a Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (SEIS) to evaluate this new element of the project. A Draft Scope of Work for the SEIS was issued on May 26, 2017, a public scoping meeting was held on June 29, 2017 in New Paltz, NY, and the public comment period closed on July 11, 2017. DEP issued the Final Scope of Work and Draft SEIS for the New Paltz Temporary Transmission Water Main on September 6, 2017. The Draft SEIS was made available for public review at various locations including the Town of New Paltz Town Hall, the Village of New Paltz Village Hall, and DEP offices located in Kingston and Queens. The document was also made available for public review on DEP's website. Written comments were accepted throughout the public comment period, which closed on October 10, 2017. DEP held a public meeting to solicit public comments on the New Paltz Temporary Transmission Water Main SEIS on September 27, 2017 at the Town of New Paltz Community Center, 3 Veterans Drive, New Paltz, NY.

The FEIS evaluates the UWSR project as whole including the Temporary New Paltz Transmission Water Main and responds to comments received on both the DEIS for USWR and the Draft SEIS. This FEIS is being distributed with this Notice of Completion. For a hard copy of the FEIS, please contact the person listed at the end of this Notice. The FEIS will also be available for review by the public at the repositories (see attachment) and on the DEP website (<http://www.nyc.gov/dep/upstatewatersupplyresiliency>).

Program Description

DEP elected to construct a bypass tunnel and two associated shafts to permanently circumvent the leaking section of the Rondout-West Branch Tunnel (RWBT) at the Roseton crossing in the Town of Newburgh; this work was previously evaluated in an FEIS issued on May 18, 2012 and work has commenced.

Once the tunnel and shafts are completed in 2022, the RWBT would be temporarily shut down and drained to connect the bypass tunnel to the existing RWBT and to carry out internal repairs. DEP estimates that the maximum shutdown duration would be approximately eight months. During this temporary shutdown of the RWBT, water from the Delaware system west of the Hudson River would be unavailable. To ensure the continued supply of clean drinking water during this time, DEP has developed projects and plans comprised of three main components: (1) augmentation of available supply consisting of the repair and rehabilitation of the Catskill Aqueduct to restore capacity; (2) WFF Shutdown System Operations (WSSO), which would allow DEP to rely more heavily on the Catskill and Croton water supply systems during the temporary shutdown; and (3) Inspection and Repair of the RWBT during connection of the bypass tunnel, including decommissioning the bypassed section of the RWBT once the

connection is completed. These components collectively will be referred to as Upstate Water Supply Resiliency in this DEIS and are described further below.

The proposed Catskill Aqueduct Repair and Rehabilitation Project (repair and rehabilitation) would restore historical capacity to the upper portion of the Catskill Aqueduct between the Ashokan and Kensico Reservoirs. In addition, the repair and rehabilitation would carry out additional repairs necessary based on age-related deterioration of the aqueduct, including repair or treatment of minor leaks and replacement of aging mechanical components. This would be coupled with temporary chlorination to maintain increased capacity; water would be dechlorinated before entering Kensico Reservoir.

Once the repair and rehabilitation is complete and the bypass tunnel is ready to be connected to the existing RWBT, DEP would be ready to implement an operational protocol, referred to as WSSO during the temporary shutdown that departs from its normal operation of the Delaware, Catskill, and Croton systems. The purpose of WSSO would be to: (1) prepare the water supply for the temporary shutdown of the RWBT; (2) continue to provide water to the City and its customers while the Delaware water supply is temporarily unavailable; and (3) return the system to normal operating conditions once the bypass connection is complete and the Delaware water supply system is again available.

In addition to supporting the connection of the bypass tunnel to the RWBT, WSSO program elements described above allow DEP to completely drain and inspect the approximately 45-mile length of the RWBT and make necessary repairs (inspection and repair) during the shutdown. Once RWBT repairs are completed and the bypass tunnel is successfully connected, the bypassed section of the RWBT that passes under the Hudson River would be permanently taken out of service (decommissioning). As a result, water currently leaking from the RWBT is expected to permanently cease. After the bypass tunnel connection is complete and all repairs are made to the RWBT, the RWBT would be reactivated and water would flow through the bypass tunnel to the City, and the bypassed portion of the RWBT would no longer be in service. The water supply system would return to normal operating conditions.

Required Approvals:

Upstate Water Supply Resiliency includes several actions subject to the procedures of environmental review, including approval by federal, State, county, and local entities. For a full list of potentially required permits and approvals, please refer to the FEIS enclosed herein.

Significant Impacts and Mitigation

A full assessment of potential impacts was undertaken in preparation of the FEIS.

There is a potential for significant adverse impacts to wetlands due to the potential loss of approximately 1.2 acres of wetlands in Roseton as a result of the cessation of leaks due to decommissioning of the bypassed section of the RWBT. DEP is committed to developing a monitoring program that would be implemented prior to, during and after the RWBT temporary shutdown to assess and confirm the extent of the impacts to these wetlands, and should permanent impacts be measured, DEP would perform compensatory mitigation.

As stated above, copies of the **FEIS** will be available for review at the repositories listed in the attachment to this Notice and will be posted on the DEP web site at <http://www.nyc.gov/dep/upstatewatersupplyresiliency>.

Contact Person

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New York City Department of Environmental Protection, 11th Floor
Bureau of Environmental Planning and Analysis
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Email: WFFComments@dep.nyc.gov



Angela Licata
Deputy Commissioner

Attached:
Distribution List
Repository List
Final Environmental Impact Statement

**Water for the Future: Upstate Water Supply Resiliency
Final Environmental Impact Statement Distribution List**

Involved and Interested Agencies and Parties

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers	U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
U.S. Coast Guard	U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
U.S. Senate	National Marine Fisheries Service
U.S. House of Representatives	Delaware River Basin Commission
Stewart Air National Guard	New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection
Jones Beach State Park	New York State Senate
New York State Assembly	New York State Department of Health
New York State Department of Environmental Conservation	New York State Department of Transportation
New York State Department of State	New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation
New York State Office of General Services	Port Authority of New York and New Jersey
New York State Power Authority	MTA Metro-North Railroad
Stewart International Airport	New York City Clerk
New York City Queens Community Board Chairs	New York City Council
New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene	New York City Department of City Planning
New York City Office of Environmental Coordination	New York City Landmarks Preservation Commission
New York City Public Design Commission	New York City Planning Commission
New York City Department of Parks and Recreation	New York City Department of Transportation
Broome County	New York City Queens Borough President
Dutchess County	Delaware County
Nassau County	Greene County
Putnam County	Orange County
Schoharie County	Queens County
Ulster County	Sullivan County
City of Glen Cove	Westchester County
City of Mount Vernon	City of Kingston
City of Peekskill	City of Newburgh
City of Rye	City of Port Jervis
City of Yonkers	City of White Plains
Town of Bedford	Town of Andes
Town of Carmel	Town of Blenheim
Town of Colchester	Town of Cohecton
Town of Cornwall	Town of Conesville
Town of Deerpark	Town of Cortlandt
Town of Deposit	Town of Delaware
Town of East Fishkill	Town of Eastchester
Town of Fallsburg	Town of Esopus
Town of Forestburgh	Town of Fishkill
Town of Gardiner	Town of Fremont
	Town of Gilboa

Town of Greenburgh
Town of Hempstead
Town of Hurley
Town of Lewisboro
Town of Lumberland
Town of Marbletown
Town of Middletown
Town of Mount Pleasant
Town of New Castle
Town of New Windsor
Town of North Castle
Town of North Salem
Town of Ossining
Town of Philipstown
Town of Pound Ridge
Town of Putnam Valley
Town of Rockland
Town of Roxbury
Town of Sanford
Town of Shandaken
Town of Somers
Town of Thompson
Town of Tusten
Town of Walton
Town of Wawarsing
Town/Village of Harrison
Village of Bayville
Village of Briarcliff Manor
Village of Buchanan
Village of Cornwall-on-Hudson
Village of Deposit
Village of Flower Hill
Village of Elmsford
Village of Freeport
Village of Garden City
Village of Hastings-on-Hudson
Village of Irvington
Village of Mamaroneck
Village of Nelsonville
Village of Ossining
Village of Pelham Manor
Village of Port Chester
Village of Rockville Centre
Village of Sands Point
Village of Scarsdale
Village of Tarrytown
Village of Williston Park

Town of Hancock
Town of Highland
Town of Kent
Town of Lexington
Town of Mamaroneck
Town of Marlborough
Town of Montgomery
Town of Neversink
Town of New Paltz
Town of Newburgh
Town of North Hempstead
Town of Olive
Town of Pelham
Town of Plattekill
Town of Prattsville
Town of Rochester
Town of Rosendale
Town of Rye
Town of Saugerties
Town of Shawangunk
Town of Southeast
Town of Tompkins
Town of Ulster
Town of Wappinger
Town of Yorktown
Village of Ardsley
Village of Brewster
Village of Bronxville
Village of Cold Spring
Village of Croton-On-Hudson
Village of Dobbs Ferry
Village of Farmingdale
Village of Fishkill
Village of Hancock
Village of Hempstead
Village of Larchmont
Village of Mineola
Village of New Paltz
Village of Pelham
Village of Plandome
Village of Pleasantville
Village of Rye Brook
Village of Saugerties
Village of Sleepy Hollow
Village of Tuckahoe

Ashokan Release Working Group
Beaver Dam Winter Sports
Brewster Heights Water District
Carle Place Water District
CCI Roseton, LLC
Chelsea Farms, LLC
Chelsea Fire District
Chelsea Sportsmen's Association
Church of God
Cottage School
Franciscan Friars of Atonement
Garden City Park Water District
Graymoor
Hicksville Water District
Hudson River Sloop
Clearwater
Jericho Water District
Long Beach City Water Purification
Plant
Massapequa Water District
Mill Neck Water System
Natural Resources Defense Council
New York American Water
Newbuy, Inc.
Nature Conservancy
Old Westbury Village Water District
Oyster Bay Water District
Port Washington Water District
Riverkeeper
Roslyn Water District
South Farmingdale Water District
St. Joseph Roman Catholic Church
United Water
Water Authority of Great Neck North
Water for Long Island
Wawarsing PAC
West Hempstead Water District
Westchester County Water Districts
Westchester Joint Water Works

Albertson Water District
Bethpage Water District
Brookfield Power
Cathedral Gardens Water District
Cedar Hill Cemetery
Chelsea Fire Co.
Chelsea Ridge NY, LLC
CHG&E Corp
Continental Village Water District
Danskammer Energy LLC
Delaware Riverkeeper
Franklin Square Water District
Glenwood Water District
High Falls Water District
Locust Valley Water District
Manhasset-Lakeville Water District
McGoey Hauser and Edsall
Montrose Water District
Nassau Suffolk Water Commissioner's
Association
New York Council of Trout Unlimited
New York Public Interest Research Group,
Inc.
The North Delaware River Watershed
Conservancy
Northern Westchester Joint Water Works
Orchard Hill
Plainview Water District
Residents For A More Beautiful Port
Washington
Riverview Land Company, LLC
Seawanhaka Yacht Club
Split Rock Water Supply
Tobay Beach
Wallkill Correctional Facility
Water Authority of Western Nassau
Westbury Water District
World Mission Society
Upper Delaware Council

**Water for the Future: Upstate Water Supply Resiliency
Final Environmental Impact Statement Repository List:**

Town Clerk
Town of Newburgh
1496 Route 300
Newburgh, NY 12550
Contact: Andrew Zarutskie
Phone: (845) 564-4554

Village of New Paltz
Clerk's Office
25 Plattekill Avenue
New Paltz, 12561
Contact: Village Clerk
Phone: (845) 255-0130

Town Clerk
Town of Wawarsing
108 Canal Street ~ PO Box 671
Ellenville, NY 12428
Contact: Roxanne Shamro
Phone: (845) 647-7800

Library SUNY – Sullivan
112 College Road
Loch Sheldrake, NY 12759
Phone: (845) 434-5750

Town Clerk
Town of Yorktown
363 Underhill Avenue
Yorktown Heights, NY 10568
Contact: Alice Roker
Phone: (914) 962-5722

NYC Department of Environmental Protection
59-17 Junction Boulevard, 11th Floor
Flushing, NY 11373
Contact: Sangamithra Iyer
Phone: (718) 595-3585
Email: WFFComments@dep.nyc.gov

Town Clerk
Town of Marbletown
Rondout Municipal Center
1925 Lucas Avenue
Cottkill, NY
Contact: Heather Moody
Phone (845) 687-7500

NYC Department of Environmental Protection
465 Columbus Avenue
Valhalla, NY 10595
Contact: David Warne
Phone: (914) 742-2099
Email: WFFComments@dep.nyc.gov

Town Clerk
Town of New Paltz
52 Clearwater Road
New Paltz, NY 12561
Contact: Rosanna Mazzaccari
Phone: (845) 255-0604

NYC Department of Environmental Protection
71 Smith Avenue
Kingston, NY 12401
Contact: Jennifer Farmwald
Phone: (845) 340-7884
Email: WFFComments@dep.nyc.gov