

Project :

Date :

Full Environmental Assessment Form
Part 3 - Evaluation of the Magnitude and Importance of Project Impacts
and
Determination of Significance

Part 3 provides the reasons in support of the determination of significance. The lead agency must complete Part 3 for every question in Part 2 where the impact has been identified as potentially moderate to large or where there is a need to explain why a particular element of the proposed action will not, or may, result in a significant adverse environmental impact.

Based on the analysis in Part 3, the lead agency must decide whether to require an environmental impact statement to further assess the proposed action or whether available information is sufficient for the lead agency to conclude that the proposed action will not have a significant adverse environmental impact. By completing the certification on the next page, the lead agency can complete its determination of significance.

Reasons Supporting This Determination:

To complete this section:

- Identify the impact based on the Part 2 responses and describe its magnitude. Magnitude considers factors such as severity, size or extent of an impact.
- Assess the importance of the impact. Importance relates to the geographic scope, duration, probability of the impact occurring, number of people affected by the impact and any additional environmental consequences if the impact were to occur.
- The assessment should take into consideration any design element or project changes.
- Repeat this process for each Part 2 question where the impact has been identified as potentially moderate to large or where there is a need to explain why a particular element of the proposed action will not, or may, result in a significant adverse environmental impact.
- Provide the reason(s) why the impact may, or will not, result in a significant adverse environmental impact
- For Conditional Negative Declarations identify the specific condition(s) imposed that will modify the proposed action so that no significant adverse environmental impacts will result.
- Attach additional sheets, as needed.

Determination of Significance - Type 1 and Unlisted Actions

SEQR Status: Type 1 Unlisted

Identify portions of EAF completed for this Project: Part 1 Part 2 Part 3

Upon review of the information recorded on this EAF, as noted, plus this additional support information

and considering both the magnitude and importance of each identified potential impact, it is the conclusion of the _____ as lead agency that:

A. This project will result in no significant adverse impacts on the environment, and, therefore, an environmental impact statement need not be prepared. Accordingly, this negative declaration is issued.

B. Although this project could have a significant adverse impact on the environment, that impact will be avoided or substantially mitigated because of the following conditions which will be required by the lead agency:

There will, therefore, be no significant adverse impacts from the project as conditioned, and, therefore, this conditioned negative declaration is issued. A conditioned negative declaration may be used only for UNLISTED actions (see 6 NYCRR 617.d).

C. This Project may result in one or more significant adverse impacts on the environment, and an environmental impact statement must be prepared to further assess the impact(s) and possible mitigation and to explore alternatives to avoid or reduce those impacts. Accordingly, this positive declaration is issued.

Name of Action:

Name of Lead Agency:

Name of Responsible Officer in Lead Agency:

Title of Responsible Officer:

Signature of Responsible Officer in Lead Agency:

Date:

Signature of Preparer (if different from Responsible Officer)

Date:

For Further Information:

Contact Person:

Address:

Telephone Number:

E-mail:

For Type 1 Actions and Conditioned Negative Declarations, a copy of this Notice is sent to:

Chief Executive Officer of the political subdivision in which the action will be principally located (e.g., Town / City / Village of)

Other involved agencies (if any)

Applicant (if any)

Environmental Notice Bulletin: <http://www.dec.ny.gov/enb/enb.html>

Part 3 EAF

The following provides the assessment of potential impacts for those parameters identified in Part 2 of the EAF. This assessment is provided in support of the Board's Negative Declaration determination under SEQRA.

1. Impact on Land

1a: At site 3, the water table is approximately 2.5 feet below the surface. The proposed work at this site will involve the replacement of existing valves and the installation of influent and effluent mains parallel to the existing mains. All work will be done at a depth of about 4 to 5 feet below existing grade. Much of the valve replacement work will be done in existing vaults that have drainage and no additional excavation will be required. The projected area of disturbance at Site 3 is limited to 0.79 acres. In the area where groundwater may be encountered during excavation, a sump pump (or similar equipment) would be employed to collect/remove water from the water area. The collected water would then be allowed to flow gently downhill away from the work site. Best management practices for erosion control as identified in the NYS Standards and Specifications for Erosion and Sediment Control (latest



Figure 1: Portion of Site 3 adjacent to southbound lane of NYS Thruway

Edition) will be utilized; therefore there will be no increase in turbidity loading in adjoining water body. Upon completion of this phase of the project, the area will be restored to pre-construction condition and no impervious surfaces will be added.

1b: At Site 3, the installation of the new mains will be on slopes that exceed 15%. The new mains will be installed parallel to the existing mains. A trench-less construction method is preferred. Should this be determined not to be feasible, the open trench method with the potential for dewatering will be assumed. Excavating in stages, to minimize the length of open trench at any given time, would minimize the potential for impact. Best management practices for erosion control as identified in the NYS Standards and Specifications for



Mains installed along slope parallel to the existing mains

Figure 2: Portion of Site 3 showing slope

Erosion and Sediment Control (latest edition) will be utilized. The area will be restored to its pre-construction condition and no impervious surface will be added.

1c: Although bedrock outcroppings may be found on or proximate to the greater project sites and bedrock may be located within 5 feet of the surface in some parts of the project site, the work proposed in this project will be conducted on or in close proximity to existing pipelines where bedrock was not a factor in the installation of the existing pipelines. Prior to the installation of the new mains, test pits or soil borings will be taken to determine if bedrock is present in the limits of work. As the surrounding land is controlled by the Water Department, the new mains can be relocated.

1d: The area of disturbance for the entire project (three project component locations) is 1.11 acres. The average depth of excavations will not exceed 5 feet. The excavated material will remain onsite whether used to backfill the trench or elsewhere on the District's property. Therefore the 1,000 ton threshold will not be approached.

1e: The project has 3 distinct construction sites, none of which are inter-dependent. Due to the specialized nature of the work, it is likely that there will be 2 independent contractors involved. While it is possible that both contractors could be working concurrently, it is also possible that scheduling will preclude that from happening. All work is anticipated to be completed within a single calendar year. The structural lining project (Site 1) is anticipated to be completed within 4 weeks. Similarly, the valve work (site 2 & 3) and the pipeline installation will be completed within 12 weeks.

1f: No herbicides will be used on this project. Following the completion of the project, the site will be restored to its pre-construction condition. Any vegetation that is removed will be allowed to naturally reestablish.

During construction, best management practices for erosion control as identified in the NYS Standards and Specifications for Erosion and Sediment Control (latest edition) will be utilized.

1g: The project (three areas of construction) is not in a Coastal Erosion hazard area.

2. Impact on Geological Features

Unique or unusual geologic features have not been identified at the three distinct project areas; therefore no impact to these resources is anticipated as a result of the project.

3. Impacts on Surface Water

Although there are water bodies and wetlands in the general project area, no work is proposed in or adjacent to a water body or wetland. The project will not increase water consumption and will not result in the discharge of any waste water. Erosion control, as identified in the NYS Standards and Specifications for Erosion and Sediment Control (latest edition), will be utilized and no increase in turbidity in any water body will occur due to downstream runoff. No herbicides will be used. The area of disturbance at each distinct site is less than an acre and the combined area of disturbance is 1.11 acres.

4. Impacts on Ground Water

Construction of these resiliency measures will not result in an impact on groundwater. Temporary dewatering of trenched areas may be required during construction. This temporary dewatering will not impact groundwater resources in the area of the proposed project.

5. Impact on Flooding

No impacts from flooding are anticipated as a result of this project. There is a NYS DEC class C dam (NYS DEC File No. 193-0863) on the property at Site 3. However, the project involves the water mains at that location and does not involve any work on the dam or the reservoir. As required by NYSDEC dam safety regulations, this dam has an Emergency Action Plan, Inspection and Maintenance Plan, as well as an Engineering Assessment (EA) Report on file. The later was completed and filed in December 2015. Like most dams in NYS, the EA identified several items that need to be addressed to bring the dam into compliance with current standards. Upon completion of the review of the EA Report by the NYS DEC, these improvements will be undertaken. As a result, the dam is in full compliance with applicable NYS DEC regulations.

6. Impacts on Air

The repair and maintenance of existing infrastructure will not result in an impact to air quality.

7. Impacts on Plants and Animals

There is no critical habitat for threatened and endangered species present on the project sites as determined by the online consultation with USFWS and a review of online natural resources (NYSNHP). Moreover, the area of disturbance is limited, construction will be brief in duration and the area of disturbance will be returned to its

pre-construction condition at the end of the construction event. No tree removal is contemplated at this time. However, should it become necessary to remove a limited number of trees to accommodate the construction, no tree removal will take place between October 31st and March 31st. Although it is possible that one or more threatened or endangered species could be present on the project site, this must be re-assessed every 6 months. Therefore, a formal inquiry will be made with NYSNHP and a written concurrence will be obtained from USFWS during the project's design phase. As a result, no impacts on threatened or endangered plants and animals are reasonably anticipated.

8. Impacts on Agriculture

No impacts on agriculture are expected as a result of this project as the project is limited in scope and the current use of the areas proposed for disturbance are in use for water supply.

9. Impacts on Aesthetic Resources

No impact to aesthetic resources is anticipated as a result of implementing this project. The proposed project involves the maintenance and repair of existing below ground infrastructure. Construction will involve the disturbance of a small area and will be of relatively short duration. Much of the construction activity will not be visible to the public. Upon completion of the project, the area will be restored to its pre-construction condition.

10. Impact on Historical and Archeological Resources

No impact on the historical or archeological resources of New York State is anticipated as a result of this project. A letter from the NY State Historic Preservation Office attesting to the lack of significance is included with Part 1 of the EAF.

11. Impact on Open Spaces and Recreation

No impacts on open spaces or recreation have been identified. This project will take place on lands and easements currently held by the KWD. All KWD lands are duly posted and trespassing for any purpose is not allowed.

12. Impact on Critical Environmental Areas

According to NYSDEC and USFWS, no critical environmental areas are within the limits of the proposed work. Therefore no impact is identified.

13. Impact on Transportation

There is no impact on transportation as a result of this project. The repair and maintenance of existing infrastructure will not result in an increase in vehicular traffic or result in an impact on vehicular, pedestrian, or bicycle transportation in the project area. No impervious surfaces will be created.

14. Impact on Energy

The repair and maintenance of existing infrastructure will not result in an impact on energy infrastructure demand or utilization by the water district.

15. Impact on Noise, Odor, and Light

Temporary noise increases may be apparent during the construction duration. Noise from the operation of an excavator during construction will be limited to weekdays during the hours of 8 am to 4 pm. Significant portions of the project will occur immediately adjacent to Sawkill Road and the southbound lane of the NYS Thruway. It is unlikely that the noise from the operation of the excavator will exceed the ambient noise from vehicular traffic on these roadways during the hours of construction. This project will not produce any odors or outdoor lighting and no blasting is proposed. Once construction is completed, there will be no noise generated as a result of this project.

16. Impact on Human Health

No adverse impacts on human health have been identified for this project. However, because this project will result in improvements to the resiliency and redundancy of the water system's infrastructure, there will be an overall positive impact on public health and safety as a result of this project.

17. Consistency with Community Plans

All three project's sites are in communities with zoning ordinances. However, the Kingston Water Department was created by a special act of the NYS Legislature in 1895. As such it is exempt from all local zoning, planning, and permitting as they relate to the operation of the water system in those communities in which its infrastructure is located. Moreover, without exception, the infrastructure predated the zoning ordinances in the respective Towns. Nonetheless, this project involves the repair and replacement of critical infrastructure and, once construction is completed, the areas of disturbance will be restored to their pre-construction condition.

18. Consistency with Community Character

This project involves the repair and maintenance of existing infrastructure and all areas of disturbance will be restored to their pre-construction condition. As a result, this project is consistent with the character of the communities as no permanent change in use or visual quality will occur.