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DEIS SCOPING DOCUMENT
WORLD HEADQUARTERS OF
JEHOVAH’S WITNESSES AUDIO/VIDEO PRODUCTION CENTER
Town of Ramapo, Rockland County, New York

This document identifies the issues to be addressed in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for the proposed World Headquarters of Jehovah’s Witnesses Audio/Video Production Center in the Town of Ramapo, NY. This Scoping Document contains the items described in paragraphs (e)(1) through (7) of Section 617.8 and paragraphs (b)(1) through (7) of Section 617.9 of the State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA) regulations.

A. DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED ACTION

Watchtower Bible and Tract Society of New York, Inc., (the "Applicant") proposes to build a new Audio/Video Production Center at 155 Sterling Mine Road, in the Town of Ramapo, New York (the "Project Site" or "Subject Property"). The Project Site is comprised of the following tax parcels (See Table 1 and Figure 1). The proposed development is a facility for the creation and production of audio and video/film recordings in an integrated working, living and worship facility for members of the religious order known as the Worldwide Order of Special Full Time Servants of Jehovah’s Witnesses and assisting religious volunteers. A new mixed-use MU-3 zoning district is proposed to facilitate the development of this integrated facility (the "Proposed Action").

Table 1
Project Site Tax Lots

Town/County	Tax Lot	Existing Zoning Designation	Proposed Zoning Designation	Acres
Town of Ramapo, Rockland County	38.10-1-10 through 60	Specialized Housing Residential District (RSH)	Mixed-Use 3 (MU-3)	242 acres
	38.13-1-2 through 55			
	38.14-1-1 through 75			
	38.14-2-1 through 44			
	38.14-3-1 through 46			
	38.17-1-3 through 11			
	38.18-1-1 through 14			
Town of Tuxedo, Orange County	17-1-19.21	Rural Residential (R-2)	Rural Residential (R-2)	7 acres
TOTAL				249 acres

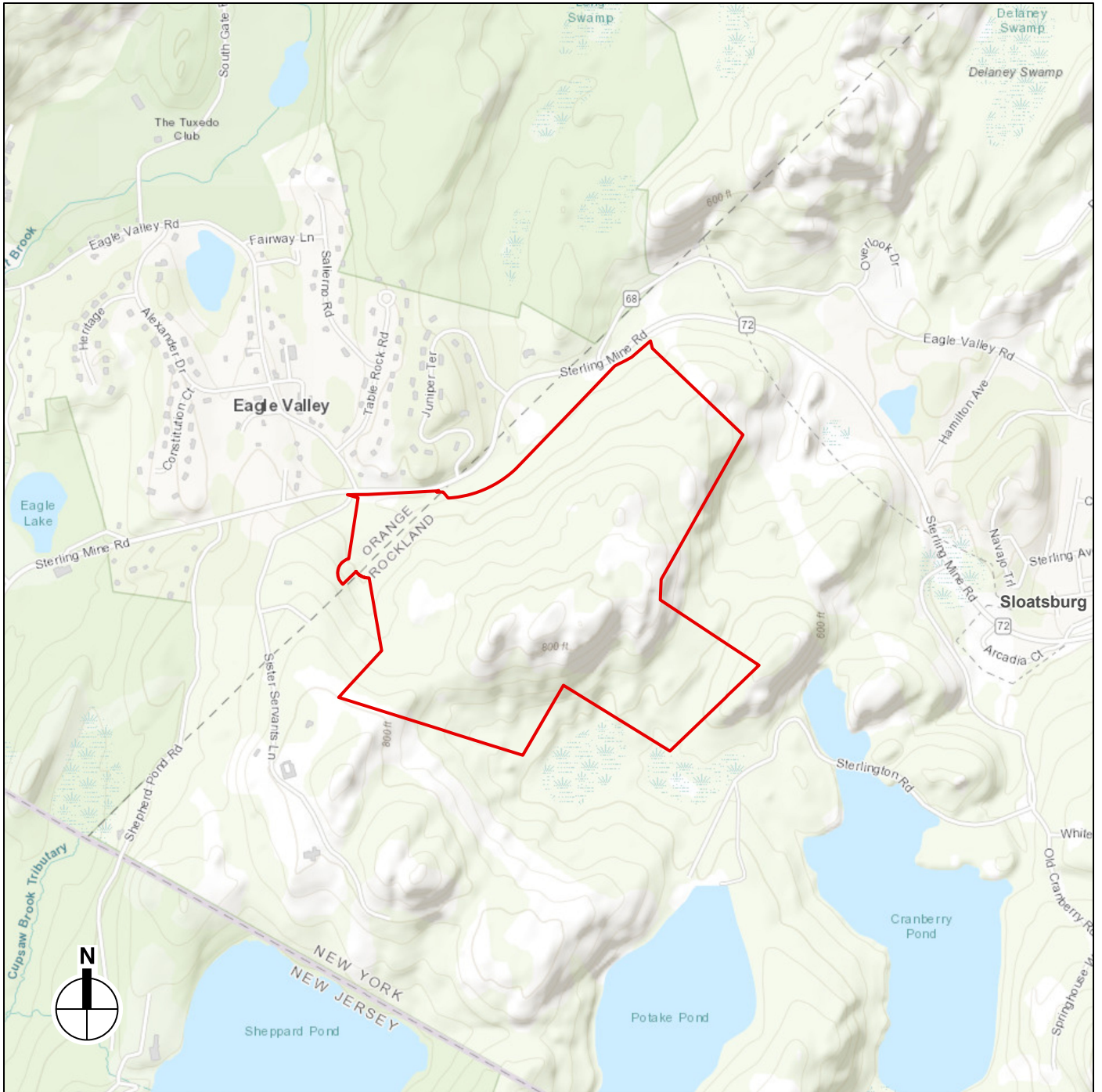
26

27 The Proposed Action will consist of audio and video production studios and facilities to support
 28 operations of the world headquarters of Jehovah's Witnesses. These support facilities will include
 29 offices, maintenance and set production workshops, and a central chilled/hot water plant with
 30 geothermal heat recovery system. Accommodations for the resident staff will include 645
 31 residential units (545 1-bedroom and 100 studio units), dining/assembly spaces,
 32 recreation/wellness/fitness facilities, and a clinic. The project also includes a Visitors Center. The
 33 proposed buildings and square feet are presented in Table 2 below.¹

Table 2
Proposed Buildings and Structures

Building	Square Feet
Visitor Center	118,075
Offices	375,710
Audio/Video Studios	120,000
Maintenance / Studio Support Facility	30,000
Reception	22,484
Events Facility	175,192
Central Energy Plant	17,280
Building at Backlot	3,000
Gatehouse	500
Building at Sports Fields	500
Enclosed Walkways Between Buildings	8,184
<i>Non-Residential Subtotal</i>	<i>870,925</i>
Residence 1	87,759
Residence 2	65,529
Residence 3	76,449
Residence 4	87,759
Residence 5	76,449
Residence 6	76,449
Residence 7	76,449
Residence 8	87,759
Residence 9	87,759
Residence 10	65,529
Residential Parking Garage	55,575
Resident's Fitness Center	19,378
Enclosed Walkways Between Residences	15,604
Residential Utility Structures (e.g. trash)	5,486
<i>Residential Subtotal</i>	<i>883,933</i>
TOTAL	1,754,854
Source: Site Building Area Schedule (AC601), prepared by Watchtower, last revised 7/24/2020.	

¹ Early versions of the EAF presented the total square footage of the A/V Production Center building complex. Table 2 above presents all proposed non-residential and residential structures on the Project Site.



 Project Site

0  1 Mile

34 The Project Site consists of 249 acres of land, of which 242 acres are located in the Town of
35 Ramapo (Rockland County) and 7 acres are located in the Town of Tuxedo (Orange County).
36 Development on the portion of the Project Site located in the Town of Tuxedo is limited to
37 secondary driveway access off Sterling Mine Road. The Ramapo portion of the Project Site was
38 previously subdivided into 293 lots for the "Sterling Mine Road Active Adult Community."
39 However, no physical improvements were made to the property following the subdivision
40 approval. The Project Site is heavily forested with native tree growth and large granite bedrock
41 outcroppings and wetlands. Of the 249-acre Project Site, approximately 9.3 acres (3.7%) are
42 wetlands and approximately 12 acres (4.8%) are bedrock outcroppings.

43

44 The Proposed Action requires a zoning text, zoning map, and comprehensive plan amendments
45 from the Town of Ramapo Town Board to establish a new mixed-use MU-3 zoning district, and
46 site plan approval from the Planning Board. In addition, the Proposed Action would seek a lot
47 line merger to revert the site to a single tax lot in Ramapo.

48

49 On July 8, 2020 the Town of Ramapo Town Board declared its intent to serve as Lead Agency
50 for the Proposed Action. Having received no objection from any other Involved Agency, on
51 August 12, 2020 the Town Board adopted a Positive Declaration, thereby finding that the
52 Proposed Action may have a significant adverse impact on the environment and therefore
53 requiring that a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) must be prepared. The applicant
54 submitted a draft scoping document to the Town and thereafter the Town circulated the draft
55 scope to all Involved Agencies and to all Interested Agencies and parties in accordance with
56 SEQRA. Written comments on the Draft Scope were received by the Town Board through
57 _____,2020.

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70 **B. INVOLVED AGENCIES AND APPROVALS REQUIRED**

**Table 3
 Required Approvals and Review**

Involved and Interested Agencies	Approval/Review
Town of Ramapo Planning Board	Site Plan Approval, Streams and Watercourse Permit, Scenic Road District Review, Subdivision Approval**
Town of Ramapo Town Board	Zoning Text and Map Amendment, Comprehensive Plan Amendment
Town of Ramapo Community Design Review Committee (CRDC)	Architectural review
Town of Ramapo Building, Planning, and Zoning Department	Building Permits, Blasting Permit
Town of Ramapo Department of Public Works	Sanitary Sewer Connection
Town Ramapo Town Clerk	Sewer License
Town of Tuxedo Planning Board	Freshwater Wetlands Permit
Town of Tuxedo Highway Superintendent	Driveway Permit
Rockland County Highway Department	Road Opening Permit, Driveway Opening Permit
Rockland County Sewer District (RCSD) No. 1	Permit to Connect to RCSD No. 1 Sewer System
Rockland County Drainage Agency	Drainage Permit (Nakoma Brook)
Rockland County Department of Health	Water Supply Permit
Rockland County Planning Department	General Municipal Law § 239-m and -n Referral
Rockland County Clerk	Lot Line Abandonment
Orange County Department of Public Works	Highway Work Permit, Driveway Permit
Orange County Department of Planning	General Municipal Law § 239-m and -n Referral
NYS Department of Environmental Conservation, Region 3	State Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (SPDES) General Permit for Stormwater from Construction Activities (GP-0-15-002), Freshwater Wetlands Permit (6 NYCRR Part 662), Individual SPDES Permit for Onsite Wastewater Treatment System*, Incidental Take Permit**, Air Quality Permit**, Protection of Waters Permit**
NYS Office of Parks, Recreation, and Historic Preservation	National Historic Preservation Act Section 106 Review, NYS Historic Preservation Act Section 14.09 Review
United States Fish and Wildlife Service	Endangered Species Consultation
United States Army Corp of Engineers	USACE Nationwide Wetlands Permit
Notes:	* The project proposes to connect to RCSD No. 1 Sewer System. However, an onsite sanitary sewer system is being considered as an alternative, in which case this permit would be required. ** Potentially required.

71

72

73 **ADDITIONAL INTERESTED AGENCIES**

- 74 • Town of Ramapo Highway Superintendent
- 75 • Town of Ramapo Police Department
- 76 • Town of Tuxedo Town Board
- 77 • Village of Sloatsburg Village Board
- 78 • Village of Sloatsburg Planning Board
- 79 • Sloatsburg Fire Department
- 80 • Hillburn Fire Department
- 81 • Sloatsburg Volunteer Community Ambulance Corps
- 82 • Suffern Central School District
- 83 • Rockland County Sheriff's Department
- 84 • Rockland County Office of Fire and Emergency Services
- 85 • Rockland Paramedic Service
- 86 • New York State Police
- 87 • New York State Department of Transportation, Region 8
- 88 • Suez North America
- 89 • Orange and Rockland Utilities
- 90 • Deborah Munitz/ROSA 4 Rockland
- 91 • Palisades Interstate Parks Commission

92
93 **C. SCOPING**

94
95 Pursuant to Part 617.8, the Lead Agency is conducting scoping, the primary goals of which are
96 to focus the EIS on potentially significant adverse impacts, and to eliminate consideration of
97 those impacts that are not significant or irrelevant. This Scope has been prepared in accordance
98 with Part 617.8(e) and sets forth the following:

- 99
- 100 • Brief description of the Proposed Action
- 101 • Potentially significant adverse impacts
- 102 • Extent and quality of information needed to adequately address potentially significant
- 103 adverse impacts as well as the methodologies required for obtaining this information.

- 104 • Initial identification of mitigation measures
- 105 • Reasonable alternatives to be considered
- 106 • Information that should be included in an appendix rather than the body of the DEIS
- 107 • Issues raised during scoping and determined to be neither relevant nor environmentally
- 108 significant or that have been adequately addressed in a prior environmental review
- 109

110 The Positive Declaration adopted by the Lead Agency indicated that implementation of the
111 Proposed Action may result in one or more potentially significant adverse environmental impacts,
112 and listed the following as reasons supporting its Determination of Significance:

113
114 **Impact on Land**

- 115 • The Proposed Action may involve construction on slopes of 15% or greater.
- 116 • The Proposed Action may involve construction on land where bedrock is exposed, or
- 117 generally within 5 feet of existing ground surface.
- 118 • The Proposed Action may involve construction that continues for more than one year or
- 119 in multiple phases.
- 120

121 **Impact on Surface Water**

- 122 • The Proposed Action may involve construction within or adjoining a freshwater or tidal
- 123 wetland, or in the bed or banks of any other water body.
- 124

125 **Impacts on Plants and Animals**

- 126 • The Proposed Action may result in a reduction or degradation of any habitat used by
- 127 any rare, threatened or endangered species, as listed by New York State or the federal
- 128 government.
- 129 • The Proposed Action may result in a reduction or degradation of any habitat used by
- 130 any species of special concern and conservation need, as listed by New York State or
- 131 the Federal government.
- 132 • The Proposed Action requires the conversion of more than 10 acres of forest, grassland
- 133 or any other regionally or locally important habitat.
- 134

135 **Impact on Aesthetic Resources**

- 136 • The Proposed Action may be visible from publicly accessible vantage points seasonally
- 137 and year round during routine travel by residents, including travel to and from work.
- 138
- 139

140 **Impact of Historic and Archaeological Resources**

- 141 • The Proposed Action may occur wholly or partially within, or substantially contiguous to,
142 an area designated as sensitive for archaeological sites on the NY State Historic
143 Preservation Office (SHPO) archaeological site inventory.
144

145 **Impact on Transportation**

- 146 • The Proposed Action may result in the construction of paved parking area for 500 or
147 more vehicles.
148

149 **Impact of Noise, Odor, and Light**

- 150 • The Proposed Action may result in blasting within 1,500 feet of any residence, hospital,
151 school, licensed day care center, or nursing home.
152

153 **Consistency with Community Plans**

- 154 • The Proposed Action is inconsistent with local land use plans or zoning regulations.
155 • The Proposed Action may cause a change in the density of development that is not
156 supported by existing infrastructure or is distant from existing infrastructure.
157 • The Proposed Action is located in an area characterized by low-density development
158 that will require new or expanded public infrastructure.
159

160 These potential adverse impacts identified by the Lead Agency in the Positive Declaration will be
161 addressed in various sections of the DEIS as outlined below.
162

163 **D. GENERAL GUIDANCE, REQUIRED ELEMENTS, ORGANIZATION AND CONTENT OF**
164 **THE DEIS**

165
166 *GENERAL GUIDANCE*
167

168 The DEIS is intended to convey general and technical information regarding the potential
169 environmental impacts of the Proposed Action to the Town of Ramapo Town Board (as Lead
170 Agency) and other boards and agencies involved or interested in the review of the Proposed
171 Action. The DEIS is also intended to convey the same information to the interested public. The
172 preparer of the DEIS is encouraged to keep this audience in mind as it prepares the document.
173 Enough detail should be provided in each subject area to ensure that readers of the document
174 will understand, and be able to make decisions based upon, the information provided. Efforts
175 should be made to avoid the use of technical jargon.

176 Whenever possible, narrative discussions should be accompanied by appropriate tables, charts,
177 graphs, and figure. If a particular subject can be most effectively described in graphic format, the
178 narrative discussion should merely summarize and highlight the information presented
179 graphically. All plans and maps showing the Project Site should include adjacent properties (if
180 appropriate), neighboring uses and structures, roads and water bodies.

181
182 As the DEIS will become, upon acceptance by the Lead Agency, a document supporting
183 objective findings on approvals requested under the application, the preparer is requested to
184 avoid subjective statements regarding potential impacts. The DEIS should contain objective
185 statements and conclusions of facts based upon technical analyses. Subjective evaluations of
186 impacts where evidence is inconclusive or subject to opinion should be prefaced by statements
187 indicating that "It is the applicant's opinion that..." The Lead Agency reserves the right, during
188 review of the document, to request that subjective statements be removed from the document or
189 otherwise modified to indicate that subjective statements are not necessarily representative of
190 the findings of the Board. The document and any appendices or technical reports should be
191 written in the third person (i.e., the terms "we" and "our" should not be used).

192
193 Pursuant to the requirements of SEQRA, this Scoping Document includes an initial identification
194 of mitigation measures. As the impact analyses have not yet been performed, it is not yet possible
195 to identify all possibly needed mitigation measures at this time. Discussions of mitigation
196 measures should include an explanation of how those measures would be implemented, any
197 potential environmental impacts of such implementation, the costs and the time frame associated
198 with such implementation, and the entity that would be responsible for implementing and paying
199 for the mitigation. The discussion should indicate any proposed improvements that have been
200 incorporated into the Proposed Action.

201
202 *REQUIRED ELEMENTS*

203
204 The DEIS shall contain an analysis of environmental impacts in the subject areas outlined below
205 and an identification of any significant adverse environmental effects that cannot be avoided if
206 the Proposed Action is implemented. Information for each of the subject areas shall be provided
207 in individual chapters describing existing conditions, conditions in the future without the Proposed
208 Action (the "No Build" condition), potential impacts of the Proposed Action, and mitigation
209 measures for any significant adverse impacts identified. Each chapter shall include a brief
210 introduction identifying the major topics to be considered, relevant methodology used, and
211 thresholds for determining if significant adverse impacts exist. An Executive Summary describing
212 the Proposed Action and all significant adverse impacts identified shall also be included.

213

214 The current conditions on the Project Site shall be considered the existing conditions throughout
215 the technical analyses. The “build year” for the Proposed Action shall be the expected first year
216 of full occupancy and operation. The analysis of the future without the Proposed Action (the “No
217 Build” condition) should be based upon conditions projected in the build year for the Proposed
218 Action. The Applicant shall contact The Town of Ramapo, Town of Tuxedo and Village of
219 Sloatsburg to identify any large development projects that should be included in the No Build
220 analysis. Unless otherwise noted, the DEIS Study Area shall be a quarter mile radius around the
221 Project Site.

222

223 *ORGANIZATION AND CONTENT OF DEIS*

224

225 *Cover Sheet and General Information*

226

227 Introductory Material - Cover Sheet that includes:

228

229 A. Title (i.e., Draft Environmental Impact Statement).

230

231 B. Identification of the Proposed Action, including name and location.

232

233 C. Identification of the Town of Ramapo Town Board as the Lead Agency for the project.

234

235 D. The following contact information:

236 Sharon M. Osherovitz, Town Clerk

237 Town of Ramapo

238 237 Rte. 59

239 Suffern, NY 10901

240 845-357-5100 ext. 263

241 osherovitzs@ramapo.org

242

243 E. Website/URL where SEQRA documents are located

244

245 F. Date submitted and any revision dates

246

247 G. Date of acceptance of the DEIS

248

- 249 H. Date, time and location of public hearing on the DEIS
- 250
- 251 I. Deadline by which comments on the DEIS are due
- 252
- 253 J. Name and address of sponsor of Proposed Action, and the name, address and email
- 254 address for a contact person representing the sponsor
- 255
- 256 K. The name and address of the primary preparer(s) of the DEIS and a list of consultants
- 257 involved with the Project for the applicant
- 258
- 259 L. Table of Contents
- 260
- 261 M. List of Exhibits
- 262
- 263 N. List of Tables
- 264
- 265 O. List of Appendices
- 266

267 *Executive Summary*

268

269 The executive summary should provide the reader with a clear and cogent understanding of

270 the information found elsewhere in the main body of the DEIS and should be organized as

271 follows:

272

- 273 A. Brief but complete description of the Proposed Action, including the proposed zoning text
- 274 and map amendments.
- 275
- 276 B. List of all local, County, State and other approvals required.
- 277
- 278 C. List of all Interested and Involved Agencies.
- 279
- 280 D. Summary of significant impacts identified in each subject area.
- 281
- 282 E. Summary of mitigation measures proposed for significant project impacts.
- 283
- 284 F. Description of alternatives analyzed.
- 285

286 **EXISTING CONDITIONS, ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS, AND MITIGATION**

287
288 *CHAPTER 1: PROJECT DESCRIPTION*

289
290 A. Introduction. The introduction should identify the document as the Draft Environmental
291 Impact Statement for the Proposed Action, and describe the location of the Proposed
292 Action and development program proposed.

293
294 B. Project Description

295
296 1. Location and Site Definition. Include local and regional geographic descriptors,
297 tax map designation(s), size of parcel(s) affected by Proposed Action, existing
298 and proposed zoning designation(s), adjoining streets and land uses, and natural
299 features or habitats on-site or contiguous (physically, hydrologically or otherwise)
300 to the site.

301
302 2. Project Description. Include information necessary to describe the Project and its
303 component parts. Describe the proposed site layout and buildings; proposed
304 zoning text and map changes; the relation of the property to other Watchtower
305 properties near the Project Site; operational information including vehicular
306 access, parking and loading requirements; site improvements including grading,
307 roadways, parking areas, drainage features, and pedestrian improvements; and
308 the construction/phasing schedule for the Proposed Action. The DEIS will
309 describe and quantify the areas to be developed with buildings, roadways,
310 walkways, etc. as well as other impervious areas and their use.

311
312 3. Building Design. Include description of architectural features of the proposed
313 buildings, including graphic depictions of each of the buildings, façade treatment
314 for building sides, building color, screening for HVAC equipment, and integration
315 of green building and low-impact development practices.

316
317 C. Project Purpose and Need

318
319 D. Summary of Approvals Required

320
321 *CHAPTER 2: LAND USE, ZONING AND PUBLIC POLICY*

322

323 A. Introduction

324

325 B. Land Use

326

327 1. Existing Conditions. Describe existing land use conditions on the Project Site and in
328 the surrounding study area. The study area for the land use survey shall include land
329 uses within ¼ mile of the project boundaries. Include mapping and photographs of
330 the subject land uses.

331 2. Future Conditions without the Proposed Action

332

333 3. Potential Impacts. Describe the relationship and compatibility of the Proposed Action
334 with adjoining uses and discuss the effects of the proposed facility on the established
335 land use pattern within the study area.

336

337 4. Mitigation Measures Proposed

338

339 C. Zoning

340

341 1. Existing Conditions. Describe the existing zoning for the Project Site. Include
342 information on allowed uses, building bulk, setbacks, etc. within the RSH district.
343 Describe the history of the previous application made under the existing RSH
344 Zoning District.

345

346 2. Future Conditions without the Proposed Action

347

348 3. Potential Impacts. Describe the proposed zoning text and map amendment for
349 the creation and application of the MU-3 zoning district. Summarize the permitted
350 uses, dimensional requirements, parking requirements, and other proposed
351 requirements and procedures. Describe the consistency of the proposed
352 buildings and site plan with the proposed MU-3 zoning district regulations.
353 Discuss the basis for the proposed dimensional requirements, including building
354 height.

355

356 4. Mitigation Measures Proposed

357

358 D. Public Policy

359

- 360 1. Existing Conditions. Outline relevant policies and key provisions of the Town of
361 Ramapo Comprehensive Plan (January 2004) and proposed provisions of
362 Envision Ramapo (2019) with respect to the Project Site and adjacent properties.
363
364 2. Future Conditions without the Proposed Action
365
366 3. Potential Impacts. Assess the compatibility of the Proposed Action with relevant
367 policies contained in the Comprehensive Plan. If applicable, discuss potential
368 amendments to the Comprehensive Plan to accommodate the Proposed Action.
369 Discuss the consistency of the zoning text and map amendments with the
370 Comprehensive Plan. Provide specific references to the full text of relevant
371 Comprehensive Plan policies.
372
373 4. Mitigation Measures Proposed
374

375 *CHAPTER 3: GEOLOGY, SOILS AND TOPOGRAPHY*
376

377 A. Introduction
378

379 B. Existing Conditions
380

- 381 1. Soils. Identify the soil conditions and surficial rock conditions on the property,
382 focusing on suitability of the property for development and stormwater
383 management purposes. Using historic aerial photographs and information from
384 the *Soil Survey of Rockland County*, any prior alterations of natural land surfaces
385 will be described. The *United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Web Soil*
386 *Survey* and the *Soil Survey of Rockland County* will be used to identify the general
387 soil types on natural areas on the site, and the characteristics of such soils.
388

389 Soil borings will be conducted on the site and site-specific boring information
390 (including depth to groundwater) will be presented and discussed in this section
391 of the DEIS. The suitability of the soils (stability, quality, etc.) and potential
392 engineering limitations for the proposed site alterations and proposed uses on
393 the site will also be examined.
394

395 The soil testing conducted shall also be utilized for the stormwater management
396 systems that may be proposed. Soil testing conducted to support the site-specific

397 stormwater management systems shall conform to the requirements of Appendix
398 D of the New York State Stormwater Management Design Manual for infiltration
399 testing and unique requirements associated with the selected structural
400 stormwater management practices to meet water quality treatment goals
401 described in Chapter 6 of the New York State Stormwater Management Design
402 Manual.

403
404 The DEIS will provide a description of the environmental site assessment(s) that
405 have been completed on the subject property to assess the potential for surface
406 and/or subsurface contamination. The need for further investigation and/or
407 remediation will also be discussed.

408
409 The DEIS will include topographic information obtained through review of site-
410 specific topographic surveys.

411
412 2. Topography. Describe the topography of the site and include a topographic map
413 with information about the following slope categories: 0-15 percent, 15-25
414 percent, and greater than 25 percent.

415
416 3. Geology. Identify the major geologic conditions on the property. Describe the
417 depth to bedrock on the Project Site and the amount, if any, of bedrock removal
418 and the means and methods anticipated to be used for removing bedrock.

419
420 C. Future Conditions without the Proposed Action

421
422 D. Potential Impacts

423
424 1. Soils. Quantify the amount of cut-and-fill and the amount of soils to be exported
425 from or imported to the site. Provide information on use of excavated soils and
426 materials, and describe procedures for removal of excess material from the Site,
427 if applicable. Provide anticipated source of fill, and describe quality of fill, if
428 applicable.

429
430 2. Topography. Changes to the site's topography resulting from project grading
431 should be identified and the techniques proposed to minimize soil erosion and
432 slope failure should be described. Include a discussion of construction phasing

- 433 of site grading activities. Identify and analyze impacts to topography, and
434 evaluate effect of such impacts.
435
436 3. Geology. Discuss likelihood of blasting and, if needed, identify areas that will
437 require blasting and quantity amount/extent.
438
439 4. Erosion and Sediment Control Plan. Describe grading and excavation plans with
440 respect to changes in drainage patterns and potential soil erosion. Identify and
441 describe measures for controlling erosion and preventing sediments from
442 migrating off site.
443
444 5. Preliminary grading plans and road profiles will be provided in the DEIS. Identify
445 and analyze the amount and location of earthwork anticipated (preliminary cut
446 and fill analysis), identify total amount of disturbance, and evaluate the effect of
447 such earthwork with respect to soils and topography. The proposed duration of
448 construction, as it relates to land disturbance, will also be presented in this section
449 of the DEIS.

450
451 E. Mitigation Measures Proposed
452

- 453 1. A description of the measures that will be implemented to mitigate potential
454 impacts from erosion and off-site sediment transport during construction will be
455 presented. Provide and discuss the Erosion and Sediment Control Plan prepared
456 in accordance with the latest edition of the New York Guidelines for Erosion and
457 Sediment Control and the latest edition of the New York State Department of
458 Environmental Conservation publication, Stormwater Management Design
459 Manual.
460
461 2. Discuss and evaluate additional features of the proposed site plan that reflect
462 steps taken to avoid, minimize or mitigate potential impacts on existing
463 topography and steep slopes.
464

465 *CHAPTER 4: NATURAL RESOURCES*
466

467 A. Introduction
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469 B. Existing Conditions

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1. Identify vegetative communities and habitat types on the Project Site, including a description of species presence and abundance, age, size, distribution, dominance, community type, and habitat for wildlife. Data provided shall be based on actual field data collected by experienced personnel at the appropriate time of year and studies shall follow accepted protocols for completing natural resource inventories. Inventory will include both migratory and resident wildlife species.

More specifically, an ecological field survey of the Project Site will be performed to identify existing habitats, according to the habitat descriptions included in the New York Natural Heritage Program (NYNHP) publication *Ecological Communities of New York State* (ECNYS, Edinger et. al., 2014). An assessment of the quality and functional capacity of the identified ecological communities will be performed. Inventories of vegetation and wildlife species observed during the field survey, as well as those expected at the site based on habitat observations and review of New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) databases (i.e., the New York State Breeding Bird Atlas and the New York State Amphibian and Reptile Atlas Project databases) and other published resources, including the Cornell Lab of Ornithology's database (eBird) and the National Audubon Society's Christmas Bird Count, will be compiled.

2. Identify protected native plants, State-listed threatened or endangered plant and animal species, unique or locally rare plants and animals, and significant habitat areas on the Project Site. To determine if records exist for rare/protected species or communities at and in the vicinity of the site, a United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) IPaC (Information for Planning and Consultation) resource report for federally listed species will be generated and a records request will be submitted to the NYNHP for records of NYS-listed species and/or communities. As applicable, the field survey will include a survey and/or habitat assessment for any rare/protected species identified in agency records as potentially occurring at the site.
3. Provide graphic figures of existing vegetation, wetlands and streams. Provide a single graphic depicting natural resources or constrained lands with the outline of proposed improvements. Where the environmental features continue beyond site boundaries into neighboring properties, indicate this graphically.

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4. The results of the existing ecological conditions assessment will be summarized in the DEIS, with supporting figures, maps, records and data included within or appended to the document.

5. Provide graphic figures of existing onsite slopes and soil types.

C. Future Conditions without the Proposed Action

D. Potential Impacts

1. Assess the potential impacts to existing vegetative communities and habitats, wetlands, wildlife inventory, threatened and endangered species, and significant habitats, as a result of the Proposed Action.

2. Describe the proposed method for tree removal and disposal and measures to protect trees to remain.

3. Discuss and evaluate additional features of the proposed site plan that reflect steps taken to avoid, minimize or mitigate potential impacts on existing vegetation, wildlife and ecology.

E. Mitigation Measures Proposed. A discussion of proposed avoidance, minimization and mitigation measures for any potential adverse impacts to the identified ecological resources will be provided, as applicable.

CHAPTER 5: SURFACE WATER, FLOOD PLAINS, GROUNDWATER RESOURCES AND WETLANDS

A. Introduction

B. Existing Conditions

1. Surface water resources on and adjacent to the Subject Property will be identified and described. This section of the DEIS will include a review of NYSDEC freshwater wetland maps and the National Wetland Inventory Maps to determine the potential for regulated wetlands to be present on the Subject Property.

543 Wetlands and surface waters occurring at and adjacent to the site will be
544 identified and assessed in the field. A summary of the applicable agency
545 regulatory programs pertaining to the identified wetland and surface water
546 resources will be provided. These include the United States Army Corps of
547 Engineers (USACE), NYSDEC and the New York State Department of State
548 (NYSDDS), as well as any applicable local government regulatory programs.
549 Consultations will be undertaken with the NYSDEC and United States Army
550 Corps of Engineers (USACE), if applicable, to confirm the presence of and limits
551 of wetlands existing on or adjacent to the Subject Property. As appropriate,
552 wetland permit applications will be submitted to the applicable regulatory
553 agency(ies), and copies of same will be included in the DEIS.

554
555 2. Describe and identify graphically watercourses and wetlands on the Project Site.
556 The description should include the existing drainage patterns on the site, a
557 description of the watershed, and discharge points of existing drainage. For each
558 wetland, including vernal pools, indicate and discuss the location, type (including
559 soils), vegetation, hydrology, acreage (approximate for off-site wetlands),
560 pertinent jurisdiction, total wetlands acreage and percent of site occupied by
561 wetlands and respective wetland buffer areas, and value to wildlife.

562
563 3. Any 100- and 500-year floodplains should be depicted on a map, and any existing
564 development within the floodplain(s) will be shown. Federal Emergency
565 Management Agency (FEMA) Flood Map Service data will be used to identify and
566 confirm those portions of the Subject Property that may exist within a designated
567 flood zone. Depth to groundwater will be determined based upon published
568 sources and soil borings.

569
570 C. Future Conditions without the Proposed Action

571
572 D. Potential Impacts

573
574 1. Proposed development within floodplain areas will be identified and depicted on a
575 map. Relevant regulations relating to development within such areas will be
576 described along with the consistency of the Proposed Action therewith.

577
578 2. Impacts to groundwater from development and occupancy of the Project will be
579 discussed. The potential for water table impacts will also be discussed.

580

581 3. Identify, discuss and analyze direct and indirect disturbances to on-site wetlands,
582 including vernal pools, and respective wetlands buffer areas as regulated by the
583 Town of Ramapo, Town of Tuxedo, the NYSDEC and the U.S. Army Corps of
584 Engineers, including acreage impacted for each regulatory jurisdiction (with reference
585 to a map).

586

587 E. Mitigation Measures Proposed

588

589 1. Identify and analyze proposed wetland mitigation areas required to address
590 disturbance of regulated wetlands, or other measures to mitigate disturbance to
591 the wetland buffers. Identify and discuss permits required by local, City, County,
592 State and Federal agencies. Evaluate impact of proposed stormwater
593 management plan on wetland hydrology.

594

595 Discuss efforts to avoid encroachment on wetlands, watercourses, and buffer
596 areas. Describe measures that would be taken to minimize impacts on water
597 resources during construction and after completion of the Proposed Action.
598 Describe proposed wetland enhancement measures, and measures to increase
599 the biodiversity of the Project Site.

600

601 *CHAPTER 6: STORMWATER MANAGEMENT*

602

603 A. Introduction

604

605 B. Existing Conditions. Existing stormwater management facilities (including recorded
606 easements, should they exist) will be described and existing stormwater quantified.
607 Stormwater discharges to existing surface water bodies and wetlands will be identified.

608

609 C. Future Conditions without the Proposed Action

610

611 D. Potential Impacts. Drainage plans will be presented in this section of the DEIS, and
612 changes from existing drainage/stormwater management will be described. This section
613 of the DEIS will also describe the methods of stormwater management from the proposed
614 development. This section of the DEIS will include a projection of stormwater to be

615 generated, and discussions of the proposed collection and stormwater management
616 systems (including ownership and party[ies] responsible for maintenance) and
617 anticipated changes in drainage patterns and floodwater flows as a result of the Proposed
618 Action. An analysis of compliance of the proposed stormwater management system with
619 regulatory requirements will also be provided in this section of the DEIS. Preliminary
620 existing and post-development drainage calculations will be provided.

621
622 Appropriate modeling of the existing site conditions shall be prepared following the
623 criteria of the New York State Stormwater Management Design Manual. At a minimum,
624 the 1-year, 24-hour, 10-year, 24-hour and 100-year, 24-hour storm events shall be
625 analyzed. Provide / list the 24-hour rainfall intensities utilized in the analysis for as well
626 as the identifying the source of the data. Provide a description of each stormwater
627 practice proposed that provides water quality, RRv and water quantity controls with the
628 appropriate NYSDEC designation number noted pursuant to part III.B.2.a of General
629 Permit 0-20-001. The plans shall cover the dimensional and material requirements. There
630 shall be a general discussion of stormwater management planning undertaken with
631 emphasis on items outlined in Section 5.2 (Table 5.4) and Section 5.3 (Table 5.7) of the
632 New York State Stormwater Management Design Manual. For green infrastructure
633 practices, differentiate between those which are and are not being utilized to obtain the
634 required WQv and RRv. if not being utilized, provide reasoning.

635
636 Consistency with the relevant recommendations of the *New York State Stormwater*
637 *Management Design Manual* and the *New York Standards and Specifications for Erosion*
638 *and Sediment Control*, as well as conformity with the *Rockland County Department of*
639 *Public Works Drainage Requirements* will be discussed. In addition, a discussion of the
640 conceptual Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) proposed for the project,
641 including construction phases, will be provided.

642
643 E. Mitigation Measures Proposed

644
645 **CHAPTER 7: VISUAL AND AESTHETIC RESOURCES, AND COMMUNITY CHARACTER**

646
647 A. Introduction. This section of the DEIS will detail the existing aesthetic characteristics of
648 the site and surrounding area through descriptive text and representative photographs.
649 Potential changes in views of the Subject Property and its surroundings upon
650 implementation of the Proposed Action will be evaluated through comparisons of post-

651 development conditions to the existing conditions and to the established aesthetic
 652 character of the surrounding neighborhood.

653

654 B. Existing Conditions. Describe through text and photographs the visual character of the
 655 Project Site within the context of its surrounding area. Include a description of prevalent
 656 land-forms and vegetative cover. Identify and describe significant views into the Project
 657 Site from a range of representative publicly accessible vantage points identified on Figure
 658 2 and listed in Table 3 below.

659

Table 3
Vantage Point Locations

Map Key	Location Name
1	NY/NJ Border - Cooper Union Trailhead
2	Ringwood Beach - Sheppard Pond
3	Alexander Road & Eagle Valley Drive
4	Eagle Valley Road (west) and Sterling Mine Road
5	Table Rock Road
6	Juniper Terrace Neighborhood 1
7	Juniper Terrace Neighborhood 2
8	Juniper Terrace (west) and Sterling Mine Rd
9	Juniper Terrace Neighborhood 3
10	Juniper Terrace Neighborhood 4
11	Juniper Terrace (east) and Sterling Mine Road
12	Eagle Valley Road (east) and Sterling Mine Road
13	Sloat House
14	Old Sloatsburg Cemetery
15	Jacob Sloat House
16	Sloat's Dam
17	McCready, Robert and Mary House
18	Dater Mountain Trail
19	Dater Mountain Lookout
20	Seven Lakes Drive
21	Harriman State Park 1
22	Harriman State Park 2

660

661 C. Future Conditions without the Proposed Action

662
663 D. Potential Impacts. Describe and visually demonstrate the changes to the views into the
664 Project Site from the publicly accessible vantage points described above using a
665 combination of photographs depicting the existing conditions, simulations depicting the
666 proposed future conditions, line of sight drawings, cross-sections, and perspective
667 renderings. Cross-sections should identify the portion of the viewshed within the
668 Applicant's control by depicting the property line and buffers proposed on the Project
669 Site. Discuss the visual and architectural character of the building program proposed,
670 with special attention to the off-site visibility of buildings and structures that will be allowed
671 by the proposed maximum building height. Assessment of impacts shall be based on the
672 NYSDEC Program Policy document "Assessing and Mitigating Visual and Aesthetic
673 Impacts" last revised December 13, 2019. Describe the proposed type and levels of
674 exterior site lighting and any interior building lighting that will be visible from adjoining
675 properties and public vantage points. Discuss the Proposed Action's consistency with the
676 Scenic Road District regulations.

677
678 E. Mitigation Measures Proposed. Key features of the Project that would serve to minimize
679 potential aesthetic impacts will be presented.

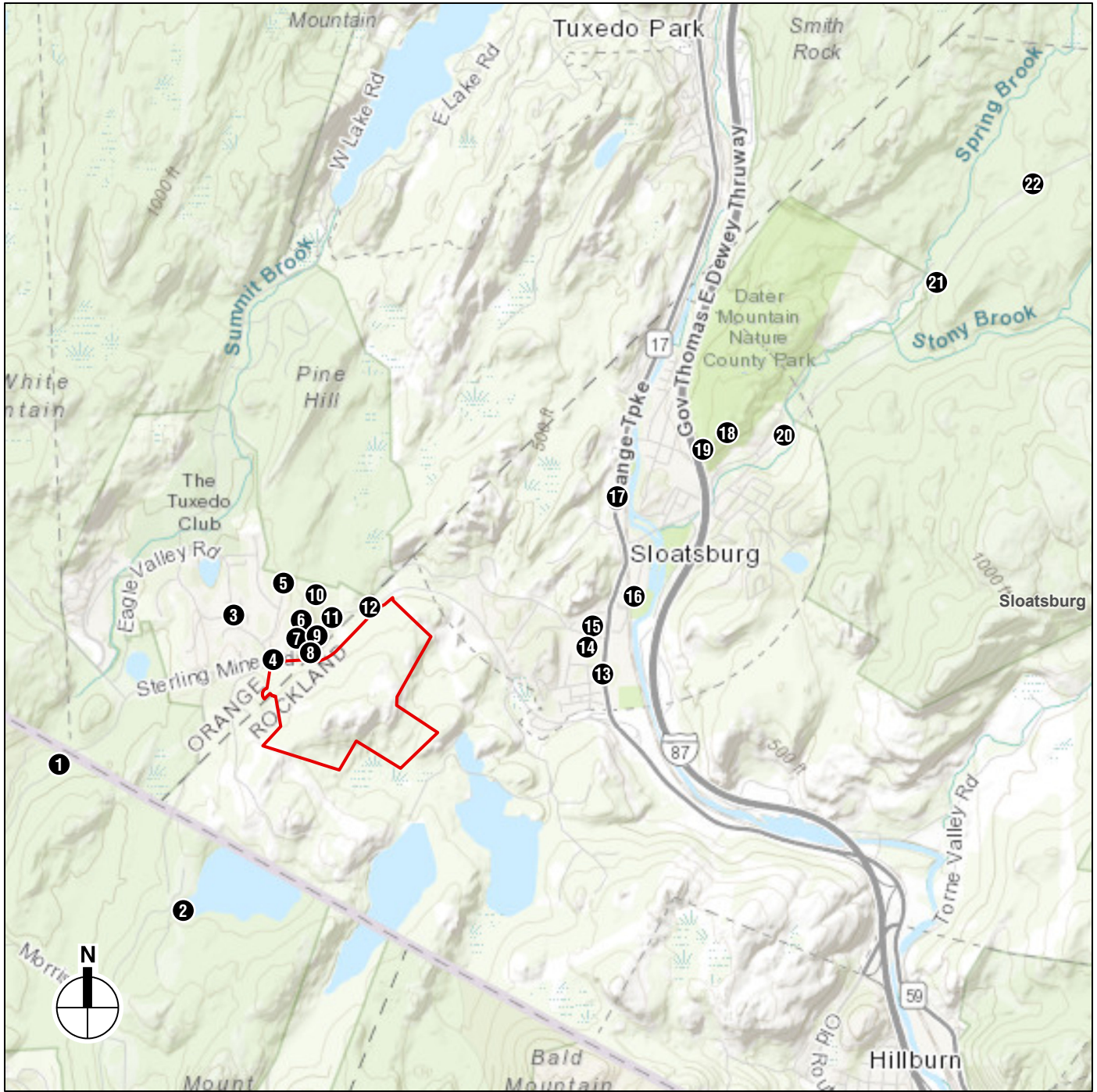
680
681 *CHAPTER 8: COMMUNITY FACILITIES*

682
683 A. Introduction.
684
685 B. Existing Conditions. Describe existing police, fire and emergency service providers, the
686 school district(s), water and sewer service providers, and solid waste disposal service
687 provider(s) who will serve the Project Site.

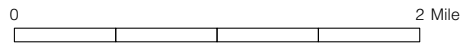
688
689 C. Future Conditions without the Proposed Action. Using information made available by the
690 emergency service providers, the school district(s), and solid waste disposal service
691 provider(s), describe planned changes to staffing levels, service levels, equipment and/or
692 facilities.

693
694 D. Potential Impacts. Assess potential impacts of the Proposed Action on staffing levels,
695 service levels, equipment and/or facilities on- and off-site. Provide a tax impact analysis.

696
697 E. Mitigation Measures Proposed. Discuss on-site security and fire protection systems, and
698 other proposed mitigation measures.



- Project Site
- 1 Photograph Location



**WORLD HEADQUARTERS OF JEHOVAH'S WITNESSES
AUDIO/VIDEO PRODUCTION CENTER**

Vantage Points for Visual Analysis
Figure 2

699

700

CHAPTER 9: HISTORICAL, CULTURAL AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESOURCES

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705

A. Introduction. The project site, or a portion of it, is located in or adjacent to an area designated as sensitive for archaeological sites on the NY State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) archaeological site inventory.

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B. Existing Conditions. A Phase IA/IB Archaeological study was prepared for the previous "Sterling Mine Road Active Adult Community" and will be included in the Appendix of the DEIS. Consultations will be undertaken with the SHPO and further investigations (e.g., Phase 2 Archaeological Evaluation, etc.) would be performed as needed. The potential for Project related impacts to historic, archaeological, and cultural resources on the Project Site should be discussed. Relevant correspondence with the New York State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) should be included in the Appendix of the DEIS. Key findings and recommendations of the archeological studies will be discussed in the DEIS and included in their entirety in the Appendix of the DEIS. The results of previous archaeological studies conducted on the Project Site should be summarized in the DEIS.

718

C. Future Conditions without the Proposed Action

719

720

D. Potential Impacts

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722

E. Proposed Mitigation Measures

723

724

CHAPTER 10: INFRASTRUCTURE AND UTILITIES

725

726

A. Introduction

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The existing infrastructure serving the Subject Property will be described. The presence and availability of electricity, natural gas (if ultimately proposed to be used), and the water supply and sewer infrastructure will be detailed. To assess the potential impacts the Proposed Action would have on this infrastructure, the anticipated demand for each will be estimated based on published data and standards of pertinent agencies.

735 Consultations will be undertaken with the respective service providers regarding the
736 availability of their infrastructure to meet the anticipated demands of the Proposed
737 Action. In the event a service extension or update to infrastructure is deemed
738 necessary, the details of such extensions will be explained. Copies of
739 correspondence with service providers will be included in the DEIS.
740

741 B. Water Supply (Potable and Fire Protection)

742
743 1. Existing Conditions. Identify water supply availability and capacity. Discuss
744 the locations and capacity of the existing water distribution systems in the
745 vicinity of the project site, if any. Describe relationship, if any, to sole source
746 aquifer.

747
748 2. Future Conditions Without the Proposed Action

749
750 3. Potential Impacts. Describe design of water supply systems; location of
751 hookup, need for extension, supplier; projection of usage and potential impact
752 on capacity. Identify potential on- and off-site impacts associated with
753 connecting site to public water (e.g., earth work, tree removal, etc.).
754 Description of standpipe location and design. Description of measures to
755 ensure adequate pressure/supply for residential uses, fire flows, and building
756 sprinklers.

757
758 4. Proposed Mitigation

759
760 C. Sanitary Sewers

761
762 1. Existing Conditions. Describe existing sanitary sewer service locations and
763 capacities surrounding the Project Site.

764
765 2. Future Conditions Without the Proposed Action

766
767 3. Potential Impacts. Determine the project sewage generation in terms of
768 average day, maximum day and peaking hourly flows. Describe potential
769 connection to existing sanitary sewer service.
770

771 4. Proposed Mitigation. Define required upgrades or improvements to existing
772 receiving sanitary sewer systems that may be necessary to service the project
773 site.

774

775 D. Electricity and Gas

776

777 1. Existing Conditions. Describe existing service providers serving the Project
778 Site.

779

780 2. Future Conditions Without the Proposed Action

781

782 3. Potential Impacts. Describe anticipated usage and installation of service
783 lines. Describe central chilled/hot water plant with geothermal heat recovery
784 system. Describe how compressed natural gas or liquefied natural gas
785 (CNG/LNG) will be stored on-site for back-up heating and electric power
786 generation.

787

788 4. Proposed Mitigation

789

790 *CHAPTER 11: TRAFFIC*

791

792 A. Introduction

793

794 B. Existing Conditions Analysis

795

796 1. Describe the physical roadway characteristics of the street network in the project
797 study area as defined below, including classifications, general condition, number
798 of lanes by direction, pavement markings, bus stops, traffic control signing and
799 traffic control.

800

801 a. The following is a description of the roadways to be included in the traffic
802 analysis:

803

- 804 • NYS Route 17 (Orange Turnpike);
- 805 • County Route 84 (Long Meadow Road);
- 806 • County Route 72 (Sterling Mine Road);
- 807 • County Route 68 (Eagle Valley Road);

- 808 • Eagle Valley Road (local road);
809
810 b. The following is a description of the intersections to be included in the
811 traffic analysis:
812 • CR72 (Sterling Mine Road)/ Eagle Valley Road (West);
813 • CR72 (Sterling Mine Road)/ Eagle Valley Road (East);
814 • Orange County CR 72 at Orange County CR 84;
815 • Eagle Valley Road/ Route 17 (signalized);
816 • Sterling Mine Road ramp/Route 17 southbound;
817 • Route 17/ Sterling Mine Road (all ramp connections);
818 • Long Meadow Road at World Headquarters Main access drive; and
819 • Long Meadow Road at World Headquarters gated security drive (if
820 needed).

821
822 2. Traffic Data Collection. Due to the current conditions related to the Coronavirus
823 pandemic the collection of traffic data on area roadways surrounding the Subject
824 Property is not possible. The Applicant has two options to consider in obtaining
825 baseline traffic volumes for the Study Area intersections. The first option is to
826 obtain and submit all available historical traffic data from the Town of Ramapo,
827 New York State Department of Transportation (NYSDOT), Rockland or Orange
828 County Highway Departments or the Village of Sloatsburg or Town of Tuxedo in
829 the Study Area. If data is available it should be summarized and graphically
830 illustrated for the Study Area and all peak hour volumes for weekday conditions
831 and a Saturday condition (if available) should be provided. If the Town determines
832 this baseline traffic volume condition is appropriate and is based on available data
833 from within the last three years it may be deemed appropriate to apply to any new
834 traffic counts obtained by the Applicant and adjusted to reflect the historical traffic
835 data available. To do this, the Applicant will need to obtain traffic volumes in the
836 exact same locations as provided in the historical data to determine the change
837 in traffic levels and potential patterns in order to assess the likely decrease in
838 traffic under current conditions and how the current traffic volumes should be
839 increased to reflect a pre-Coronavirus condition. If this is deemed appropriate by
840 the Town, it may be accepted as a baseline condition reflecting adjusted traffic
841 volumes in order to proceed with the completion of a traffic analysis. However,
842 the Applicant will need to reassess traffic conditions in the near future when
843 Schools and businesses are reopened and the general public has returned to
844 work and potentially the new normal conditions in the surrounding area. It is

845 anticipated that new traffic volumes even after the Coronavirus conditions have
846 eased will be lower than pre-Coronavirus levels and will need to be reassessed
847 at that time.

848
849 Prior to conducting any new turning movement counts, automatic traffic recorders
850 (ATR) should be installed in the same locations as all available traffic data to be
851 identified by the Applicant to obtain matching traffic volume data by location and
852 add at least one location on Sterling Mine Road near the site frontage and one
853 location on Long Meadow Road south of the existing World Headquarters facility.
854 The ATR's should be installed for a one-week period, including two weekends.
855 This data should be summarized in an hourly fashion to identify both directional
856 and hourly traffic volumes, identify peak hour volumes and identify the daily traffic
857 volumes for each segment of the roads noted above.

858
859 Manual traffic counts should be counted at the Study Area intersections during
860 the following peak time periods: Weekday A.M., Weekday P.M. and Saturday
861 Afternoon. These time periods are identified as 7:00 A.M. to 10:00 A.M., 3:00
862 P.M. to 6:00 P.M. for a weekday condition and on a Saturday morning/afternoon
863 from 10:00 A.M. to 2:00 P.M.

- 864
- 865 a. Data will be collected in 15-minute segments by intersection approach and
866 turning movements.
 - 867
 - 868 b. Data will be summarized in tabular format and included in the appendix of
869 the document.
 - 870
 - 871 c. All data will be summarized and peak hour volumes will be graphically
872 illustrated for each intersection for the three peak hour conditions and all
873 hourly data should be provided in a graphic illustration for a 24-hour period
874 for a typical weekday and each of the Saturday condition for the ATR
875 locations.
 - 876

877 3. Capacity Analysis. A capacity analysis shall be performed at each of the study
878 area intersections using Synchro traffic modeling and optimization software,
879 which implements the methodologies presented in the Highway Capacity
880 Manual (HCM) to evaluate intersection service conditions for average delay per
881 vehicle, level-of-service (LOS) and queuing data. Where determined to be

882 necessary, the Highway Capacity Software (HCS) will be utilized in lieu of
883 Synchro for analysis of the ramp intersection locations. The results will be
884 summarized in a table format including each hour and intersection. All capacity
885 analysis worksheets will be included in the Report Appendix.

- 886
- 887 4. Public Transportation. Identify public transportation available to the Project Site.
888 This will include schedules.
- 889
- 890 5. Pedestrians/Bicycle. Describe existing facilities for pedestrian and bicycle
891 crossings at study area intersections and on each roadway in the Study Area.
892
- 893 6. Safety. The most recent 3 years of available crash data records from the New
894 York State Department of Transportation (NYSDOT) for the study area
895 intersections will be obtained and summarized in tabular form to determine
896 general vehicular safety conditions in the study area. Any high accident locations
897 will be identified with possible mitigation opportunities.
898

899 C. Future Conditions Without the Proposed Action
900

- 901 1. Background Traffic Growth. Estimated traffic volumes in the study area in the
902 future without the project (No Build). Future traffic volumes should be estimated
903 using existing volume information adding a background growth factor, and
904 incremental increases in traffic from substantial projects scheduled to be
905 completed by the Build Year that are anticipated to utilize the same intersections
906 as the Project. Trips generated by these projects should be determined using
907 Institute of Transportation Engineers (ITE) Trip Generation 10th Edition rates
908 and other sources where appropriate.
909
- 910 2. Roadway Improvements. Describe planned roadway and intersection
911 improvements in the study area.
912
- 913 3. Capacity Analysis. Perform a capacity analysis at each of the study area
914 intersections for the future without the Proposed Action. Present Synchro results
915 tabularly for the appropriate intersections and timeframe described above. All
916 capacity analysis worksheets will be submitted.
917

- 918 4. Public Transportation. Describe planned changes to the public transportation
919 services that serve the Project Site in the future without the Proposed Action.
920
- 921 5. Pedestrians/Bicycle. Describe planned improvements to accommodate
922 pedestrian/bicycle movements at study area intersections and nearby roadways
923 in the Study Area in the future without the Proposed Action.
924
- 925 6. Safety. Describe in proposed changes in safety conditions to address accidents
926 within the study area.
927

928 D. Potential Impacts
929

- 930 1. Trip Generation and Project Generated Vehicle Assignment. Based on
931 programmatically similar WBTS facilities in Rockland or Putnam Counties,
932 estimate future traffic volumes resulting from the development. Overlay the
933 project-generated traffic on the future No Build network to determine future Build
934 traffic volumes. Calculate potential trip generation from the Project Site and the
935 vehicular assignment of project generated trips throughout the study area
936 roadways and intersections. Source of determining site traffic assignment will be
937 provided.
938

939 Any trip generation rates and estimates for site traffic used in the analysis and
940 estimates for the Ramapo Site obtained at other Applicant facilities in Rockland,
941 Orange or Putnam Counties (or other locations) will provide detailed information
942 of each facility including a detailed description of activities, schedules, specific
943 land uses within the development, number of people present at the facility at the
944 day of the traffic counts any specific adjustments to reflect typical conditions prior
945 to the current economic conditions and decrease in traffic patterns due to the
946 Coronavirus impacts. Any traffic data used to estimate site traffic estimates for
947 the Ramapo Site will include detailed field sheets, breakdown of all obtained
948 traffic data, hours of traffic counts and identification of peak hours using the
949 process to determine site traffic generation for the Ramapo facility.
950

- 951 2. Capacity Analysis (Build and Mitigation). Perform a capacity analysis at each of
952 the study area intersections (including the Project Site driveways) to assess
953 potential impacts of the Proposed Action. Present Synchro results in a tabular

- 954 format for the appropriate intersections and timeframe described above. All
955 capacity analysis worksheets will be submitted.
- 956
- 957 3. Project Site Driveway Analysis. Perform a sight distance analysis to assess
958 vehicular safety at the Project Site driveways. Analyze Project Site driveways to
959 determine the need for traffic control devices (e.g., stop sign). This analysis will
960 be based on Rockland County Highway Department standards.
- 961
- 962 4. Parking. Describe proposed off-site parking associated with the proposed
963 development program. Determine if the number of on-site parking spaces
964 proposed is adequate to accommodate the projected demand. The analysis will
965 include a description on each land use, programs and events for weekdays and
966 weekends including attendance and Staff. Describe any shuttle services that
967 would be used to transport residents, volunteers, and visitors between the Project
968 Site and other Watchtower facilities.
- 969
- 970 5. On-Site Circulation. Describe on-site circulation of vehicles (auto, truck,
971 emergency vehicles, and bus) and pedestrians.
- 972
- 973 6. Public Transportation. Analyze potential consequences of the Proposed Action
974 on public transportation in the area. Describe impacts to public transportation
975 service resulting from new demand associated with the proposed development
976 program.
- 977
- 978 7. Pedestrians/Bicycle. Analyze consequences to pedestrian/bicycle movements as
979 a result of the Proposed Action. Describe impacts to pedestrian/bicycle
980 movements at study area intersections and area roadways and proposed
981 improvements to mitigate impacts resulting from potential development.
- 982
- 983 8. Safety. Describe the Proposed Action's potential impact on safety conditions
984 within the study area.
- 985
- 986 9. Comprehensive Plan Transportation Policies. Describe how the Proposed Action
987 would conform to the transportation initiatives and strategies contemplated by
988 Town of Ramapo, Town of Tuxedo, Village of Sloatsburg, Rockland County, and
989 Orange County within the study area.
- 990

991 E. Proposed Mitigation

992

993

994

995

996

1. Develop mitigation measures (e.g., signal retiming/rephasing, lane restriping, roadway improvements, etc.) and assess traffic conditions at impacted intersections with the developed mitigation measures in place.

997 CHAPTER 12: NOISE AND LIGHTING

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1003

A review of local noise ordinances and relevant guidance promulgated by the NYSDEC for the assessment and mitigation of noise impacts will be performed with a focus on potential impacts from construction activities. With respect to post-construction conditions, this section will consider the compatibility of the proposed non-residential and residential uses with noise that typically occurs in residential areas, including the communities surrounding the Subject Property.

1004

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1008

In addition, potential impacts from lighting during construction and operation will be evaluated, and an analysis for consistency with local ordinances will be included in this section of the DEIS. Potential visibility of lighting off-site will be described. Hours of operation, safety, and security lighting will be discussed.

1009

1010

CHAPTER 13: SOCIOECONOMICS

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- A. Introduction
- B. Existing Conditions. Describe existing tax revenue and economic benefits generated by the Project Site.
- C. Future Conditions without the Proposed Action. Describe future tax generation and economic benefits that would be generated by the Project Site in the future without the Proposed Action.
- D. Potential Impacts. Evaluate the economic and fiscal impacts of the Proposed Action. Describe the anticipated municipal cost of the Proposed Action. Using IMPLAN (Impact analysis for PLANning) input-output modeling system, identify the direct and indirect economic benefits of the Proposed Project generated during construction and operations.

- a. Construction Period:

- 1027 i. Direct Jobs, Employee Compensation, and Economic Output. Estimate
1028 the total number of construction jobs that would be created through
1029 construction of the proposed facility, as well as the direct employee
1030 compensation and total economic output. Jobs should be reported in
1031 person-years of employment, i.e., the equivalent of one construction
1032 worker working full-time for one year.
1033
1034 ii. Indirect and Induced Jobs, Employee Compensation, and Economic
1035 Output. Estimate the number of indirect jobs (jobs generated by business-
1036 to-business purchases of goods and services), induced jobs (jobs created
1037 by growth in income and consumer spending in the study area), and
1038 indirect and induced employee compensation and economic output
1039 generated during the construction period.
1040
1041 b. Operational Period:
1042
1043 i. Estimate the annual economic benefits resulting from labor and
1044 expenditures used to operate the project.
1045
1046 ii. Indirect and Induced Jobs, Employee Compensation, and Economic
1047 Output: Estimate the effects of business-to-business purchases on the
1048 local economy. Using IMPLAN, estimate indirect jobs, employee
1049 compensation, economic output, and induced effects generated within
1050 Rockland County and New York State.
1051
1052 E. Mitigation Measures Proposed.
1053

1054 *CHAPTER 14: CONSTRUCTION IMPACTS*

- 1055
1056 A. Introduction. This section of the DEIS will assess construction-related impacts and
1057 the means that will be employed to mitigate such impacts.
1058
1059 B. The DEIS should describe proposed construction phasing, overall schedule for
1060 project completion, and hours of construction operations. The DEIS should describe
1061 the equipment and materials storage and/or staging area, anticipated number of
1062 construction workers, anticipated lighting and security, and the delivery means and
1063 methods. The DEIS should describe how the residential and non-residential uses will

1064 be phased, and the means and methods to protect the Phase 1 residential areas
1065 while the remaining site is built-out. The DEIS should describe the erosion and
1066 sediment control plan for the Proposed Action and temporary stormwater
1067 management practices to be implemented.

1068
1069 C. The DEIS should assess the potential environmental impacts due to the construction
1070 of the Proposed Action including traffic, noise, air quality, dust, blasting, erosion and
1071 sedimentation and its impact on the surrounding area. Anticipated routes for
1072 construction traffic to and from the site should be identified. The anticipated amount
1073 of cut and fill, as well as staging areas for grading activities should be described. The
1074 potential for import or export of fill should be discussed. In addition, if the
1075 environmental site assessment(s) identify the need for mitigation of surface and/or
1076 subsurface contamination, the means to address these issues during construction
1077 will be evaluated.

1078
1079 *CHAPTER 15: ALTERNATIVES*

1080
1081 A. Pursuant to Part 617, the DEIS must contain a description and evaluation of
1082 reasonable alternatives to the Proposed Action that are feasible for the applicant to
1083 pursue, taking into account the objectives and capabilities of the Project Sponsor.

1084
1085 B. Provide a narrative description and qualitative analysis of each impact issue for each
1086 alternative identified below. Provide a comparative analysis for each potential impact
1087 area to allow the Town to evaluate the Proposed Action in relation to potential
1088 alternatives. Summarize the comparative analysis in tabular format.

1089
1090 C. The DEIS will include and analyze the following Alternatives:

- 1091
1092 1. No Action Alternative
1093 2. Build Out Under Existing Zoning
1094 3. Nine Residential Building Alternative (Reduced Scale Alternative)
1095 4. On-Site Wastewater Treatment System Alternative
1096 5. Reduced Height Alternative

1097
1098

1099 *CHAPTER 16: SIGNIFICANT ADVERSE IMPACTS THAT CANNOT BE AVOIDED OR*
1100 *ADEQUATELY MITIGATED IF THE PROJECT IS IMPLEMENTED*

1101
1102 Describe short- and long-term significant adverse environmental impacts that cannot be
1103 avoided or adequately mitigated if the Proposed Action is implemented.

1104
1105 *CHAPTER 17: IRREVERSIBLE AND IRRETRIEVABLE COMMITMENT OF RESOURCES*

1106
1107 Identify natural resources that would be consumed, converted, or made unavailable for
1108 future use by the Proposed Action.

1109
1110 *CHAPTER 18: IMPACTS OF THE PROPOSED ACTION ON THE USE AND CONSERVATION*
1111 *OF ENERGY/SUSTAINABILITY*

1112
1113 A. This section of the DEIS will describe the existing and proposed energy sources for the
1114 Subject Property. Consultations will be undertaken with energy service providers to
1115 confirm the availability of service and identify any necessary infrastructure improvements
1116 required to serve the proposed Project.

1117
1118 B. Describe the impacts of the Proposed Action on the use and conservation of energy.
1119 Discuss the energy sources to be used, anticipated levels of consumption, and proposed
1120 energy conservation measures.

1121
1122 C. This section of the DEIS will evaluate the impacts of the Proposed Action on climate
1123 change in a manner consistent with the guidance provided in the NYSDEC's The SEQR
1124 Handbook. Specifically, this section will address topics related to energy use and
1125 flooding. The DEIS shall include an evaluation of estimated greenhouse gas (GHG)
1126 emissions resulting from the construction and occupation of the Project, including
1127 increased generation from power plants due to electric demand from the Project; any fuel
1128 combustion for heating; and fugitive emissions of methane, resulting from potential
1129 natural gas use. GHG projections will be compared with State and applicable local
1130 policies for reducing GHG. Mitigation of energy use and greenhouse gas emissions
1131 through improved energy efficiency and the use of distributed renewable energy beyond
1132 that required by basic compliance with existing building code requirements, will be
1133 analyzed.

1134

1135 Green construction and ENERGY STAR® standards will be discussed and analyzed.
1136 Low/no emissions and alternative energy sources, such as, but not limited to, ground
1137 source heat pumps/geothermal, electrified HVAC, solar PV, and solar thermal hot water
1138 systems, will be analyzed as alternatives to traditional fossil fuel powered building
1139 systems.

1140
1141 The costs and climate impact benefits of the Project constructed to bring about greatly
1142 reduced or no CO₂ emissions, will be compared with the costs and benefits of the Project
1143 proposed for construction. Costs to be considered include construction costs, and also
1144 lifecycle energy costs for the Project.

1145
1146 Additionally, the Project will be evaluated to determine consistency with the Climate
1147 Leadership and Protection Act (2019); consideration will be given to use of improved
1148 energy efficiency measures, installed renewable generation, and electrified heating of the
1149 Project, as New York State creates policies to implement the legislation mandating 40%
1150 economy-wide reduction in greenhouse gas emissions by 2030.

1151
1152 The FEMA Flood Map Service will be used to identify any parts of the Subject Property
1153 that currently exist within a floodplain. To assess the future flooding and severe storm
1154 risks that may impact the Proposed Action.

1155
1156 For any areas identified as at-risk for future flooding, the pertinent floodplain development
1157 requirements and building codes, including local, County and federal regulations, will be
1158 described. The Proposed Action's conformance with these standards will be explained.

1159
1160 D. The DEIS will also discuss mitigation measures which could reduce energy demands
1161 during both the construction and long-term operation. Pertinent sections of the State
1162 Energy Conservation Construction Code will be identified. Conformance with relevant
1163 energy conservation programs will also be described.

1164
1165 *CHAPTER 19: GROWTH INDUCING ASPECTS OF THE PROPOSED ACTION*

1166
1167 Identify potential growth inducing impacts that could result from the Proposed Action.
1168 Discuss potential for growth inducement from extending water and/or sewer lines to the
1169 Project Site.

1170
1171 *CHAPTER 20: ISSUES RAISED DURING SCOPING AND DETERMINED TO BE NEITHER*
1172 *RELEVANT NOR ENVIRONMENTALLY SIGNIFICANT OR THAT HAVE BEEN ADEQUATELY*
1173 *ADDRESSED IN A PRIOR ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW*

- 1174
1175 A. There are no known odor impacts associated with the proposed Project. Accordingly,
1176 an odor analysis will not be required as part of the DEIS.
1177
1178 B. The Project Site is located well above sea-level. As such, there are no potential sea-
1179 level rise impacts associated with the Proposed Action.
1180

1181 *APPENDIX*

1182
1183 Until the DEIS has been completed, it is not possible to determine all information/data that
1184 will be included in an appendix, rather than in the body of the DEIS. However, at a minimum,
1185 the following should be provided as appendices to the DEIS:

- 1186
1187 A. SEQRA documentation, including the list of Involved and Interested Agencies, a copy
1188 of the Environmental Assessment Form (EAF), the Positive Declaration, and the
1189 DEIS Final Scoping Document.
1190
1191 B. Copies of official correspondence related to issues discussed in the DEIS.
1192
1193 C. Copies of technical studies referenced in the DEIS. Such as:
1194 a. Preliminary Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan
1195 b. Traffic Impact Study
1196 c. Ecological and Wetland Assessments
1197 d. Archeological Phase 1A/1B