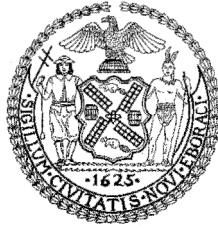


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The City of New York
Manhattan Community Board 8

Environment & Sanitation Committee
Monday, January 31, 2012
Brick Presbyterian Church
62 E. 92nd Street, Carnegie Room
6:30 pm

Topic: Repair of the Delaware Aqueduct -- Draft Environmental Impact Statement

Board Members Present: Debbie Teitelbaum, Dave Kleckner, Roy Carlin, Lorance Hockert, Mary Pike

Number of Attendees: 9

The meeting was called to order at 6:35pm.

Presentation by:

NYC Department of Environmental Protection (DEP): Chris Villari, Humberto Galarza and Shane Ojar (please see attached PowerPoint presentation).

DEP discussed the purpose and methodology of the proposed project in context of its draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS). DEP aims to repair the Delaware Aqueduct that provides much of the City's water supply (~ 1 billion gallons per day) from the Cat-Del watershed. Tremendous amounts of water are lost due to leakage from the aqueduct (15 – 35 million gallons per day), making the project important for maintaining the quantity and quality of the City's water supply.

Specifically, DEP's *Water for the Future* program is a \$2.1 billion initiative that is intended to ensure clean, reliable and safe drinking water for nine million New Yorkers for decades to come. The program has two main elements: repairing leaks in the Delaware Aqueduct—which supplies roughly half of the city's daily drinking water needs—and supplementing the city's water supply during construction work on the tunnel.

In order to conduct work to repair leaks in the Delaware Aqueduct, a bypass tunnel is to be constructed in upstate New York. Construction work would begin in 2013, with the bypass tunnel completed by the end of 2019. The Delaware Aqueduct would then be put out of service in 2020 for 6 to 15 months (tighter timeline is anticipated to be provided by DEP as project progresses) while repair work is performed.

A separate EIS will be prepared pertaining to the steps DEP intends to undertake to supplement the City's water supply when the Aqueduct is temporarily closed, such as increasing supply from the Catskill Aqueduct and by achieving greater water conservation. The committee resolution below pertains to the current DEIS (that does not address the supplemental water supply needed when the Delaware Aqueduct is closed), and that considers the construction of the bypass tunnel and the repair work on the Delaware Aqueduct. DEP will continue to receive comments on this Draft EIS through February 17, 2012.

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION PASSED ON JANUARY 31, 2012:

Whereas, the Delaware Aqueduct supplies approximately half of New York City's daily drinking water needs, and

Whereas, the NYC Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) seeks to undertake a \$2.1 billion *Water for the Future* program that includes repairing leaks in the Delaware Aqueduct, and supplementing the city's water supply during construction work on the Delaware Aqueduct tunnel, and

Whereas, DEP plans to address leaks in the Delaware Aqueduct by building a 2 ½ mile bypass tunnel around a portion of the aqueduct that is leaking in the town of Newburgh, NY and repairing leaks from inside the existing tunnel, and

Whereas, DEP seeks to break ground on the bypass tunnel in 2013 and complete the connection to the Delaware Aqueduct in 2021, and

Whereas, DEP has issued a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) in connection with the *Water for the Future* program,

Therefore, be it resolved that Manhattan Community Board 8 (CB8) is in favor of DEP proceeding to build the proposed bypass tunnel to facilitate repair of the Delaware Aqueduct in order to ensure that DEP can continue to deliver high quality drinking water every day to NYC,

Be it further resolved that CB8 supports this project contingent upon DEP minimizing and mitigating potential environmental impacts in the areas where the work is to be performed, and upon DEP having an adequate plan in place to supplement the water supply with high-quality drinking water during the shut-down phase of up to 6 to 15 months of the Delaware Aqueduct.

Vote: 5 in favor (Teitelbaum, Kleckner, Carlin, Hockert, Pike).
0 Opposed. 0 Abstained.

Meeting adjourned at ~7:45 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Dave Kleckner and Debbie Teitelbaum
Co-chairs Environment and Sanitation Committee