

## **Section 12: Infrastructure, Solid Waste and Sanitation Services, and Energy**

### **A. INTRODUCTION**

This section assesses whether changes in the Project and in background conditions since 2006 would result in any new or different significant adverse impacts to infrastructure (water supply and sanitary sewers), solid waste, and energy services that were not previously identified in the 2006 FEIS. The regulatory context and methodology for this analysis are the same as described in the 2006 FEIS.

### **B. CHANGES IN BACKGROUND CONDITIONS**

Existing infrastructure resources and long term trends in terms of utility services and future demand forecasts have remained relatively unchanged or have been somewhat reduced compared to the findings of the 2006 FEIS, as noted below.

#### **WATER SUPPLY**

The existing water supply infrastructure serving the Farley Complex remains basically the same as analyzed in the 2006 FEIS. Overall water consumption in New York City continues to modestly decline with the introduction of additional water saving measures and as reported in the Western Rail Yards FEIS (October 2009). The annual water consumption in 2008 was at about 1.1 billion gallons per day (bgd) compared with 1.2 bgd in 2005, as reported in the 2006 FEIS. There are no background changes in water supply infrastructure that would result in new significant adverse impacts from the Project.

#### **SANITARY SEWAGE**

Like water supply, the sewage system serving the Farley Complex is unchanged from the 2006 FEIS. There has also been a stability or slight decline in overall flows to the North River Water Pollution Control Plant (WPCP) with a 2008 12-month average flow of 126 million gallons per day (mgd) compared with 127 mgd in 2005 as reported in the 2006 FEIS. The New York City Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) has approved and is committed to implementing a Hudson Yards Amended Drainage Plan that will further improve sewer flows from the west side towards the North River WPCP. There are no background changes in sanitary sewer services that would result in new significant adverse impacts from the Project.

#### **SOLID WASTE**

Solid waste and sanitation services remain basically the same as analyzed in the 2006 FEIS. Since completion of the 2006 FEIS, the City of New York adopted a new Solid Waste Management Plan (SWMP) in September 2006. The plan sets forth improvement efficiencies in handling solid waste and recycling programs and establishes long term forecasts that would be inclusive of potential demand generated by the Project.

## **ENERGY**

New energy forecasts and energy policies continue to evolve and could affect the assessment of energy demand and ability to provide energy to the Project site compared with the 2006 FEIS. As noted in the Western Rail Yards FEIS, the New York Independent System Operator (NYISO), as the responsible body for overseeing the safe and reliable operation of the electric transmission system across the State of New York, performs an annual review of the electricity needs for the State, and monitors the system supply and distribution capabilities for adequacy to meet projected demand growth. NYISO in its *2009 Reliability Needs Assessment* for the period from 2009 through 2018 anticipates that the resources needed to meet the forecast electricity needs of New York will be adequate in 2018 and would therefore not alter the assessment of regional ability to provide energy to the proposed Project and, as in the 2006 FEIS, would not be expected to result in significant adverse impacts.

In addition, as noted in the 2006 FEIS, the project would comply with New York State Executive Order No. 111, which directs State agencies, State authorities, and other affected entities to be more energy efficient. Executive Order 111 states that a new building must improve energy efficiency by 20 per cent and major renovations must improve energy efficiency by 10 per cent relative to the State Energy Conservation Construction Code Requirements.

As a state entity, MSDC will also need to incorporate into the Project, as applicable, the requirements of the State Green Building Construction Act adopted in August 2009, which calls for the NYS Office of General Services (OGS) to issue regulations establishing green construction requirements and procedures for new state-owned buildings and substantial renovations of existing buildings. OGS has not promulgated new regulations as of this Technical Memorandum but future project planning and design would need to stay abreast of new requirements and their potential applicability to the Project.

In summary, changes in background conditions primarily further energy saving requirements or affirm the findings of the 2006 FEIS regarding the availability of energy infrastructure. Thus, there would be no new significant adverse impacts as a result of changes in background conditions.

## **C. PROJECT DESIGN CHANGES**

With the development program remaining essentially the same as analyzed in the 2006 FEIS in terms of the overall station size, station retail, and non-station development, the estimated increases in demand for water and sanitary sewer services, solid waste, and energy would remain unchanged (or would be reduced with the introduction of new demand reduction requirements as noted above). There could be small and largely negligible variations in demand between the various station options. The Farley Complex Phase 1 effort would introduce certain underground improvements earlier than the entire Project but would not alter the basic energy demand forecast for the overall Project.

Therefore, as set forth in the environmental findings of the 2006 FEIS, the proposed Project would not result in significant adverse impacts on infrastructure (water and sewer), solid waste and sanitation services, or energy. \*