

A natural resources assessment is conducted when a natural resource is present on or near the project site and when an action involves the disturbance of that resource. The *CEQR Technical Manual* defines natural resources as water resources, including surface water bodies and groundwater; wetland resources, including freshwater and tidal wetlands; upland resources, including beaches, dunes, and bluffs, thickets, grasslands, meadows and old fields, woodlands and forests, and gardens and other ornamental landscaping; and built resources, including piers and other waterfront structures.

The project site and surrounding area are in a fully developed part of Manhattan and are substantially devoid of natural resources, as defined by the *CEQR Technical Manual*. In addition, the study area does not contain “built resources” that are known to contain or may be used as habitat by a protected species as defined by regulations promulgated under the Federal Endangered Species Act (50 CFR 17) or the New York State Environmental Conservation Law (6 NYCRR Parts 182 and 193). The disruption of the subsurface of the proposed development sites would not affect the function or value of natural resources. Therefore, no further analysis is warranted and the proposed project would not have a significant adverse impact on natural resources. *