

**FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT
HIGHWAY GARAGE FACILITY
TOWN OF COLCHESTER, DELAWARE COUNTY, NEW YORK
FEMA-1650-DR-NY**

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) was authorized under a Presidential disaster declaration (FEMA-1650-DR-NY) to provide Federal disaster assistance to the Town of Colchester, Delaware County, New York, as a result of a severe storm and flood event in June 26-July 10, 2006. Russell Brook Road was damaged; however, the Town has elected not to pursue roadway repair and has requested that the public assistance funds be instead applied to an Alternate Project. ~~The Town has pursued a town resolution for permanent abandonment of the damaged~~ Russell Brook Road. The Alternate Project proposed is construction of a new highway garage that would replace the Town's existing highway garage facility currently located at 15500 State Highway 30. FEMA's Public Assistance Program is considering providing funding as an Alternate Project under Presidential Disaster Declaration FEMA-1650-DR-NY.

The Town evaluated a No Action Alternative to continue utilization of an existing Town highway garage and continue operations at its current location at 15500 State Highway 30. The existing highway garage site is located in Zone AE (Special Flood Hazard Area inundated by the 100-year Flood), and flooding is problematic. The existing building has been periodically flooded and has incurred significant damage over several years. Repair, restoration or rebuilding alternatives at the existing location were determined to be impractical and not economically feasible.

Description

The Town has elected to construct a new Town highway garage and associated subsurface sanitary system and stormwater management system at a site located on River Road on the south side of the East Branch Delaware River. This site is downstream of the Pepacton reservoir and outside of the NYC Watershed. The property is currently owned by Harmonie Farms and a portion will be sub-divided and purchased by the Town. The portion to be sub-divided is currently used as a gravel pit.

The proposed structure will be an insulated metal building on an 8" thick reinforced concrete slab. The building will be 110' wide x 125' long and will include provisions to allow for future expansion (i.e., electrical provisions, piping layout, mechanical needs, etc.). The building will be used for vehicle maintenance and storage with three drive-through truck bays, one drive through vehicle maintenance bay, one non-drive through vehicle maintenance bay, office space, a break room as well as bathrooms and a mechanical room. Future expansion could consist of additional vehicle storage/maintenance bays on either the West side of the proposed garage facility structure or the East side of the proposed facility.

CONDITIONS

The following conditions are to mitigate this projects potential adverse impact. The Applicant/Sub-applicant must meet these conditions as part of the project. Failure to comply with these conditions may jeopardize Federal funds:

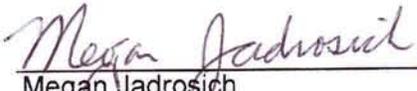
1. If cultural resources are unexpectedly discovered during construction, activities would cease in the immediate area and the New York State Historic Preservation Office, the FEMA Regional Environmental Officer and the New York State Emergency Management Office Historic Preservation Officer would be notified before work would continue.

2. A General State Point Discharge Elimination System (SPDES) Permit, or a waiver of the permit, could be required to be obtained from the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation. The applicant is responsible for obtaining and adhering to all conditions of applicable local, state and federal permits.
3. The real property classification for the entire site is 105, or agricultural vacant land, and it is listed as part of Delaware County NYS Certified Agricultural District #6. The applicant must meet requirements of NYS Agriculture and Markets Law §25-AA for conversion of agricultural land.

Findings

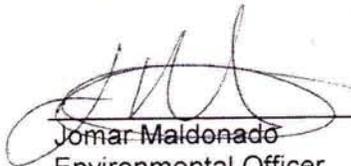
Based on the findings of the attached Environmental Assessment, coordination with the appropriate agencies, and adherence to the project conditions set forth in the EA, and in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), the Council on Environmental Quality regulations for implementing NEPA (44 CFR Parts 1500 through 1508) and FEMA regulations for environmental consideration pertaining to NEPA compliance (44 CFR Part 10), FEMA has determined that the proposed action will have no significant adverse impact on the quality of the biological or human environments. As a result of this FONSI, an EIS will not be prepared and the proposed project as described in the attached EA may proceed.

Approved:


Megan Jadosich
Regional Environmental Officer
Federal Emergency Management Agency, Region II

3/22/10

Date


Jomar Maldonado
Environmental Officer
Federal Emergency Management Agency Headquarters, Washington, DC

3/22/10

Date