

Early Notice and Public Review of a Proposed Activity in a 100-Year/500-year Floodplain and Wetland

To: All interested Agencies, Groups and Individuals

This is to give notice that New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP) on behalf of the Responsible Entity, the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs has determined that the following proposed action under Flood Hazard Risk Reduction and Resiliency Program and HUD Community Development Block Grant – Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) is located in the 100-year/500-year floodplain and in wetlands, and NJDEP will be identifying and evaluating practicable alternatives to locating the action in the floodplain and wetland and the potential impacts on the floodplain and wetland from the proposed action, as required by Executive Order 11988 and 11990, in accordance with HUD regulations at 24 CFR 55.20 Subpart C Procedures for Making Determinations on Floodplain Management and Protection of Wetlands.

Losen Slote Pump Station, Borough of Little Ferry and Township of Hackensack, Bergen County:

The project site is formally known as Block 106, Lot 3.01 and Block 106.1, Lot 1 in the Borough of Little Ferry and the Township of Hackensack, respectfully, Bergen County, New Jersey. The Bergen County Utilities Authority (BCUA) Little Ferry Water Pollution Control Facility is located at the subject property. The Losen Slote Tide Gate Storm Water Pump Station, where the improvements are taking place, is in the southwest portion (– Latitude + 40° 49' 45.60", Longitude -74° 2' 17.15") of the BCUA Little Ferry Water Pollution Control Facility. The subject property presently consists of a total of 17.27± acres, comprised of the BCUA Little Ferry Water Pollution Control Facility and disturbed tidal wetlands. The site is bordered by disturbed tidal wetlands to the north, south and east and commercial developments to the west. Improvements include retrofitting existing three trash rack bays with self-cleaning bar screen systems, a rubber belt conveyor system which will transfer debris to a 10 CY roll-up waste container located on a proposed 8" thick concrete pad, a 25 LF of concrete retaining wall, Jersey Barriers, new LED light fixtures on the two existing lighting poles, two additional building mounted lights, a paved turning area for the trucks along the existing asphalt pavement road, widening and paving the existing gravel access road, and a new electrical control panel for the proposed self-cleaning bar screen system and conveyor belt system installed in the pump station control room. The project site is located entirely within the Special Flood Hazard Area Zone "AE" Zone floodplain, as shown on the latest FEMA Preliminary Flood Insurance Rate Map for Bergen County, Community Panel No. 34003C0258J, dated August 29, 2014. In addition the majority of the subject property is comprised of wetlands consisting of disturbed tidal wetlands, saline marsh (high marsh) and phragmites dominate coastal wetlands. The Losen Slote Storm Water Pump Station and existing gravel access road are not located within any wetlands. The improvement of the access road and installation of the paved turnaround area will not disturb any existing wetlands; however wetlands are adjacent to the project area. The proposed project is located at Block 106, Lot 3.01 and Block 106.1, Lot 1 in the Borough of Little Ferry and the Township of Hackensack, respectfully, Bergen County.

Lake Como Stormwater Outfall Improvements, Borough of Belmar and Borough of Spring Lake, Monmouth County:

The project is located at Lake Como Lake, a 30-acre coastal lake along the Atlantic Ocean that is bordered by the Boroughs of Belmar and Lake Como to the north and Spring Lake to the south in Monmouth County. The drainage area of the lake encompasses 1.732 square miles (1,108.6 acres) of a fully developed Urban Area; the area includes portions of Belmar, Lake Como, West Belmar, Wall Township, Spring Lake Heights,

and Spring Lake. The proposed project will result of the installation of an underwater outfall, 60 inches in diameter that will alleviate private property flooding during the 25-year storm interval and reduce floodwater levels throughout the 100-year floodplain overall. Of the 163 protected properties, 26 are FEMA defined Repetitive Loss properties. All 163 properties are located within the low scenarios of the NOAA 2050 Sea Level Rise scenarios. The subject site is located in the Special Flood Hazard Area Zone "AE" Zone and in the "VE" Zone floodplain, as shown on the latest FEMA Preliminary Flood Insurance Rate Map for Monmouth County, Community Panel No. 34025C0342G, dated January 31, 2014. In addition the project area has managed wetlands in a built-up maintained recreational area bordering Lake Como. A small portion of the wetlands will be disturbed during the construction of the proposed outfall pipe. The proposed project is located at the eastern end of Lake Como in portions of Block 210, Lot 1 and Block 3, Lot 1 in Belmar and Block 1, Lot 1 in Spring Lake, Monmouth County.

There are three primary purposes for this notice. First, people who may be affected by activities in floodplains and wetlands and those who have an interest in the protection of the natural environment should be given an opportunity to express their concerns and provide information about these areas. Commenters are encouraged to offer alternative sites outside of the floodplain and wetland, alternative methods to serve the same project purpose, and methods to minimize and mitigate impacts. Second, an adequate public notice program can be an important public educational tool. The dissemination of information and request for public comment about floodplains and wetlands can facilitate and enhance Federal efforts to reduce the risks and impacts associated with the occupancy and modification of these special areas. Third, as a matter of fairness, when the Federal government determines it will participate in actions taking place in floodplains and wetlands, it must inform those who may be put at greater or continued risk.

Written comments must be received by New Jersey Department of Community Affairs at the following address on or before February 15, 2016, or fifteen (15) days from the actual date of publication, whichever is later. DCA encourages electronic submittal of comments at <http://www.nj.gov/dca/divisions/sandyrecovery/review/>. In the alternative, comments may be submitted on paper to: Laura Shea, Assistant Commissioner, Sandy Recovery Division, New Jersey Department of Community Affairs, 101 South Broad Street, P.O. Box 800, Trenton, NJ 08625-0800.
Commissioner Charles A. Richman
New Jersey Department of Community Affairs

Date: 1/29/16