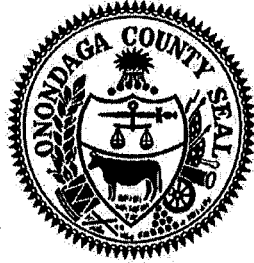


LAKEVIEW AMPHITHEATER FACILITY
DRAFT SCOPING DOCUMENT
FOR THE
Draft Environmental Impact Statement



ONONDAGA COUNTY
Lead Agency, State Environmental Quality Review Act

FEBRUARY 25, 2014

INTRODUCTION

The State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA) process has recently been initiated for a proposed action: the Lakeview Amphitheater Facility. Onondaga County is proposing to construct an outdoor events center on County-owned land on the western shore of Onondaga Lake, in the Town of Geddes, Onondaga County. The Lakeview Amphitheater Facility will be an outdoor event complex, which will include an amphitheater with both covered and lawn seats, a vendor area, recreational trails and amenities. Associated infrastructure will include access roads/driveways and utilities (power, water, sewer, etc.). It is anticipated that vehicular access to the amphitheater will be provided directly from Interstate 690 (I-690), and parking will be accommodated through use of the existing parking lots located between I-690 and Onondaga Lake. These lots are primarily utilized during the New York State Fair. Pedestrians will be able to access the amphitheater through use of the Onondaga County Park Trail System and the pedestrian bridge from State Fair Boulevard. Additional water-based access is also anticipated through use of a seasonal (removable) docking system. Construction is anticipated to occur in a single phase, beginning in the late fall/winter of 2014 and concluding in the fall of 2015. The Lakeview Amphitheater Facility will be owned by Onondaga County.

PURPOSE OF THE DRAFT SCOPING DOCUMENT IN SEQRA

The basic purpose of SEQRA is to incorporate the consideration of environmental factors into the existing planning, review and decision-making processes of State, regional, and local government agencies at the earliest possible time. To accomplish this goal, SEQRA requires a determination of whether a proposed action may have a significant impact on the environment, and if it is determined that the action may have a significant adverse impact, prepare or request an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). It was the intention of the State Legislature that the protection and enhancement of the environment, human and community resources should be given appropriate weight with social and economic considerations, and that those factors be considered together in

reaching decisions on proposed actions. It is not the intention of SEQRA that environmental factors be the sole consideration in decision-making.

This draft scoping document represents an initial step in the review of potential environmental impacts under SEQRA for the proposed Amphitheater Facility. The primary goals of scoping are to focus an EIS on potentially significant impacts and to eliminate consideration of those impacts that are not relevant or non-significant with respect to the proposed action. The purpose of this draft scoping document is to provide an opportunity for involved agencies, interested agencies, and the public to review and comment on the identification of significant environmental conditions and resources that may be affected by the proposed action, and the extent and quality of information necessary to address those issues during the SEQRA process.

Pursuant to New York State Environmental Conservation Law Article 8, SEQRA; and Part 617 of Chapter 6 of the New York Code of Rules and Regulations (NYCRR), and the adoption of a positive declaration by the Lead Agency, Onondaga County intends to prepare a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for the proposed Lakeview Amphitheater. In accordance with SEQRA, the DEIS will address specific adverse environmental impacts which can reasonably be anticipated. This scoping document identifies the significant environmental conditions and resources that may be affected by the Project, and defines the extent and quality of information necessary to address those issues.

The DEIS will include all elements required by 6 NYCRR 617.9, including:

- i. **DEIS Cover Sheet.** All draft and final EISs must be preceded by a cover sheet stating whether it is a draft or final EIS; the name or descriptive title of the action; the location (county and town, village or city) and street address, if applicable, of the action; the name and address of the Lead Agency and the name and telephone number of a person at the agency who can provide further information; the names of individuals or organizations that prepared the EIS; the date of its acceptance by the Lead Agency; and in the case of a draft EIS, the date by which comments must be submitted.
- ii. **DEIS Table of Contents.** The table of contents will include listings of DEIS sections, tables, figures, maps, appendices, attachments and any items that may be submitted under separate cover (and identified as such).

In addition, the DEIS shall include the following sections:

1.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The executive summary will include a brief description of the proposed action and a listing of potential environmental impacts and proposed mitigation measures. A summary will also be provided of the approvals and permits required, and the alternatives to the proposed action that are evaluated within the DEIS.

2.0 DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPOSED ACTION

As described in more detail in the following sections, this chapter of the DEIS will include a comprehensive description of the site and will provide a detailed discussion of the proposed development.

2.1 Site Description

This section of the DEIS will characterize the size, geographic boundaries, and physiographic characteristics of the Project site. The relationship of the proposed Project to I-690, nearby residential areas in the Town of Geddes and Village of Solvay, County-owned recreational facilities associated with Onondaga Lake Park, the

New York State Fairgrounds, Onondaga Lake, Nine Mile Creek, or any other recognized or protected natural or man-made features will be described. The dominant land use within and adjacent to the Project site will also be discussed.

More detailed descriptions of these resources and any potential impacts will be analyzed in detail in dedicated sections of Chapter 3, as discussed in more detail below.

2.2 Detailed Description of the Proposed Action

The purpose, size, and layout of the proposed Project will be described in this section of the DEIS. Maps, graphics, renderings, and/or plans will be provided showing the proposed location of the Amphitheater, including the building and associated structures, site access, parking areas, trails, and utilities.

2.3 Project Purpose, Need and Benefits

A statement describing the purpose and need for the Project will be provided, along with background and history of the Project. This section will also include a brief overview of the environmental, social and/or economic benefits that are anticipated to result from the Project. This will include an estimate of employment opportunities (both temporary construction jobs and permanent staff jobs) that are anticipated to result from the Project.

2.4 Project Construction and Operation

The section of the DEIS will describe construction of the proposed Project, including construction schedule/duration, construction staging and parking, anticipated construction employment, construction sequencing, and routing of construction traffic along local roads. The construction schedule will be compliant with the State Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (SPDES) General Permit.

2.5 Reviews, Approvals and Other Compliance Determinations

Governmental agencies having approval over the Project will be listed in this section, with explanation of the nature of their jurisdiction and the specific approvals required from each listed entity.

3.0 EXISTING CONDITIONS, POTENTIAL IMPACTS, AND MITIGATION MEASURES

With respect to each issue (or set of issues) described below in the various resource sections, the corresponding section of the DEIS will identify in sequence: the existing environmental conditions; the potential impacts of the proposed Project; and anticipated measures to avoid, minimize, and/or mitigate those impacts, as appropriate. The impacts and mitigation measures presented in these sections will include those related to the proposed Amphitheater's operation as well as its construction.

Where one of these sections identifies multiple related issues (e.g., Section 3.1; Geology, Soils, and Topography), the section will first describe the existing conditions regarding all of these multiple related issues before then describing the related potential impacts. The discussion of impacts related to the multiple issues included within the section will then be followed by a review and discussion of related mitigation measures.

The text of these sections will be supplemented with maps, graphics, agency correspondence and agency data/analyses, Geographic Information System (GIS) data and completed support studies as necessary to convey the required information.

3.1 Geology, Soils, and Topography

This section will evaluate and describe topography, surface and subsurface soils, and bedrock conditions within the Project site. Potential impacts to soils could result from demolition of existing facilities, excavation and grading for construction of the facility, site restoration, and landscaping. Topographical concerns include changes in slope during or after Project implementation that could alter drainage patterns and potentially increase runoff.

Descriptions of existing conditions will be based upon published data (e.g., the Soil Survey of Onondaga County, electronic data from the Natural Resources Conservation Service, topographic mapping from the U.S. Geological Service, and maps and files from the New York State Museum). In addition, the description of existing conditions within the DEIS will rely on recent comprehensive studies prepared as part of environmental permitting associated with ongoing remediation efforts at the Waste Beds 1-8 Site. It is anticipated that detailed information concerning existing conditions will be obtained from sources that may include the following:

- O'Brien & Gere Engineers, Inc. 2011. *Human Health Risk Assessment: Wastebeds 1 through 8 Site, Geddes, NY*. Revised Report. Prepared for Honeywell. Available at <http://www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/37558.html> (Accessed February, 2014).
- O'Brien & Gere Engineers, Inc. 2010. *Focused Feasibility Study: Wastebeds 1 through 8 Site, Geddes, NY*. Revised Report. Prepared for Honeywell. Available at <http://www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/37558.html> (Accessed February, 2014).
- O'Brien & Gere Engineers, Inc. 2008. *Wastebeds 1-8 Remedial Investigation Report, Geddes, NY*. Revised Report. Prepared for Honeywell. Syracuse, New York.

Potential impacts associated with the proposed Project will be identified and evaluated relative to the characterization of existing conditions provided in the sources noted above. This section will also describe mitigation measures that will be used to avoid, minimize, or mitigate impacts to geology, soils, and topography, including an approved erosion and sediment control plan.

3.2 Water Resources

This section of the DEIS will describe water resources at the Project site, including surface waters, groundwater, floodplains and floodways, and stormwater. Existing conditions, potential impacts and mitigation measures will be presented for each topic area.

Surface Waters

The section will describe surface waters (i.e., wetlands, streams, rivers, lakes, and ponds) within and adjacent to the Project site (if any), including their respective state and federal classifications. If relevant and applicable, the DEIS will identify the need for any Article 24 Freshwater Wetlands permits and/or Article 15 Stream Disturbance Permits, or approvals required under Sections 401 and 404 of the Clean Water Act. Any Project-related impacts to surface water resources will be described, along with proposed measures to avoid, minimize and/or mitigate such impacts.

Groundwater

With respect to groundwater, the description of existing conditions within the DEIS will rely on recent comprehensive studies prepared as part of environmental permitting associated with ongoing remediation efforts at the Waste Beds 1-8 Site. Potential impacts associated with the proposed Project will be identified and evaluated relative to the characterization of existing conditions provided in the sources reviewed. Of particular concern is the known presence of contaminated groundwater in the area.

Floodplains and Floodways

This section will identify any FEMA-mapped floodplain or floodway areas (as well as any local data), and provide an assessment of potential Project-related impacts to floodplains or floodways (if any). In addition, the description of existing conditions within the DEIS will rely on recent comprehensive studies prepared as part of environmental permitting associated with ongoing remediation efforts at the Waste Beds 1-8 Site and Onondaga Lake. It is anticipated that detailed information concerning existing conditions will be obtained from sources that may include the following:

- O'Brien & Gere Engineers, Inc., and Parsons. 2010. *Wetlands/Floodplain Assessment, Onondaga Lake, Geddes and Syracuse, New York*. Prepared for Honeywell. Available at <http://www.lakecleanup.com/about-the-cleanup/public-documents/> (Accessed February, 2014).
- O'Brien & Gere Engineers, Inc. 2009. *Wetland Delineation and Floodplain Assessment – Wastebeds 1-8, Geddes, NY*. Prepared for Honeywell. Syracuse, New York.

Potential impacts associated with the proposed Project will be identified and evaluated relative to the characterization of existing conditions provided in the sources noted above.

Stormwater

The DEIS will describe anticipated construction related impacts to drainage, stormwater runoff, and consequent effects upon water quality in the vicinity of the construction site. This section will be informed by the site specific Preliminary Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP), to be developed and approved prior to construction, which will include the following:

- *Preliminary SWPPP*: This document will describe measures for controlling runoff and pollutants from the Project site during and after construction activities. Typical components of SWPPPs include measures that reduce or eliminate erosion and sedimentation, control volume and peak rate of stormwater runoff, and maintain stormwater controls during and after completion of construction. A Preliminary SWPPP will be included as an Appendix to the DEIS.

3.3 Climate and Air Quality

This section will describe the regional climate and existing air quality status in the vicinity of the Project site based on publicly available data. Further, it will discuss the potential impacts that could occur during Project construction or operation. Mitigation measures designed to minimize these impacts will be described in this section of the DEIS. Concerns are primarily related to emissions from construction vehicles and dust generated during earth-moving activities.

3.4 Biological, Terrestrial, and Aquatic Ecology

The section will describe the dominant plant species, ecological communities, wildlife species, and available habitat within the Project site. In addition, any known occurrences of state- or federally-listed plant or animal species (or available habitat for such species) will be identified. The description of existing conditions within the DEIS will rely on a recent comprehensive study prepared as part of environmental permitting associated with ongoing remediation efforts at the Waste Beds 1-8 Site. It is anticipated that detailed information concerning existing conditions will be obtained from sources that may include the following:

- O'Brien & Gere Engineers, Inc. 2011. *Baseline Ecological Risk Assessment: Wastebeds 1 through 8 Site, Geddes, NY*. Prepared for Honeywell. Available at <http://www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/73880.html> (Accessed February, 2014).

Potential impacts associated with the proposed Project will be identified and evaluated relative to the characterization of existing conditions provided in the source noted above. Proposed measures to avoid, minimize, or mitigate impacts to ecological resources will also be included. Agency correspondence related to state- or federally-listed plant or animal species will be included in an Appendix to the DEIS.

3.5 Aesthetic/Visual Resources

This section will describe the existing visual character in the vicinity of the Project site, evaluate visual impacts associated with construction and operation of the proposed Lakeview Amphitheater facility, and recommend measures to avoid, minimize, or mitigate any adverse impacts to aesthetic resources. Analysis will include identification of visually sensitive sites and/or critical views within (approximately) 1 mile of the proposed facility, with emphasis on views from publicly accessible areas along the shoreline of Onondaga Lake. These sites may include I-690, the northern terminus of the Onondaga Creekwalk, and Onondaga Lake Park. Photographs will be taken to document existing conditions. In addition, computer-generated visual simulations and/or architectural renderings will be prepared to depict the appearance of the completed Project.

3.6 Historic, Cultural, and Archaeological Resources

The section will identify sites, structures, and districts with significant historic and/or archaeological value within a 1-mile radius of the Project site, and recommend measures to avoid, minimize, or mitigate any adverse impacts to cultural resources. The DEIS will rely on recent comprehensive studies prepared as part of environmental permitting associated with ongoing remediation efforts at the Waste Beds 1-8 Site. It is anticipated that detailed information concerning existing conditions will be obtained from sources that may include the following:

- Hohman, Christopher D. 2004. *Cultural Resource Management Report, Phase 1A Cultural Resource Assessment, Onondaga Lake Project, Onondaga Lake, Wastebed B and Wastebed 13, Towns of Camillus, Geddes and Salina and City of Syracuse, Onondaga County, New York*. Public Archaeology Facility, Binghamton University, Binghamton, New York.
- Hohman, Christopher D. 2010. *Work Plan Addendum for Onondaga Lake Project, Upland and Shoreline Area, Onondaga County, New York*. Public Archaeology Facility, Binghamton University, Binghamton, New York.
- Hohman, Christopher D. and Dr. Nina Versaggi. 2010. *Cultural Resource Management Report, Phase 1B Archaeological Work Plan, Onondaga Lake Project, Upland and Shoreline Area, Wastebed 13, Geddes Brook IRM, Tributary of Geddes Brook, Ninemile Creek RI/FS, Shoreline Survey and Wastebed B/Harbor Brook IRM, Town of Camillus and Geddes, Onondaga County, New York*. Public Archaeology Facility, Binghamton University, Binghamton, New York.
- Hohman, Christopher D. 2012 and O'Brien & Gere Engineers, Inc. *Cultural Resource Management Report Phase 1B Reconnaissance Survey, Wastebeds 1-8 Integrated Interim Remedial Measure Ninemile Creek Collection Trench, Town of Geddes, Onondaga County, New York*. Available at <http://www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/87580.html> (Accessed February, 2014).
- Hohman, Christopher D and Parsons. 2011. *Cultural Resource Management Report, Phase 1B Reconnaissance Survey, Onondaga Lake Project, Upland and Shoreline Area, Wastebeds 1-8 shoreline and Wastebeds 1-8 Supplement Work, Towns of Camillus and Geddes, Onondaga County, New York*. Public Archaeology Facility, Binghamton University, Binghamton, New York.

Potential impacts associated with the proposed Project will be identified and evaluated relative to the characterization of existing conditions provided in the sources noted above. Nearby/adjacent open space and recreation opportunities will also be discussed, along with the Project's interaction with such resources.

3.7 Open Space and Recreation

The section will document the current use of the Project site in terms of open space and recreation, and describe the anticipated effects upon such use in the area.

3.8 Traffic and Transportation

This section of the DEIS will document existing pedestrian and vehicular use of the Project site and vicinity, describe the anticipated effects of the proposed Project on transportation-related use and infrastructure, and recommend measures to avoid, minimize, or mitigate any adverse impacts. Of particular concern are potential impacts to the adjacent Interstate 690.

3.9 Noise and Odor

This section will generally describe existing conditions at the Project site (based on publicly available data) relative to noise and odor, evaluate associated Project impacts, and discuss measures to avoid, minimize, or mitigate any such impacts. Particular emphasis will be placed upon the potential noise impacts of performances at the Amphitheater on nearby properties relative to existing noise sources (e.g., I-690, State Fair). However, studies to identify the existing ambient noise environment and model the noise associated with Project operation are not proposed at this time.

3.10 Documented Environmental Conditions

This section will describe recognized environmental conditions at the Project site, with respect to the range of contaminants within the scope of Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act (42 U.S.C. §9601) and petroleum products. Potential impacts associated with the Project within or in the vicinity of such recognized environmental conditions will be identified, and mitigation measures recommended as appropriate. The analysis within the DEIS will rely on a recent comprehensive study prepared as part of environmental permitting associated with ongoing remediation efforts at the Waste Beds 1-8 Site. Regarding Documented Environmental Conditions, it is anticipated that detailed information concerning existing conditions will be obtained from sources that may include the following:

- O'Brien & Gere Engineers, Inc. 2011. *Human Health Risk Assessment: Wastebeds 1 through 8 Site, Geddes, NY*. Revised Report. Prepared for Honeywell. Available at <http://www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/37558.html> (Accessed February, 2014).
- O'Brien & Gere Engineers, Inc. 2010. *Focused Feasibility Study: Wastebeds 1 through 8 Site, Geddes, NY*. Revised Report. Prepared for Honeywell. Available at <http://www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/37558.html> (Accessed February, 2014).
- O'Brien & Gere Engineers, Inc. 2008. *Wastebeds 1-8 Remedial Investigation Report, Geddes, NY*. Revised Report. Prepared for Honeywell. Syracuse, NY.

3.11 Public Health and Safety

This section will generally describe existing conditions at the Project site relative to public health and safety, evaluate associated Project impacts, and discuss mitigation measures to minimize such impacts. The analysis within the DEIS will partially rely on recent comprehensive studies prepared as part of environmental permitting associated with ongoing remediation efforts at the Wastebeds 1-8 Site. Regarding possible public health risks due to contamination exposure at Project site, it is anticipated that detailed information concerning existing conditions will be obtained from sources that may include the following:

- O'Brien & Gere Engineers, Inc. 2011. *Human Health Risk Assessment: Wastebeds 1 through 8 Site, Geddes, NY*. Revised Report. Prepared for Honeywell. Available at <http://www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/37558.html> (Accessed February, 2014).

3.12 Land Use and Zoning

This section will describe the existing land use at the Project site and adjacent properties and review relevant land use regulation in the Town of Geddes. In addition, this section will evaluate potential impacts regarding the proposed Project's compatibility with surrounding land in the Town of Geddes, and discuss measures to avoid, minimize, or mitigate any Project-related impacts.

3.13 Growth and Character of the Community

This section will describe the existing character of the Project site and adjacent community and review relevant planning documents that have been previously prepared and adopted for the project vicinity. The DEIS will identify how the proposed Project may impact the character of the community, and mitigation measures will be identified, as needed.

3.14 Community Facilities and Services

The DEIS will describe existing community services, including local police, fire and emergency service, and infrastructure services including wastewater treatment and potable water. Information will be based on publicly available data, personal communications with service providers, and/or review of pertinent literature. The DEIS will identify how the proposed Project may impact these services, and mitigation measures will be identified, as needed.

4.0 UNAVOIDABLE ADVERSE IMPACTS

This section of the DEIS will identify impacts that are likely to occur despite mitigation measures, and will compare these unavoidable impacts to Project-related benefits. This section will also identify general avoidance and mitigation measures (e.g., adherence to applicable regulatory requirements), and specific mitigation measures (e.g., development of a SWPPP).

5.0 ALTERNATIVES ANALYSIS

The DEIS will include a description and evaluation of the range of reasonable alternatives to the proposed action. Alternatives to be considered will include at a minimum, the "no action" alternative and may include other alternatives that would rely upon alternate Project location, alternate Project layout, or alternate Project scale/extent to either reduce or eliminate potential impacts.

6.0 IRREVERSIBLE AND IRRETRIEVABLE COMMITMENT OF RESOURCES

This section of the DEIS will identify those natural and man-made resources consumed, converted, or otherwise made unavailable for future use as a consequence of the proposed Project.

7.0 CUMULATIVE IMPACTS

The DEIS will evaluate the potential cumulative impacts of the proposed Project along with other relevant projects developed or proposed in the area.

8.0 GROWTH INDUCING ASPECTS

This section of the DEIS will describe potential growth-inducing aspects the proposed facility may have with respect to additional development in the vicinity of the Project site.

9.0 EFFECTS ON THE USE AND CONSERVATION OF ENERGY RESOURCES

This section of the DEIS will describe the effect of the proposed Project on the use and conservation of energy.

10.0 REFERENCES

This section of the DEIS will list any sources of information cited directly within the narrative text.

APPENDICES TO ACCOMPANY DEIS

At a minimum, and as described in more detail in the previous sections, the following materials will be included to supplement the information presented within the narrative:

- Relevant maps and figures
- Project plans, specifications, and/or construction information
- Preliminary Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP)
- Traffic Assessment
- Relevant agency correspondence