Governor's Office of Storm Recovery

Andrew M. Cuomo
Governor

Lisa Bova-Hiatt
Executive Director

STATE ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY REVIEW ACT
DETERMINATION OF NON-SIGNIFICANCE (NEGATIVE DECLARATION)

HAZARD MITIGATION GRANT PROGRAM &
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT – DISASTER RECOVERY
GLOBAL MATCH ACQUISITION & ELEVATION PROJECT
VILLAGE OF SIDNEY AND SIDNEY CENTER, DELAWARE COUNTY, NY

DATE: March 16, 2016

NAME OF ACTION: Hazard Mitigation Grant Program & Community Development Block Grant – Disaster Recovery Global Match Acquisition & Elevation

LOCATION: Village of Sidney and Sidney Center, Delaware County, NY

SEQRA CLASSIFICATION: [X] Type I; [ ] Unlisted

REVIEW TYPE: [X] Coordinated; [ ] Uncoordinated

DETERMINATION OF SIGNIFICANCE: [X] Negative Declaration; [ ] Positive Declaration

---

The Proposed Action:

Under the Proposed Action, individual property owners in the Village of Sidney and Sidney Center would either be given assistance to elevate their homes or their homes would be acquired and demolished. Participation in the elevation and acquisition and demolition programs would be voluntary. Elevation assistance would include financial support and requirements for resiliency upgrades to the individual properties that would reduce the potential damage from future storms. Homes would be elevated so that their lowest floor was at least two feet above the Base Flood Elevation (BFE). The elevation area is identified as those properties east of approximately 70 River Street. Although the total number of properties to be elevated is yet to be determined, it is estimated based on community input and preliminary interest that at least 35 homes and as many as 74 homes would be elevated as part of the Proposed Action. Properties in this area are given the option of elevation as they are located in the oldest portion of the Village of Sidney Historic District and are the least prone to flooding among those properties within the 100-year floodplain.

In addition, the Proposed Action would fund the acquisition and demolition of properties in the Camp Street Neighborhood west of approximately 70 River Street in the Village of Sidney and two properties in Sidney Center by Delaware County. Though the total number of properties to be acquired and demolished is yet to be determined, it is estimated that approximately 60 homes would be acquired and demolished as part of the Proposed Action. The Village of Sidney properties proposed for acquisition and demolition are located in the areas most susceptible to flooding, and are not located within the older portion of the Village of Sidney Historic District. After acquisition, the County would demolish all structures (including walkways, paved driveways, and patios), foundations would be removed, and clean suitable fill would be brought in to fill the basements. Topsoil would then be placed over the sites, and they would be re-graded and seeded in a manner consistent with limiting site disturbance. After demolition and site reclamation, the properties would be turned over to the Village of Sidney and Sidney Center to maintain as open space. All open space compatible uses would be in accordance with Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) requirements under the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) requirements set forth in 44 CFR Part 80.

Purpose and Need:

The Village of Sidney and Sidney Center are seeking assistance from the FEMA HMGP and the US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Community Development Block Grant – Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) programs to implement mitigation measures to reduce the risks of loss of life and property due to storms. The need for this project is due to the significant flood damage sustained to homes in the Village of Sidney and Sidney Center as a result of Tropical Storm Lee, as well as a significant flooding event in 2006 (DR-1650). As demonstrated by past storm events, residential structures in the floodplain are vulnerable to on-going flooding events. Implementation of the proposed mitigation measures is intended to reduce the risks to structures in the floodplain and to bring the community into greater compliance with National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) standards.

Existing Conditions:

Flooding in Sidney from Tropical Storm Lee began on September 7, 2011, in the form of flash flooding of the smaller streams and tributaries. Flooding was especially severe along Weir Creek, which runs steeply down through the hillside neighborhoods south of the railroad and flows under Delaware Avenue. Weir Creek's natural channel had previously been altered to make a 90-degree turn west and flooding overwhelmed the channel. The flooding of Weir Creek and other tributaries washed out roads and culverts, and village officials estimated that at least 422 buildings were flooded. One-hundred percent of the buildings in the 100-year floodplain (262 properties, housing approximately 1,200 residents) and 60% of the properties in the 500-year floodplain flooded (167 properties and approximately 900 residents).

The geographic scope for the Proposed Action is the Village of Sidney and Sidney Center, both of which are located in the Town of Sidney, in the northwest corner of Delaware County, NY, in the foothills of the Catskill Mountains. The Village of Sidney is situated on the south side of the Susquehanna River, at its confluence with the mouth of the Unadilla River. The portion of the Village most affected by the 2006 flooding event and Tropical Storm Lee were those properties located in the 100-year floodplain. In particular, the neighborhood bounded by NYS Route 8 to the west, the railroad tracks to the south, and the Susquehanna River to the north and east were particularly affected by the flooding. All properties included in the Proposed Action except the two properties in Sidney Center are located within the Village of Sidney National Register Historic District.

Funding:

The total project cost is estimated at $19.2 million. GOSR proposes to allocate funding pursuant to the HUD CDBG-DR program as authorized by the Disaster Relief Appropriations Act of 2013 (Public Law 113-2, approved January 29, 2013). The NYS Housing Trust Fund Corporation (HTFC), which administers the CDBG-DR program funds on behalf of GOSR, intends to approve funding for the Proposed Action as described in this notice.

Environmental Considerations:

Topography, Soils, and Geology

With the appropriate short term Best Management Practices (BMPs) and, if required a Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP), in place, the elevation and demolition of homes and regrading of properties proposed in the Proposed Action would have no impacts on topography, geology or soils.

Elevation of selected properties would have no effect on topography. For those acquisition and demolition properties, after acquisition, the County would demolish all structures (including walkways, paved driveways, and patios), fill any basements, re-grade, place topsoil over the sites, and seed with a native seed mix in a manner consistent with limiting site disturbance. After demolition and site reclamation, the properties would be turned over to the Village of Sidney to maintain as open space. Because these properties are already developed, no significant changes to slope are anticipated. Sites would be graded to direct stormwater runoff towards open space areas and away from existing roadways and other impervious surfaces.

There would be no long-term effect to soils as a result of elevation of selected properties. The homes proposed for acquisition and demolition are located within floodplain areas that are subject to erosion and

loss of soil from storm activity. Properties would be graded and revegetated following demolition activities to prevent erosion.

However, during construction associated with both elevation and demolition, there would be a short-term increase in the potential for erosion from site disturbance. Short-term BMPs, such as silt fence and erosion prevention, would be implemented to mitigate erosion where highly erodible soils are present, if required by permit or agency discretion (see Soil Erosion Conditions for Approval). Since the elevation or demolition of 134 structures in the Village of Sidney would involve more than one acre of disturbance as defined by NYSDEC, a SWPPP pursuant to NYSDEC SPDES General Permit for Stormwater Discharges from Construction Activity (Permit No. GP-0-15-002) would be implemented on-site during construction to reduce the potential for erosion. State and local permitting requirements would incorporate BMPs (erosion blanketing, phasing, and sequencing of construction) to eliminate erosion impacts for program locations that require excavation or soil modification. Demolition and incidental grading would be carried out in a manner to avoid the discharge of fill in accordance with the Clean Water Act during demolition. Work in areas of soils with high wind erosion potential may have to be scheduled only during calm weather conditions or include additional watering and other dust suppression mitigation methods. The U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Web Soil Survey indicates that soils within the Project Area are categorized as having a wind erodibility group of 5 and 6, which indicates that they are moderately susceptible to wind erosion.

Acquisition and demolition would return the land to open space, for which soil suitability issues would be minimal. BMPs, including silt fences, would be employed for stabilization from potential erosion during the revegetation process.

In addition, the elevation or acquisition and demolition of residential properties in an urbanized area do not involve the conversion of prime agricultural soils to a nonagricultural use. As such, no impacts to farmland are anticipated.

Land Use and Zoning

Although the total number of properties is yet to be determined, it is estimated based on community input and preliminary interest that the Proposed Action would preserve at least 35 and as many as 74 residences within the floodplain by elevating the structures at least two feet above the BFE and would convert approximately 60 existing residential properties within the floodplain in storm-impacted areas to open space in perpetuity. Under this Alternative, a permanent covenant or comparable restriction would be placed on the continued use of demolished properties to preserve the floodplain from future development. Once all targeted properties are converted, much of the resulting open space would be contiguous and, therefore, compatible with the surrounding land uses. Acquisition and demolition would not require any changes to existing zoning designations as the land would revert to publicly owned vacant land. It is anticipated that Delaware County would transfer the ownership of the vacant land to the Village and Town of Sidney. As Village/Town owned land it would be immune from local zoning regulations.

The appropriate permits for all elevation and demolition activities would be obtained. Acquisition and demolition would create new open space within the Village of Sidney and Sidney Center, primarily in low-lying areas prone to flooding from the Susquehanna River and its tributaries. The Proposed Action conforms to all of the regional and local plans, particularly with regard to flood mitigation and conserving and creating open space. The conversion of a portion of the Project Area to open space land use and reduction in housing density is compatible with the visual character and quality of the acquisition and demolition area. Creating the open space would establish a larger buffer between the areas identified with potential for future flooding and residential uses.

The approximated 35 to 74 residences that would be elevated as part of the Proposed Action are located in the oldest portion of the Village of Sidney Historic District and are nearer to the Village's existing commercial corridor along Main Street. As a result, elevating these properties rather than demolishing them would help maintain the historic character of the Village and provide support to the commercial corridor.

Water Resources and Water Quality

The Proposed Action would have no impact to surface water quality of the Susquehanna River, Weir Creek,

or the unnamed tributary to Carrs Creek. Disturbances to either watercourse's bed or banks are not proposed. There are no proposed discharges to these surface waters.

Stormwater discharges during construction would be regulated by the NYSDEC Stormwater SPDES General Permit. Stormwater would be controlled to prevent pollutants from entering the off-site surface water. Since the elevation or demolition of 134 structures in the Village of Sidney would involve more than one acre of disturbance as defined by NYSDEC, a SWPPP pursuant to NYSDEC SPDES General Permit for Stormwater Discharges from Construction Activity (Permit No. GP-0-15-002) would be implemented on-site during demolition to reduce the potential for erosion. These regulations prohibit or strictly limit the volume and quality of stormwater discharges to protect water quality in surface waters on and off the Project Site. The SPDES permit would ensure that stormwater runoff from construction sites related to the Proposed Action is controlled through best management practices, and would prevent stormwater runoff from polluting Weir Creek or the Susquehanna River.

The properties associated with the Proposed Action comprise 44.5 acres, of which approximately 13.4 to 17.8 acres would be disturbed during either elevation or demolition. The County would create, implement and maintain erosion and sedimentation control measures to prevent deposition of sediment and eroded soil in on-site and off-site wetlands and waters. Soil compaction would be controlled by minimizing project activities in vegetated areas, including lawns. The demolition of two structures in Sidney Center would involve less than one acre of ground disturbance. However, BMPs would be employed to ensure that stormwater runoff from the demolition sites is controlled.

Overall, the removal of approximately 60 existing residential buildings and associated impervious surfaces and conversion to open space would reduce the amount of stormwater runoff, and could have a beneficial impact on groundwater recharge. Elevation of at least 35 and as many as 74 existing structures would have no impact on the quantity or quality of stormwater runoff in the area.

Wetlands

The project sites have been evaluated for the presence of wetlands. Based on a review of the project sites on NYSDEC's "Environmental Resource Mapper" website (http://www.dec.ny.gov/imsmaps/ERM/viewer.htm), and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Services' (USFWS) National Wetland Inventory (NWI) "Wetlands Mapper" website (http://www.fws.gov/wetlands/data/mapper.HTML), there are no state or federally regulated wetlands mapped within the Project Area. The Proposed Action would not impact state or federal wetlands.

Floodplains

The Proposed Action would reduce risk of future flood damage to the residential properties elevated or acquired, and reduce the chance that an occupant of such a property faces physical danger resulting from floodwaters. The Proposed Action would also remove impervious surfaces on acquired properties and allow for greater infiltration and reduced stormwater runoff. Overall, the Proposed Action would have a beneficial impact on flood protection.

Vegetation

The Proposed Action would restore disturbed areas of the acquired and demolished sites with native seed and/or plant species to minimize soil erosion and sedimentation, as well as enhance environmental habitat quality of the Project Site. The acquired properties would be maintained by the Village of Sidney and Sidney Center, and would be mowed periodically. There would be no change to vegetation on properties to be elevated in place.

Should any removal and disposal of vegetative debris be necessary, disposal methods would adhere to the EAB Quarantine Protocol pursuant to NYS Department of Agriculture and Markets Law Sections 18, 164, and 167; and CFR Title 7 Parts 300-399.

Wildlife

The Proposed Action would have no impact on wildlife, birds, and fisheries habitat. As noted, the Project Area is comprised of residential development. This Alternative would restore disturbed areas of the site with

native seed and/or plant species to minimize soil erosion and sedimentation, as well as enhance environmental habitat quality of properties to be acquired and demolished.

The Proposed Action would have no significant adverse impact on migratory birds or their habitat. It is anticipated that passerine birds would temporarily leave the area during construction and demolition due to noise and disturbance. There is a small likelihood that a nest in a structure to be demolished or in vegetation to be incidentally removed could be disturbed; however, the residential backyard habitat is not sensitive priority habitat. The conversion of the acquired and demolished properties to deed-restricted open space would provide long-term benefits for migratory bird habitat. Elevation of properties would have no effect on habitat.

A SWPPP and BMPs would be employed during elevation, demolition, and site restoration activities to ensure that stormwater runoff would not contaminate the Susquehanna River, Weir Creek, or the unnamed stream.

The Proposed Action involves the elevation or acquisition and demolition of existing residential structures and appurtenances, with minimal grading and revegetation to reestablish acquired and demolished properties. There would be no significant adverse impact to migratory bird habitat and no take of migratory bird species associated with the Proposed Action.

Threatened and Endangered Species and Critical Habitat

The Proposed Action would not adversely affect endangered, threatened or rare species, including the dwarf wedgemussel (Alasmidonta heterodon), northern long-eared bat (Myotis septentrionalis), or any critical habitat.

The Proposed Action would have no effect on the endangered dwarf wedgemussel, as no habitat for this species is within the residential Project Area. The Action involves no in-stream work and no discharge to streams.

The Proposed Action may affect, but is not likely to adversely affect, the northern long-eared bat. The scope of work does not specifically include tree removal, but some incidental tree removal may be necessary to provide access to buildings to be demolished. The scope of work does include removal of housing structures that may be vacant and could become viable habitat for bats. The USFWS has concurred with this determination regarding the in a letter dated April 3, 2015. An updated consultation letter was sent to USFWS on November 20, 2015. Confirmation of continued concurrence from USFWS was assumed, as an updated concurrence letter from USFWS was not received.

Cultural Resources

Per the Criteria of Adverse Effect (36 CFR 800.5(a)(1)), an adverse effect is found when an undertaking may alter, directly or indirectly, any of the characteristics of a historic property that qualify the property for inclusion in the National Register in a manner that would diminish the integrity of the property's location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, or association. Since the Proposed Action includes, partially, the acquisition and demolition of historic structures, it would meet the Criteria of Adverse Effect. The extent of adverse effect would be mitigated partially in the Proposed Action through elevation of at least 35 and as many as 74 homes rather than acquisition and demolition of all homes within the Project Area.

GOSR and FEMA have consulted with the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) and appropriate Consulting Parties (Oneida Indian Nation and Sidney Historical Association) to determine whether they concur with the determination of adverse effect. Once concurrence was established, the SHPO and other Consulting Parties were consulted to seek agreement on ways to avoid or reduce the adverse effect.

Agreement upon the selected mitigation measures to be implemented was effectuated through a Programmatic Agreement between the New York State Housing Trust Fund, the SHPO, FEMA, DHSES, and Delaware County. The Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP) was invited to participate in consultation on the Programmatic Agreement but chose not to participate in the consultation pursuant to 36 C.F.R. § 800.6(a)(1)(iii). Programmatic Agreements are used when effects on historic properties are similar and repetitive, such as those proposed under the Proposed Action; or when effects on historic properties

cannot be fully determined before approval of an undertaking, among other reasons.

Initially, the Programmatic Agreement was drafted to evaluate the alternative in which all participating properties within the project area were acquired and demolished. Based on comments received during the Section 106 consultation process indicating opposition to the demolition of certain historic structures, the concurring parties of the Programmatic Agreement held a meeting with residents at the Sidney Central School on September 24, 2015 and the Proposed Action was identified as a preferable alternative. Many residents preferred the opportunity to elevate their homes, particularly those properties east of approximately 70 River Street, while the other identified properties would still receive acquisition and demolition assistance. Such homeowner preferences were confirmed through meetings with individual homeowners, which are ongoing.

In order to mitigate the adverse effect associated with acquisition and demolition or elevation of greater than four (4) feet of some properties, the Programmatic Agreement stipulates architectural salvage and recordation treatment measures to be implemented prior to any demolition activities. Treatment measures are to include documentation, recordation, design review, and salvage of architectural features. The Programmatic Agreement has been signed and executed by the concurring parties. The final Programmatic Agreement was filed with ACHP on December 24, 2015.

Aesthetics and Visual Resources

The Proposed Action would have an effect on the aesthetic quality of the Village of Sidney Historic District. Although the total number of properties is yet to be determined, it is estimated based on community input and preliminary interest the Proposed Action would acquire and demolish approximately 60 properties within the Sidney Historic District and elevate at least 35 and as many as 74 properties within the District. The demolition of structures would irreversibly affect the visual character of the Village of Sidney Historic District.

However, the Proposed Action would reestablish a portion of the Project Area as public open space, which as its own beneficial visual and aesthetic qualities. Furthermore, by elevating at least 35 and as many as 74 homes in the eastern portion of the Sidney Historic District, some of the oldest, most historic homes and the associated aesthetic and visual character would be preserved.

Socioeconomic Resources

In the Proposed Action, individual property owners in the Village's Historic North End Neighborhood would receive assistance to elevate their homes in their original locations. This assistance would include financial support and requirements for resiliency upgrades to the individual properties that would reduce the potential damage from future storms. As part of the Proposed Action, it is estimated for the purposes of this evaluation that approximately 74 homes would be elevated so that their lowest floor was at least two feet above the Base Flood Elevation. These properties are located in the oldest portion of the Village of Sidney Historic District, and are contiguous to the Village's existing commercial corridor along Main Street.

Although the total number of properties is yet to be determined, it is estimated that under the Proposed Action, at least 35 and as many as 74 households would remain in the Village's Historic North End Neighborhood and would continue to purchase goods and services, including food and beverage, household items and services, apparel, healthcare, and transportation. This continued spending power would support businesses in the local area and throughout Delaware County. Based on the median household income in the Village of Sidney and Bureau of Labor Statistics Census Consumer Expenditure Survey data, the total after-tax household income for these estimated approximate 74 households is an estimated $2.57 million.

The economic benefits that would result from $2.57 million in household expenditures were estimated using the IMPLAN (Impact Analysis for PLANning) economic model. Based on the IMPLAN economic model, it is estimated that the household expenditures would support 14 direct, indirect, and induced full- and part-time jobs in Delaware County. Total direct, indirect, and induced employee compensation resulting from the household expenditures is estimated at $298,400 annually. The total effect on the Delaware County economy from the household expenditures, measured as economic output or demand, is estimated at approximately $1.76 million annually. Given the close proximity of the estimated approximate 74 households to businesses in the Village, it is expected that the Village would capture a portion of estimated

economic benefits resulting from household spending.

In addition, the Proposed Action would fund the purchase of approximately 60 properties in the Camp Street Neighborhood and two properties in Sidney Center by Delaware County. These properties are located in the areas most susceptible to flooding, and are not located within the older portion of the Village of Sidney Historic District. After demolition and site reclamation, the properties would be turned over to the Village of Sidney and Town of Sidney (for Sidney Center properties) to maintain as open space.

With the acquisition and demolition of approximately 60 homes, local businesses may experience some level of reduced demand for products and services. Based on the methodology described above, expenditure potential for these approximately 60 households in the Village is estimated at $2.15 million. Businesses in the Village would be less likely to capture a portion of this expenditure potential with the acquisition and demolition of approximately 60 homes, as these households could relocate further from the Village's commercial corridor along Main Street.

Environmental Justice

The Proposed Action would not have disproportionately high or adverse impacts on human health and human environment of minority or low-income populations.

Air Quality

Construction activities as a result of the Proposed Action may result in temporary increases in emissions from on-site equipment, construction-related vehicles and non-road engines, and fugitive dust. However, all activities under the Proposed Action would comply with applicable federal, state, and local laws and regulations regarding construction emissions, as discussed in the project description. Overall, construction activities would occur at scattered sites under the Proposed Action, and air pollutant concentration increments from construction activities are highly localized, i.e., almost entirely due to construction activity in close proximity to receptor locations and not due to cumulative impacts from the larger area.

The Proposed Action would result in a temporary minor impact to air quality due to construction activities; no long-term impacts are anticipated. Construction activities on the project site may have a potential impact on the local air quality through the generation of fugitive dust or airborne dust. Fugitive dust is generated during ground breaking and excavation activities. Emissions from diesel construction vehicles are also a potential source of air pollution. The use of BMPs would help minimize dust and vehicle emissions. Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) standards would be followed to preserve public health of construction workers and nearby residences.

Contaminated Materials

The Proposed Action would include elevation or demolition of structures constructed prior to 1978. As such, structures to be modified or demolished may include lead-based paint and materials containing asbestos. All solid waste materials would be managed and transported in accordance with the state's solid and hazardous waste rules. Program activities would conform to Part 56 of Title 12 of the Official Compilation of Codes, Rules and Regulations of the NYS Department of Labor (12 NYCRR Part 56); the National Emission Standard for Asbestos—Standard for demolition and renovation (40 CFR Part 61.145); National Emission Standard for Asbestos—Standard for waste disposal for manufacturing, fabricating, demolition, and spraying operations (40 CFR Part 61.150); EPA Repair, Renovation, and Painting (RRP) Rule (40 CFR 745.80 Subpart E), HUD's lead-based paint regulations in 24 CFR Part 35 Subparts A, B, H, J, and R, and HUD "Guidelines for the Evaluation and Control of Lead-Based Paint Hazards in Housing." The Guidelines complement regulations that have been issued by HUD, the EPA, and the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA), and policies from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). In general, these regulations apply to housing constructed prior to 1978.

All activities must comply with applicable federal, state, and local laws and regulations regarding lead-based paint, including but not limited to, EPA Repair, Renovation, and Painting (RRP) Rule (40 CFR 745.80 Subpart E), HUD's lead-based paint regulations in 24 CFR Part 35 Subparts A, B, H, J, and R, HUD "Guidelines for the Evaluation and Control of Lead-Based Paint Hazards in Housing. The Guidelines complement regulations that have been issued by HUD, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA),

and the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA), and policies from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). In general, these regulations apply to housing constructed prior to 1978.

Prior to demolition or disturbance of building materials for elevation, an asbestos survey would be prepared by a Qualified Environmental Professional (QEP) for each property to determine the presence or absence of asbestos containing materials. Based on the findings of the asbestos survey, remediation would be conducted prior to demolition or elevation in accordance with all applicable city, state, and federal regulations. Any remediation would be appropriately scheduled and coordinated with any demolition, elevation, and/or redevelopment activities.

For homes to be elevated where painted surfaces will be disturbed, a Lead-Based Paint risk assessment will be carried out by a QEP if painted surfaces are to be disturbed by the elevation work. If lead hazards are discovered, they must be remediated by a QEP prior to grant closeout.

When the target residential property is on or within 3,000 feet of a potentially hazardous site, a QEP would determine if the potential hazard requires remediation. If remediation is required, it would be appropriately scheduled and coordinated with any demolition or elevation activities. There may be some residential properties with improper storage and excessive accumulation of toxic substances (i.e. petroleum products, pesticides, cleaning substances). Initial site inspection of residential properties may document the presence of abandoned and otherwise non-working vehicles with the potential for leakage of toxic materials. Barrels or tanks with petroleum products or other potentially toxic substances may be identified. Remediation activities may include the purging of lines, tanks, and equipment containing hazardous chemicals, gasses, or flammable materials. If tank removal is required, tanks would be excavated, soil would be removed, and soil samples would be taken prior to closure. Air monitoring equipment may be used to determine if any hazardous conditions remain. Demolition and elevation activities would adhere to dust suppression and personal protective gear to minimize exposure to lead paint.

Mold can also have an adverse effect on human health and is a very common problem in houses that have been flooded. Some situations would require extra precautions to limit the distribution of airborne mold spores during demolition or elevation.

Noise

Construction activities associated with elevation, demolition and re-grading at selected properties could cause temporary increases in noise levels. Temporary increases in noise levels would be mitigated by compliance with local noise ordinances. HUD has determined that its Part 51 noise regulations are not applicable to a disaster recovery program which meets the definition of 24 CFR Part 51.101(a)(3) for emergency assistance under disaster provisions or appropriations provided to save lives, protect property, protect public health and safety, and remove debris and wreckage, or provide assistance that has the effect of restoring facilities substantially as they existed prior to the disaster. The Proposed Action provides disaster assistance for the purpose of saving lives and protecting property, public health, and public safety. However, the Proposed Action would comply with all applicable local noise regulations, including hours of operation.

Traffic

A short-term impact to traffic would be anticipated during the construction period associated with elevation, demolition and, site restoration of properties. The presence of construction and delivery vehicles is unavoidable; however, this impact would be short lived and all site construction activities would comply with local ordinances that relate to operations on a construction site. No long-term impacts to traffic are anticipated as a result of the Proposed Action.

Infrastructure

The Proposed Action would involve the acquisition and demolition of approximately 60 existing residential structures within the Village of Sidney, most of which are currently occupied. As such, the Proposed Action would reduce existing demand on the Village's water and sewer infrastructure. Water and sewer lines to the acquired and demolished properties would be capped and existing wells and septic systems at the two properties to be acquired and demolished in Sidney Center would be abandoned in accordance with all applicable regulations. Point of use connections to existing homes to be elevated may require minor

modification to accommodate added structural elevation. There would be no change to existing water or sewer demand as a result of the elevation of at least 35 and as many as 74 homes in the Village of Sidney.

Public Health and Safety

The overall public health and safety of the Village of Sidney and Sidney Center would be positively impacted by the Proposed Action. The elevation of at least 35 and as many as 74 properties within the Project Area would reduce the risk to life and safety associated with residential flooding. The acquisition and demolition of approximately 60 properties within the Project Area would result in fewer residents in the areas most susceptible to future flood hazards and contribute to natural storm attenuation characteristics.

Climate Change

The Proposed Action would provide for flood damage risk reduction that are relevant to climate change; through the demolition of flood-prone structures, the creation of open space, and restoration of floodplain functions. Likewise, structure elevations will reduce the risk of future damages caused by increasingly severe storm events. Though the Proposed Action would result in a short-term increase in energy use and emissions from construction equipment, the Proposed Action would result in improved long-term climate preparedness and resilience.

Cumulative Impacts

Potential cumulative impacts of the Proposed Action were considered. The Sidney Reconstruction Plan identifies several future projects that the Village would like to undertake to mitigate loss of life and property during future storm events, as well as create a more stable and resilient community. Two of these projects, the Riverlea Housing Project and the Sidney GreenPlain, if developed, would have cumulative impacts with the Proposed Action. Additionally, these potential future projects would be tiered and implemented separately from one another.

The Riverlea Housing project would seek to relocate existing area residents to safer locations within the community. This proposed project contemplates a 165-lot development on a 165 acre parcel that would be annexed to the Village of Sidney. The Riverlea Housing project, which has independent utility from the acquisition/demolition program, would be evaluated under a separate SEQRA review once the project has been more fully formulated.

The Sidney Reconstruction Plan also contemplates the possible future development of a “GreenPlain” which would incorporate some parcels associated with the Proposed Action. The 140-acre Sidney GreenPlain would be designed to provide additional flood storage for both the Susquehanna River and Weir Creek by creating a series of meandering channels that connect to larger vegetated storage areas. With or without the Proposed Action, the GreenPlain could move forward. However, in the absence of the Proposed Action, it would likely involve a smaller area. The cumulative impact of the GreenPlain and the Proposed Action would be the reduction of loss of life and property damage during future storm events, as well as enhanced flood protection. The review of the potential future GreenPlain project would be evaluated under SEQRA at such time that the scope of the project has been more fully formulated. The acquisition/demolition of homes under the Proposed Action has independent utility from the GreenPlain, thus justifying independent SEQRA reviews for these complementary projects.

Additionally, there are potential regional projects currently proposed which would include breaching of dams on tributary waterways and establishment of alternative drinking water sources. Careful study of system-level hydrodynamic effects associated with such a project would be required. Understanding of the cumulative impact of this type of project and the Proposed Action will continue to evolve as further project information becomes available.

Flood Risk

Many of the properties encompassed by the Proposed Action are older, and therefore were not built to current standards and codes. In some areas, flood information was not available, not applicable at the time, or not taken into account when these homes were built. The areas which experienced flood damage from the recent storms are at risk of flooding in future storms. Climate change poses an increasing risk of flooding as sea levels rise and storms become more intense.

Flood risk maps have been and are being revised to account for the projected increasing flooding due to climate change. Building codes have been and are being changed to reflect these changes in flood risk.

The Proposed Action would result in the elevation of at least 35 and as many as 74 homes to an elevation of at least two feet above the BFE and the acquisition and demolition of approximately 60 homes, thereby greatly reducing the risk of flood damage within the Project Area. For acquisition properties, after demolition of the structures, basements, and foundations, any holes from the removed foundation would be filled, topsoil would be placed, and the sites would be re-graded and seeded in a manner consistent with limiting site disturbance. After demolition and site reclamation, Delaware County would transfer ownership of the Village parcels to the Village of Sidney to maintain as open spaces. All open space compatible uses would be in accordance with FEMA requirements under the HMGP requirements. The program would create open space for flood attenuation, which would mitigate the future flood risk for nearby neighborhoods.

The Sidney Reconstruction Plan identifies several village neighborhoods that are at extreme risk of flooding. These include River Street at Division and at Oak Avenue, the Sherman Avenue and Adams Street neighborhood, and the Willow and Liberty Street neighborhood. The majority of the properties within these neighborhoods are included in the Proposed Action.

Construction Impacts

While there is the potential for a cumulative impact from the generation of construction debris from the elevation or demolition of a great number of homes through the Proposed Action, most of the impact would be mitigated. Strict requirements for the disposal of debris are in place to prevent, to the extent possible, any negative impacts to the environment. The handling and disposal of demolition and construction debris, control of storm water runoff, and noise impacts resulting from the Proposed Action in Sidney would be in accordance with all local, state, and federal regulations as part of the acceptance of assistance funding.

Growth Inducement

The Proposed Action involves purchasing approximately 60 storm-damaged residential properties, securing the sites, and demolishing and clearing existing structures. While the Proposed Action would partially displace existing neighborhoods, it is anticipated that these residents would relocate elsewhere in the community, or perhaps the region. Furthermore, the Proposed Action would elevate at least 35 and as many as 74 homes in their original locations, thereby maintaining a large portion of the neighborhood and its residents.

As such, the Proposed Action is not anticipated to substantially alter regional growth patterns, change residential settlement patterns, displace any public or publicly funded community facilities, or significantly affect growth in employment centers. Therefore, the Proposed Action would not be expected to generate significant secondary or induced effects, or induce any significant development activity that would otherwise not occur in the region or study area.

Mitigation Measures

To avoid significant adverse impacts, the following mitigation measures have been included as part of the Proposed Action.

1. Buildings must be elevated in accordance with state/local building code and be in compliance with the flood damage prevention local law; generally, at a minimum, buildings should have their lowest floor elevated above the base flood elevation, as identified under the community's Flood Insurance Rate Maps incorporating best available data with appropriate freeboard.
2. Any proposed construction in the floodplain will need to be coordinated with the local floodplain administrator and must comply with Federal, state, and local floodplain laws and regulations.
3. Excavated soil and waste materials will be managed and disposed of in accordance with applicable federal, state and local regulations.

4. The Proposed Action will comply with the NYSDEC State Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (SPDES) permit for stormwater discharge from construction activity or other applicable SPDES permit, in accordance with NYSECL.
5. The Proposed Action will comply with all applicable state and local noise regulations, including all hours of operation, and the use of muffling equipment where feasible to reduce noise associated with construction and demolition activities.
6. In accordance with the Programmatic Agreement, in the event that unmarked graves, burials, human remains or archaeological deposits are uncovered, the Project Sponsor and its contractors will immediately halt construction activities in the vicinity of the discovery, secure the site and take reasonable measures to avoid or minimize harm to the finds. The Project Sponsor will inform the DHSES, SHPO and FEMA immediately. FEMA would then notify the Delaware Tribe of Indians, the St. Regis Mohawk Tribe, Oneida Indian Nation, and the Stockbridge Munsee Band of Mohicans. The Project Sponsor must secure all archaeological findings and shall restrict access to the area. Work in sensitive areas may not resume until consultations are completed or until an archaeologist who meets the Secretary of the Interior's Professional Qualification Standards determines the extent and historical significance of the discovery. Work may not resume at or around the delineated archaeological deposit until the Project Sponsor is notified by DHSES.
7. The disconnection of any water supply or sanitary sewer connection shall be coordinated with the Delaware County Health Department, the New York State Department of Health, and/or the Village of Sidney.
8. The project area serves as potential summer roosting habitat for the threatened Northern long-eared bat (*Myotis septentrionalis*). The following conditions shall apply:
    a. Avoid cutting or destroying trees within 150 feet of known, occupied maternity roost trees during the pup season (June 1-July 31) for the Northern long-eared bat;
    b. Any bat colonies observed in structures to be demolished shall be reported to FEMA, HUD & USFWS. If bats (of any species) are using a structure (e.g., residences, barns or other outbuildings) as a roost, demolition of the structure will be performed outside of the June 1-July 31 bat pup season, unless there are human health or safety concerns associated with the structure; and
    c. Limit removal of existing vegetation, such as woody shrubs and trees, to conserve habitat for bats, migratory birds and other wildlife.
9. To minimize impact to bird nests, woody vegetation removal shall be scheduled outside of March 15 to July 31, if practicable.
10. Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) standards shall be followed during construction to avoid adverse impacts to worker health and safety.
11. Any woody tree and shrub material to be removed for the Proposed Action is required to be chipped on site to chips of less than one inch in two dimensions or must not be transported whole outside the community.
12. Disturbed construction areas will be restored with native seed and/or plant species to minimize soil erosion and sedimentation, as well as enhance environmental habitat quality of project area. Disturbed soil areas would be planted with native plant material as soon as practicable after exposure to avoid or minimize growth of undesired and potentially invasive plant species that can potentially take hold without competition of native plant materials.

Conclusion

Elevation and acquisition/demolition actions undertaken by the described Proposed Action would result in the elevation or removal of existing residential structures in extreme risk areas, including some that have been identified as "repetitive loss". After considering the alternatives, FEMA and GOSR have determined that there is no practicable alternative other than to proceed with the proposed program. The individual

actions undertaken by the described Proposed Action would result in fewer residents in the areas most susceptible to future flood hazards and contribute to the communities' storm attenuation characteristics. While the Proposed Action is anticipated to result in an adverse effect to historic properties, the benefits of the Proposed Action outweigh the anticipated impacts.

In addition to the factors considered above, the GOSR considered the following guidance from the State Environmental Quality Review Act and its implementing regulations and determined that the Proposed Action would:

(i) Not result in "a substantial adverse change in existing air quality, ground or surface water quality or quantity, traffic or noise levels; a substantial increase in solid waste production; a substantial increase in potential for erosion, flooding, leaching or drainage problems;" (§617.7(c)(1)(i))

(ii) Not result in "the removal or destruction of large quantities of vegetation or fauna; substantial interference with the movement of any resident or migratory fish or wildlife species; impacts on a significant habitat area; substantial adverse impacts on a threatened or endangered species of animal or plant, or the habitat of such a species; or other significant adverse impacts to natural resources;"(§617.7(c)(1)(iii))

(iii) Not result in "the impairment of the environmental characteristics of a Critical Environmental Area as designated pursuant to subdivision 617.14(g) of this Part;" (§617.7(c)(1)(iii))

(iv) Not result in "the creation of a material conflict with a community's current plans or goals as officially approved or adopted;" (§617.7(c)(1)(iv))

(v) Not result in "the impairment of the character or quality of important historical, archaeological, architectural, or aesthetic resources or of existing community or neighborhood character;" (§617.7(c)(1)(v))

(vi) Not result in "a major change in the use of either the quantity or type of energy;" (§617.7(c)(1)(vi))

(vii) Not result in "the creation of a hazard to human health;" (§617.7(c)(1)(vii))

(viii) Not result in "a substantial change in the use, or intensity of use, of land including agricultural, open space or recreational resources, or in its capacity to support existing uses;" (§617.7(c)(1)(viii))

(ix) Not result in "the encouraging or attracting of a large number of people to a place or places for more than a few days, compared to the number of people who would come to such place absent the action;" (§617.7(c)(1)(ix))

(x) Not result in "the creation of a material demand for other actions that would result in one of the above consequences;" (§617.7(c)(1)(x))

(xi) Not result in "changes in two or more elements of the environment, no one of which has a significant impact on the environment, but when considered together result in a substantial adverse impact on the environment; or (§617.7(c)(1)(xi))

Therefore, GOSR, acting as Lead Agency, and having prepared a Full Environmental Assessment Form (EAF), has determined that the proposed action will not have a significant effect on the environment and a Draft Environmental Impact Statement will not need to be prepared.

Thomas J. King
Date: March17 2016
Assistant General Counsel
Deputy Director – Bureau of Environmental Review and Assessment Governor's Office of Storm Recovery
99 Washington Avenue Suite 1224 Albany, New York 12260
Office: (518) 473-0015

Attachments: Environmental Assessment Form (Parts, 1, 2 and 3)
Negative Declaration Distribution List

A copy of this Notice is available at the following web address:
http://www.stormrecovery.ny.gov/environmental-docs

Instructions for Completing Part 1

Part 1 is to be completed by the applicant or project sponsor. Responses become part of the application for approval or funding, are subject to public review, and may be subject to further verification.

Complete Part 1 based on information currently available. If additional research or investigation would be needed to fully respond to any item, please answer as thoroughly as possible based on current information; indicate whether missing information does not exist, or is not reasonably available to the sponsor; and, when possible, generally describe work or studies which would be necessary to update or fully develop that information.

Applicants/sponsors must complete all items in Sections A & B. In Sections C, D & E, most items contain an initial question that must be answered either "Yes" or "No". If the answer to the initial question is "Yes", complete the sub-questions that follow. If the answer to the initial question is "No", proceed to the next question. Section F allows the project sponsor to identify and attach any additional information. Section G requires the name and signature of the project sponsor to verify that the information contained in Part 1is accurate and complete.

A. Project and Sponsor Information.

Name of Action or Project: Hazard Mitigation Grant Program & Community Development Block Grant - Disaster Recovery Global Match Acquisition & Elevation		
Project Location (describe, and attach a general location map): Village of Sidney and Sidney Center, Delaware County (see attached maps)		
Brief Description of Proposed Action (include purpose or need): Homes in the Village of Sidney and Sidney Center sustained significant flood damage as a result of Tropical Storm Lee (declared disaster numbers Federal Emergency Management Agency FEMA 4020-DR-NY and FEMA 4031-DR-NY) and a significant flooding event in 2006 (declared disaster number DR-1650). As demonstrated by past storm events, residential structures need to be removed from or elevated above the floodplain to minimize potential impacts from future storm events. The Proposed Action would elevate in place or acquire and demolish a total of 136 homes in the Village of Sidney and Sidney Center. It is estimated that at least 35 and as many as 74 homes would be elevated to an elevation at least two feet above the Base Flood Elevation and that approximately 62 homes would be acquired and demolished, though these preliminary numbers are subject to change. Participation in the elevation or acquisition and demolition program would be voluntary. Properties acquired and demolished would be converted to open space and turned over to the Village of Sidney and Sidney Center. All open space compatible uses would be in accordance with FEMA requirements under the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) requirements.		
Name of Applicant/Sponsor: Delaware County Board of Supervisors/ New York State Homes and Community Renewal	Telephone: 607-746-2944 E-Mail:	
Address: Delaware County Board of Supervisors, 111 Main Street		
City/PO: Delhi	State: NY	Zip Code: 13753
Project Contact (if not same as sponsor; give name and title/role): Thomas J. King, Esq., Governor's Office of Storm Recovery	Telephone: 646-417-4660 E-Mail: thomas.king@stormrecovery.ny.gov	
Address: 99 Washington Street, Suite 1224		
City/PO: Albany	State: NY	Zip Code: 12260
Property Owner (if not same as sponsor): Multiple property owners to be determined	Telephone: - E-Mail: -	
Address: -		
City/PO: -	State: -	Zip Code: -

B. Government Approvals

B. Government Approvals, Funding, or Sponsorship. ("Funding" includes grants, loans, tax relief, and any other forms of financial assistance.)

Government Entity	If Yes: Identify Agency and Approval(s) Required	Application Date (Actual or projected)
a. City Council, Town Board, or Village Board of Trustees ☐Yes ☑No		
b. City, Town or Village Planning Board or Commission ☐Yes ☑No		
c. City Council, Town or Village Zoning Board of Appeals ☐Yes ☑No		
d. Other local agencies ☑Yes ☐No	Village of Sidney - disconnection of water and sanitary sewer connections, demo permits	
e. County agencies ☑Yes ☐No	Delaware County Board of Supervisors - grant administration through Planning Department	
f. Regional agencies ☐Yes ☑No		
g. State agencies ☑Yes ☐No	NYSDEC SPDES GP for stormwater discharges from construction; NYSDOH - sewer disconnect	
h. Federal agencies ☑Yes ☐No	Federal Emergency Management Agency (program)	

i. Coastal Resources.

i. Is the project site within a Coastal Area, or the waterfront area of a Designated Inland Waterway? ☑Yes ☐No

ii. Is the project site located in a community with an approved Local Waterfront Revitalization Program? ☐Yes ☑No

iii. Is the project site within a Coastal Erosion Hazard Area? ☐Yes ☑No

C. Planning and Zoning

C.1. Planning and zoning actions.

Will administrative or legislative adoption, or amendment of a plan, local law, ordinance, rule or regulation be the only approval(s) which must be granted to enable the proposed action to proceed? ☐Yes ☑No

- **If Yes,** complete sections C, F and G.
- **If No,** proceed to question C.2 and complete all remaining sections and questions in Part 1

C.2. Adopted land use plans.

a. Do any municipally- adopted (city, town, village or county) comprehensive land use plan(s) include the site where the proposed action would be located? ☑Yes ☐No

If Yes, does the comprehensive plan include specific recommendations for the site where the proposed action would be located? ☑Yes ☐No

b. Is the site of the proposed action within any local or regional special planning district (for example: Greenway Brownfield Opportunity Area (BOA); designated State or Federal heritage area; watershed management plan; or other?) ☑Yes ☐No

If Yes, identify the plan(s):

Remediation Sites: 413018

c. Is the proposed action located wholly or partially within an area listed in an adopted municipal open space plan, or an adopted municipal farmland protection plan? ☑Yes ☐No

If Yes, identify the plan(s):

Village of Sidney, New York Long Term Plan for Recovery & Resilience; NYRCR Sidney - NY Rising Community Reconstruction Plan

C.3. Zoning

a. Is the site of the proposed action located in a municipality with an adopted zoning law or ordinance. ☑ Yes ☐ No
If Yes, what is the zoning classification(s) including any applicable overlay district?
Residential District: One & Two Family Residential and Other Uses (R-2); Commercial District: Residential & Commercial Uses (B-1); Commercial District: Residential & Commercial Uses, Street Level Store Fronts Restricted to Commercial Use (B-1).

b. Is the use permitted or allowed by a special or conditional use permit? ☐ Yes ☑ No

c. Is a zoning change requested as part of the proposed action? ☐ Yes ☑ No
If Yes,
i. What is the proposed new zoning for the site? _____

C.4. Existing community services.

a. In what school district is the project site located? Sidney Central School District

b. What police or other public protection forces serve the project site?
Village of Sidney Police, Delaware County Sheriff

c. Which fire protection and emergency medical services serve the project site?
Village of Sidney Fire Department, Sidney Center Fire Department

d. What parks serve the project site?
Keith Clark Park

D. Project Details

D.1. Proposed and Potential Development

a. What is the general nature of the proposed action (e.g., residential, industrial, commercial, recreational; if mixed, include all components)?
Elevation or acquisition and demolition of residential structures.

b. a. Total acreage of the site of the proposed action? 44.5 acres
b. Total acreage to be physically disturbed? approx. 13.4-17.8* acres
c. Total acreage (project site and any contiguous properties) owned or controlled by the applicant or project sponsor? 0 acres

*Estimate based on Village of Sidney Zoning, which permits a maximum lot coverage of 30% or 40% in residential zoning districts.

c. Is the proposed action an expansion of an existing project or use? ☐ Yes ☑ No
i. If Yes, what is the approximate percentage of the proposed expansion and identify the units (e.g., acres, miles, housing units, square feet)? % _____ Units: _____

d. Is the proposed action a subdivision, or does it include a subdivision? ☐ Yes ☑ No
If Yes,
i. Purpose or type of subdivision? (e.g., residential, industrial, commercial; if mixed, specify types)
_____
ii. Is a cluster/conservation layout proposed? ☐ Yes ☐ No
iii. Number of lots proposed? _____
iv. Minimum and maximum proposed lot sizes? Minimum _____ Maximum _____

e. Will proposed action be constructed in multiple phases? ☐ Yes ☑ No
i. If No, anticipated period of construction: TBD** months
**Individual properties are required to be demolished within 90 days of closing.
ii. If Yes:
- Total number of phases anticipated _____
- Anticipated commencement date of phase 1 (including demolition) _____ month _____ year
- Anticipated completion date of final phase _____ month _____year
- Generally describe connections or relationships among phases, including any contingencies where progress of one phase may determine timing or duration of future phases: _____

f. Does the project include new residential uses? ☐Yes ☑No
If Yes, show numbers of units proposed.

	One Family	Two Family	Three Family	Multiple Family (four or more)
Initial Phase	_____	_____	_____	_____
At completion of all phases	_____	_____	_____	_____

g. Does the proposed action include new non-residential construction (including expansions)? ☐Yes ☑No
If Yes,
i. Total number of structures _____
ii. Dimensions (in feet) of largest proposed structure: _____height; _____width; and _____ length
iii. Approximate extent of building space to be heated or cooled: _____ square feet

h. Does the proposed action include construction or other activities that will result in the impoundment of any liquids, such as creation of a water supply, reservoir, pond, lake, waste lagoon or other storage? ☐Yes ☑No
If Yes,
i. Purpose of the impoundment: _____
ii. If a water impoundment, the principal source of the water: ☐ Ground water ☐ Surface water streams ☐Other specify:
_____
iii. If other than water, identify the type of impounded/contained liquids and their source.
_____
iv. Approximate size of the proposed impoundment. Volume: _____ million gallons; surface area: _____ acres
v. Dimensions of the proposed dam or impounding structure: _____ height; _____ length
vi. Construction method/materials for the proposed dam or impounding structure (e.g., earth fill, rock, wood, concrete):
_____

D.2. Project Operations

a. Does the proposed action include any excavation, mining, or dredging, during construction, operations, or both? ☐Yes ☑No
(Not including general site preparation, grading or installation of utilities or foundations where all excavated materials will remain onsite)
If Yes:
i .What is the purpose of the excavation or dredging? _____
ii. How much material (including rock, earth, sediments, etc.) is proposed to be removed from the site?
- Volume (specify tons or cubic yards): _____
- Over what duration of time? _____

iii. Describe nature and characteristics of materials to be excavated or dredged, and plans to use, manage or dispose of them.
_____
_____
iv. Will there be onsite dewatering or processing of excavated materials? ☐Yes ☐No
If yes, describe. _____
_____
v. What is the total area to be dredged or excavated? _____acres
vi. What is the maximum area to be worked at any one time? _____ acres
vii. What would be the maximum depth of excavation or dredging? _____ feet
viii. Will the excavation require blasting? ☐Yes ☐No
ix. Summarize site reclamation goals and plan: _____
_____
_____

b. Would the proposed action cause or result in alteration of, increase or decrease in size of, or encroachment into any existing wetland, waterbody, shoreline, beach or adjacent area? ☐Yes ☑No
If Yes:
i. Identify the wetland or waterbody which would be affected (by name, water index number, wetland map number or geographic description): _____
_____

ii. Describe how the proposed action would affect that waterbody or wetland, e.g. excavation, fill, placement of structures, or alteration of channels, banks and shorelines. Indicate extent of activities, alterations and additions in square feet or acres:

_____

_____

_____

_____

iii. Will proposed action cause or result in disturbance to bottom sediments? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If Yes, describe: _____

iv. Will proposed action cause or result in the destruction or removal of aquatic vegetation? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If Yes:

- acres of aquatic vegetation proposed to be removed: _____
- expected acreage of aquatic vegetation remaining after project completion: _____
- purpose of proposed removal (e.g. beach clearing, invasive species control, boat access): _____

  _____
- proposed method of plant removal: _____
- if chemical/herbicide treatment will be used, specify product(s): _____

v. Describe any proposed reclamation/mitigation following disturbance: _____

_____

c. Will the proposed action use, or create a new demand for water? ☐ Yes ☑ No

If Yes:

i. Total anticipated water usage/demand per day: _____ gallons/day

ii. Will the proposed action obtain water from an existing public water supply? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If Yes:

- Name of district or service area: _____
- Does the existing public water supply have capacity to serve the proposal? ☐ Yes ☐ No
- Is the project site in the existing district? ☐ Yes ☐ No
- Is expansion of the district needed? ☐ Yes ☐ No
- Do existing lines serve the project site? ☐ Yes ☐ No

iii. Will line extension within an existing district be necessary to supply the project? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If Yes:

- Describe extensions or capacity expansions proposed to serve this project: _____

  _____
- Source(s) of supply for the district: _____

iv. Is a new water supply district or service area proposed to be formed to serve the project site? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If, Yes:

- Applicant/sponsor for new district: _____
- Date application submitted or anticipated: _____
- Proposed source(s) of supply for new district: _____

v. If a public water supply will not be used, describe plans to provide water supply for the project: _____

_____

vi. If water supply will be from wells (public or private), maximum pumping capacity: _____ gallons/minute.

d. Will the proposed action generate liquid wastes? ☐ Yes ☑ No

If Yes:

i. Total anticipated liquid waste generation per day: _____ gallons/day

ii. Nature of liquid wastes to be generated (e.g., sanitary wastewater, industrial; if combination, describe all components and approximate volumes or proportions of each): _____

_____

_____

iii. Will the proposed action use any existing public wastewater treatment facilities? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If Yes:

- Name of wastewater treatment plant to be used: _____
- Name of district: _____
- Does the existing wastewater treatment plant have capacity to serve the project? ☐ Yes ☐ No
- Is the project site in the existing district? ☐ Yes ☐ No
- Is expansion of the district needed? ☐ Yes ☐ No

- Do existing sewer lines serve the project site? ☐Yes ☐No
- Will line extension within an existing district be necessary to serve the project? ☐Yes ☐No

  If Yes:
  - Describe extensions or capacity expansions proposed to serve this project: _____

iv. Will a new wastewater (sewage) treatment district be formed to serve the project site? ☐Yes ☐No

If Yes:
- Applicant/sponsor for new district: _____
- Date application submitted or anticipated: _____
- What is the receiving water for the wastewater discharge? _____

v. If public facilities will not be used, describe plans to provide wastewater treatment for the project, including specifying proposed receiving water (name and classification if surface discharge, or describe subsurface disposal plans):

_____

vi. Describe any plans or designs to capture, recycle or reuse liquid waste: _____

_____

e. Will the proposed action disturb more than one acre and create stormwater runoff, either from new point sources (i.e. ditches, pipes, swales, curbs, gutters or other concentrated flows of stormwater) or non-point source (i.e. sheet flow) during construction or post construction? ☑Yes ☐No

If Yes:

i. How much impervious surface will the project create in relation to total size of project parcel?

0 Square feet or 0 acres (impervious surface)

0 Square feet or 0 acres (parcel size)

ii. Describe types of new point sources. No new point sources will be created. Impervious surface area will be reduced by demolition of existing residential structures and appurtenances and conversion to open space.

iii. Where will the stormwater runoff be directed (i.e. on-site stormwater management facility/structures, adjacent properties, groundwater, on-site surface water or off-site surface waters)?

Stormwater generated during construction will be managed through BMPs pursuant to a NYSDEC SPDES General Permit for Stormwater Discharges from Construction Activity (Permit No. GP-0-15-002). Sites will be graded to direct stormwater runoff towards open space areas for infiltration.

- If to surface waters, identify receiving water bodies or wetlands: _____

  n/a

- Will stormwater runoff flow to adjacent properties? ☐Yes ☑No

iv. Does proposed plan minimize impervious surfaces, use pervious materials or collect and re-use stormwater? ☑Yes ☐No

f. Does the proposed action include, or will it use on-site, one or more sources of air emissions, including fuel combustion, waste incineration, or other processes or operations? ☐Yes ☑No

If Yes, identify:

i. Mobile sources during project operations (e.g., heavy equipment, fleet or delivery vehicles)

_____

ii. Stationary sources during construction (e.g., power generation, structural heating, batch plant, crushers)

_____

iii. Stationary sources during operations (e.g., process emissions, large boilers, electric generation)

_____

g. Will any air emission sources named in D.2.f (above), require a NY State Air Registration, Air Facility Permit, or Federal Clean Air Act Title IV or Title V Permit? ☐Yes ☑No

If Yes:

i. Is the project site located in an Air quality non-attainment area? (Area routinely or periodically fails to meet ambient air quality standards for all or some parts of the year) ☐Yes ☐No

ii. In addition to emissions as calculated in the application, the project will generate:
- _____Tons/year (short tons) of Carbon Dioxide (CO_2)
- _____Tons/year (short tons) of Nitrous Oxide (N_2O)
- _____Tons/year (short tons) of Perfluorocarbons (PFCs)
- _____Tons/year (short tons) of Sulfur Hexafluoride (SF_6)
- _____Tons/year (short tons) of Carbon Dioxide equivalent of Hydroflourocarbons (HFCs)
- _____Tons/year (short tons) of Hazardous Air Pollutants (HAPs)

h. Will the proposed action generate or emit methane (including, but not limited to, sewage treatment plants, landfills, composting facilities)? ☐Yes ☑No

If Yes:

i. Estimate methane generation in tons/year (metric): _____

ii. Describe any methane capture, control or elimination measures included in project design (e.g., combustion to generate heat or electricity, flaring): _____

i. Will the proposed action result in the release of air pollutants from open-air operations or processes, such as quarry or landfill operations? ☑Yes ☐No

If Yes: Describe operations and nature of emissions (e.g., diesel exhaust, rock particulates/dust):

Temporary release during construction activities at each site - diesel exhaust from construction vehicles and fugitive dust during ground breaking and excavation activities.

j. Will the proposed action result in a substantial increase in traffic above present levels or generate substantial new demand for transportation facilities or services? ☐Yes ☑No

If Yes:

i. When is the peak traffic expected (Check all that apply): ☐ Morning ☐ Evening ☐Weekend ☐ Randomly between hours of _____ to _____.

ii. For commercial activities only, projected number of semi-trailer truck trips/day: _____

iii. Parking spaces: Existing _____ Proposed _____ Net increase/decrease _____

iv. Does the proposed action include any shared use parking? ☐Yes ☐No

v. If the proposed action includes any modification of existing roads, creation of new roads or change in existing access, describe:

vi. Are public/private transportation service(s) or facilities available within ½ mile of the proposed site? ☐Yes ☐No

vii Will the proposed action include access to public transportation or accommodations for use of hybrid, electric or other alternative fueled vehicles? ☐Yes ☐No

viii. Will the proposed action include plans for pedestrian or bicycle accommodations for connections to existing pedestrian or bicycle routes? ☐Yes ☐No

k. Will the proposed action (for commercial or industrial projects only) generate new or additional demand for energy? ☐Yes ☑No

If Yes:

i. Estimate annual electricity demand during operation of the proposed action: _____

ii. Anticipated sources/suppliers of electricity for the project (e.g., on-site combustion, on-site renewable, via grid/local utility, or other):

iii. Will the proposed action require a new, or an upgrade to, an existing substation? ☐Yes ☐No

l. Hours of operation. Answer all items which apply.

i. During Construction:

- Monday - Friday: Work hours per local regulations
- Saturday: Work hours per local regulations
- Sunday: Work hours per local regulations
- Holidays: Work hours per local regulations

ii. During Operations:

- Monday - Friday: N/A (residential)
- Saturday: N/A (residential)
- Sunday: N/A (residential)
- Holidays: N/A (residential)

m. Will the proposed action produce noise that will exceed existing ambient noise levels during construction, operation, or both? ☑ Yes ☐ No

If yes:

i. Provide details including sources, time of day and duration:

Construction activities associated with elevation, reconstruction, demolition and re-grading at selected properties could cause temporary increases in noise levels. Temporary increases in noise levels would be mitigated with implementation of noise conditions in accordance with local regulations.

ii. Will proposed action remove existing natural barriers that could act as a noise barrier or screen? ☐ Yes ☑ No

Describe: _____

n.. Will the proposed action have outdoor lighting? ☐ Yes ☑ No

If yes:

i. Describe source(s), location(s), height of fixture(s), direction/aim, and proximity to nearest occupied structures:

_____

ii. Will proposed action remove existing natural barriers that could act as a light barrier or screen? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Describe: _____

o. Does the proposed action have the potential to produce odors for more than one hour per day? ☐ Yes ☑ No

If Yes, describe possible sources, potential frequency and duration of odor emissions, and proximity to nearest occupied structures: _____

p. Will the proposed action include any bulk storage of petroleum (combined capacity of over 1,100 gallons) or chemical products 185 gallons in above ground storage or any amount in underground storage? ☐ Yes ☑ No

If Yes:

i. Product(s) to be stored _____

ii. Volume(s) _____ per unit time _____ (e.g., month, year)

iii. Generally describe proposed storage facilities: _____

q. Will the proposed action (commercial, industrial and recreational projects only) use pesticides (i.e., herbicides, insecticides) during construction or operation? ☐ Yes ☑ No

If Yes:

i. Describe proposed treatment(s):

_____

ii. Will the proposed action use Integrated Pest Management Practices? ☐ Yes ☐ No

r. Will the proposed action (commercial or industrial projects only) involve or require the management or disposal of solid waste (excluding hazardous materials)? ☐ Yes ☑ No

If Yes:

i. Describe any solid waste(s) to be generated during construction or operation of the facility:

- Construction: _____ tons per _____ (unit of time)
- Operation : _____ tons per _____ (unit of time)

ii. Describe any proposals for on-site minimization, recycling or reuse of materials to avoid disposal as solid waste:

- Construction: _____
- Operation: _____

iii. Proposed disposal methods/facilities for solid waste generated on-site:

- Construction: _____
- Operation: _____

s. Does the proposed action include construction or modification of a solid waste management facility? ☐ Yes ☑ No

If Yes:

i. Type of management or handling of waste proposed for the site (e.g., recycling or transfer station, composting, landfill, or other disposal activities): _____

ii. Anticipated rate of disposal/processing:

- _____ Tons/month, if transfer or other non-combustion/thermal treatment, or
- _____ Tons/hour, if combustion or thermal treatment

iii. If landfill, anticipated site life: _____ years

t. Will proposed action at the site involve the commercial generation, treatment, storage, or disposal of hazardous waste? ☐ Yes ☑ No

If Yes:

i. Name(s) of all hazardous wastes or constituents to be generated, handled or managed at facility: _____

ii. Generally describe processes or activities involving hazardous wastes or constituents: _____

iii. Specify amount to be handled or generated _____ tons/month

iv. Describe any proposals for on-site minimization, recycling or reuse of hazardous constituents: _____

v. Will any hazardous wastes be disposed at an existing offsite hazardous waste facility? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If Yes: provide name and location of facility: _____

If No: describe proposed management of any hazardous wastes which will not be sent to a hazardous waste facility:

_____

E. Site and Setting of Proposed Action

E.1. Land uses on and surrounding the project site

a. Existing land uses.

i. Check all uses that occur on, adjoining and near the project site.

☐ Urban ☑ Industrial ☑ Commercial ☑ Residential (suburban) ☑ Rural (non-farm)
☑ Forest ☐ Agriculture ☐ Aquatic ☐ Other (specify): _____

ii. If mix of uses, generally describe:

_____

b. Land uses and covertypes on the project site.

Land use or Covertype	Current Acreage	Acreage After Project Completion	Change (Acres +/-)
• Roads, buildings, and other paved or impervious surfaces	13.4 to 17.8 acres*	7.3 to 9.7 acres*	-6.1 to -8.1 acres*
• Forested	0	0	0
• Meadows, grasslands or brushlands (non-agricultural, including abandoned agricultural)	0	0	0
• Agricultural (includes active orchards, field, greenhouse etc.)	0	0	0
• Surface water features (lakes, ponds, streams, rivers, etc.)	0	0	0
• Wetlands (freshwater or tidal)	0	0	0
• Non-vegetated (bare rock, earth or fill)	0	0	0
• Other Describe: Lawns and landscaped open space in suburban residential areas	26.7 to 31.1 acres*	34.8 to 37.2 acres*	+6.1 to +8.1 acres*

*Estimate based on Village of Sidney Zoning, which permits a maximum lot coverage of 30% or 40% in residential zoning districts, and an estimated 74 of 136 properties to be elevated and 62 of 136 properties to be acquired and demolished. All numbers are approximations and subject to change.

c. Is the project site presently used by members of the community for public recreation? ☐ Yes ☑ No

i. If Yes: explain: _____

d. Are there any facilities serving children, the elderly, people with disabilities (e.g., schools, hospitals, licensed day care centers, or group homes) within 1500 feet of the project site? ☑ Yes ☐ No

If Yes,

i. Identify Facilities:

Little Feet Daycare, 89 River St, Sidney, NY; All Stars Childcare, Secor St, Sidney, NY; Penny Springstead (daycare), 12 Glen Ave, Sidney, NY; Kidzone daycare, 393 State Highway 7, Sidney, NY

e. Does the project site contain an existing dam? ☐ Yes ☑ No

If Yes:

i. Dimensions of the dam and impoundment:

- Dam height: _____ feet
- Dam length: _____ feet
- Surface area: _____ acres
- Volume impounded: _____ gallons OR acre-feet

ii. Dam's existing hazard classification: _____

iii. Provide date and summarize results of last inspection:

_____

f. Has the project site ever been used as a municipal, commercial or industrial solid waste management facility, or does the project site adjoin property which is now, or was at one time, used as a solid waste management facility? ☐ Yes ☑ No

If Yes:

i. Has the facility been formally closed? ☐ Yes ☐ No

- If yes, cite sources/documentation: _____

ii. Describe the location of the project site relative to the boundaries of the solid waste management facility:

_____

iii. Describe any development constraints due to the prior solid waste activities: _____

g. Have hazardous wastes been generated, treated and/or disposed of at the site, or does the project site adjoin property which is now or was at one time used to commercially treat, store and/or dispose of hazardous waste? ☐ Yes ☑ No

If Yes:

i. Describe waste(s) handled and waste management activities, including approximate time when activities occurred:

_____

h. Potential contamination history. Has there been a reported spill at the proposed project site, or have any remedial actions been conducted at or adjacent to the proposed site? ☑ Yes ☐ No

If Yes:

i. Is any portion of the site listed on the NYSDEC Spills Incidents database or Environmental Site Remediation database? Check all that apply: ☑ Yes ☐ No

☐ Yes – Spills Incidents database Provide DEC ID number(s): _____

☑ Yes – Environmental Site Remediation database Provide DEC ID number(s): 413018

☐ Neither database

ii. If site has been subject of RCRA corrective activities, describe control measures: _____

iii. Is the project within 2000 feet of any site in the NYSDEC Environmental Site Remediation database? ☑ Yes ☐ No

If yes, provide DEC ID number(s): 413018, 413013, 413010, 413009

iv. If yes to (i), (ii) or (iii) above, describe current status of site(s):

413013: remedial action completed in 1998; 413009: remedial action completed in 1993; 413018: migration of contaminated groundwater and exposure to human health both under control; 413010: remediation completed in 2010

v. Is the project site subject to an institutional control limiting property uses? ☐ Yes ☑ No

- If yes, DEC site ID number: _____
- Describe the type of institutional control (e.g., deed restriction or easement): _____
- Describe any use limitations: _____
- Describe any engineering controls: _____
- Will the project affect the institutional or engineering controls in place? ☐ Yes ☐ No
- Explain: _____

E.2. Natural Resources On or Near Project Site

a. What is the average depth to bedrock on the project site? > 6.5 feet

b. Are there bedrock outcroppings on the project site? ☐ Yes ☑ No
If Yes, what proportion of the site is comprised of bedrock outcroppings? _____%

c. Predominant soil type(s) present on project site:

Silt Loam (Un)	approx. 54 %
Urban Land (Ur)	approx. 31 %
Chenango gravel silt loam	approx. 8 %

d. What is the average depth to the water table on the project site? Average: > 6.5 feet

e. Drainage status of project site soils:
☑ Well Drained: approx. 50 % of site
☑ Moderately Well Drained: approx. 50 % of site
☐ Poorly Drained _____% of site

f. Approximate proportion of proposed action site with slopes:
☑ 0-10%: 100 % of site
☐ 10-15%: _____% of site
☐ 15% or greater: _____% of site

g. Are there any unique geologic features on the project site? ☐ Yes ☑ No
If Yes, describe: _____

h. Surface water features.

i. Does any portion of the project site contain wetlands or other waterbodies (including streams, rivers, ponds or lakes)? ☐ Yes ☑ No

ii. Do any wetlands or other waterbodies adjoin the project site? ☑ Yes ☐ No

If Yes to either *i* or *ii*, continue. If No, skip to E.2.i.

iii. Are any of the wetlands or waterbodies within or adjoining the project site regulated by any federal, state or local agency? ☑ Yes ☐ No

iv. For each identified regulated wetland and waterbody on the project site, provide the following information:

- Streams: Name Susquehanna River; Weir Creek; unnamed Class C stream Classification B; C; C
- Lakes or Ponds: Name _____ Classification _____
- Wetlands: Name _____ Approximate Size _____
- Wetland No. (if regulated by DEC) _____

v. Are any of the above water bodies listed in the most recent compilation of NYS water quality-impaired waterbodies? ☐ Yes ☑ No

If yes, name of impaired water body/bodies and basis for listing as impaired: _____

i. Is the project site in a designated Floodway? ☐ Yes ☑ No

j. Is the project site in the 100 year Floodplain? ☑ Yes ☐ No

k. Is the project site in the 500 year Floodplain? ☑ Yes ☐ No

l. Is the project site located over, or immediately adjoining, a primary, principal or sole source aquifer? ☑ Yes ☐ No
If Yes:
i. Name of aquifer: Principal Aquifer

m. Identify the predominant wildlife species that occupy or use the project site:

Racoons	Skunks	Whitetail deer
Squirrels and chipmunks	Sparrows	Wild turkey

n. Does the project site contain a designated significant natural community? ☐ Yes ☑ No

If Yes:

i. Describe the habitat/community (composition, function, and basis for designation): _____

ii. Source(s) of description or evaluation: _____

iii. Extent of community/habitat:

- Currently: _____ acres
- Following completion of project as proposed: _____ acres
- Gain or loss (indicate + or -): _____ acres

o. Does project site contain any species of plant or animal that is listed by the federal government or NYS as endangered or threatened, or does it contain any areas identified as habitat for an endangered or threatened species? ☑ Yes ☐ No

Endangered species identified as being in the project area include the clam species dwarf wedgemussel (Alasmidonta heterodon) and the threatened mammal species, the northern long-eared Bat (Myotis septentrionalis).

p. Does the project site contain any species of plant or animal that is listed by NYS as rare, or as a species of special concern? ☐ Yes ☑ No

According to NY Natural Heritage Program (NYNHP) consultation dated September 4, 2014, the NYNHP database has no records of state or federal endangered, threatened, or rare species being found in residential buildings in New York State. Furthermore, the acquisition and demolition of a property in itself would not impact endangered, threatened, and/or rare species or their habitats. The NYNHP Nature Explorer identifies bald eagles (Haliaeetus leucocephalus)as being present in Delaware County.

q. Is the project site or adjoining area currently used for hunting, trapping, fishing or shell fishing? ☐ Yes ☑ No

If yes, give a brief description of how the proposed action may affect that use: _____

E.3. Designated Public Resources On or Near Project Site

a. Is the project site, or any portion of it, located in a designated agricultural district certified pursuant to Agriculture and Markets Law, Article 25-AA, Section 303 and 304? ☐ Yes ☑ No

If Yes, provide county plus district name/number: _____

b. Are agricultural lands consisting of highly productive soils present? ☐ Yes ☑ No

i. If Yes: acreage(s) on project site? _____

ii. Source(s) of soil rating(s): _____

c. Does the project site contain all or part of, or is it substantially contiguous to, a registered National Natural Landmark? ☐ Yes ☑ No

If Yes:

i. Nature of the natural landmark: ☐ Biological Community ☐ Geological Feature

ii. Provide brief description of landmark, including values behind designation and approximate size/extent: _____

d. Is the project site located in or does it adjoin a state listed Critical Environmental Area? ☐ Yes ☑ No

If Yes:

i. CEA name: _____

ii. Basis for designation: _____

iii. Designating agency and date: _____

e. Does the project site contain, or is it substantially contiguous to, a building, archaeological site, or district which is listed on, or has been nominated by the NYS Board of Historic Preservation for inclusion on, the State or National Register of Historic Places? ☑ Yes ☐ No

If Yes:

i. Nature of historic/archaeological resource: ☐ Archaeological Site ☑ Historic Building or District

ii. Name: Sidney Historic District

iii. Brief description of attributes on which listing is based:

134 properties are within the Sidney Historic District (117 are contributing, 5 are non-contributing, 12 are vacant lots that are non-contributing)

f. Is the project site, or any portion of it, located in or adjacent to an area designated as sensitive for archaeological sites on the NY State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) archaeological site inventory? ☑ Yes ☐ No

g. Have additional archaeological or historic site(s) or resources been identified on the project site? ☐ Yes ☑ No

If Yes:

i. Describe possible resource(s): _____

ii. Basis for identification: _____

h. Is the project site within fives miles of any officially designated and publicly accessible federal, state, or local scenic or aesthetic resource? ☐ Yes ☑ No

If Yes:

i. Identify resource: _____

ii. Nature of, or basis for, designation (e.g., established highway overlook, state or local park, state historic trail or scenic byway, etc.): _____

iii. Distance between project and resource: _____ miles.

i. Is the project site located within a designated river corridor under the Wild, Scenic and Recreational Rivers Program 6 NYCRR 666? ☐ Yes ☑ No

If Yes:

i. Identify the name of the river and its designation: _____

ii. Is the activity consistent with development restrictions contained in 6NYCRR Part 666? ☐ Yes ☐ No

F. Additional Information

Attach any additional information which may be needed to clarify your project.

If you have identified any adverse impacts which could be associated with your proposal, please describe those impacts plus any measures which you propose to avoid or minimize them.

G. Verification

I certify that the information provided is true to the best of my knowledge.

Applicant/Sponsor Name _____ Date _____

Signature James Eisel Title Chairman

PRINT FORM

Section F. Additional Information

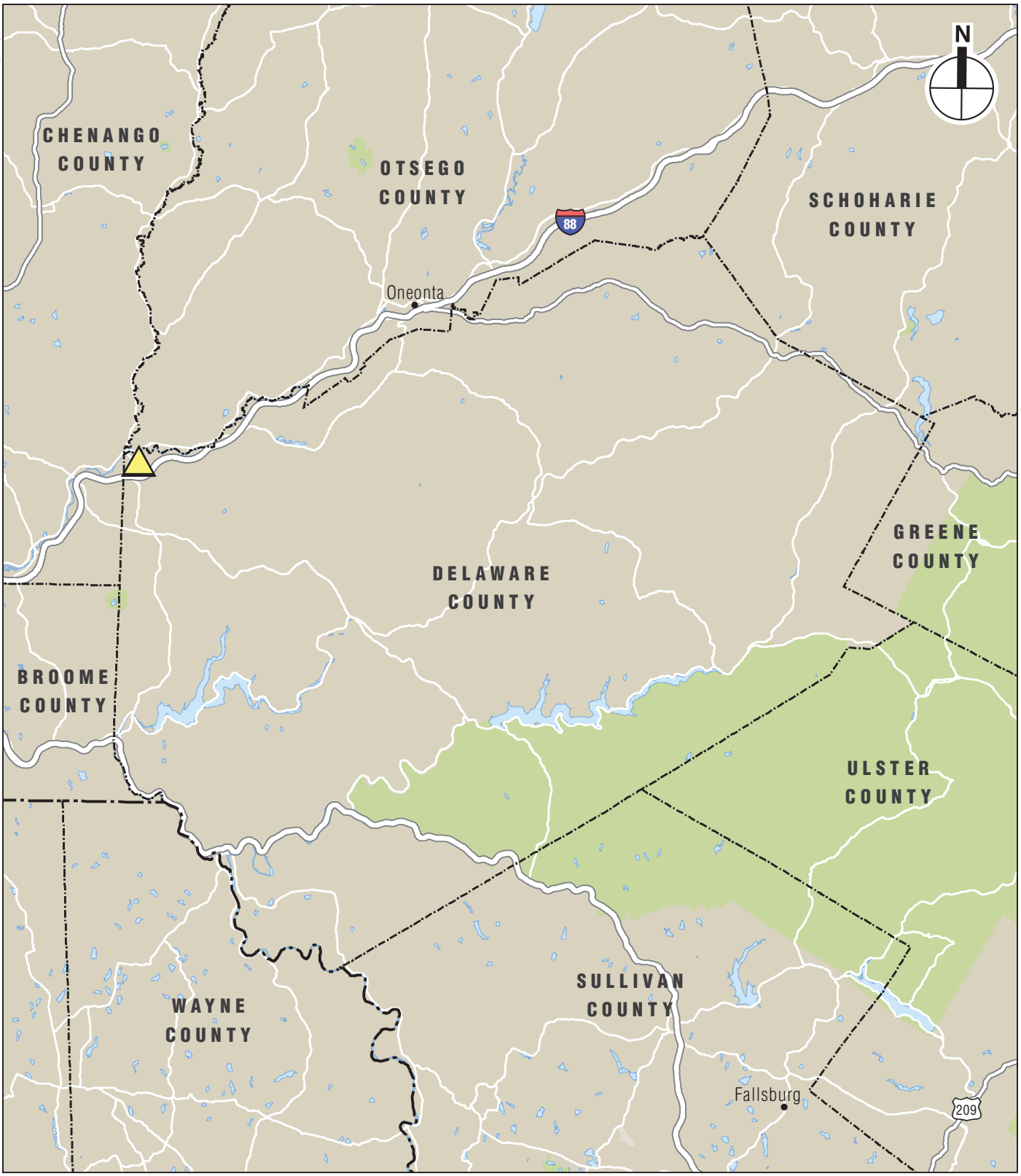
Figures

Figure 1 – Project Location
Figure 2 – Project Site
Figure 3 – FEMA Effective FIRM

Adverse Impacts Identified and Potential Mitigation Measures

Cultural Resources

1/29/2015



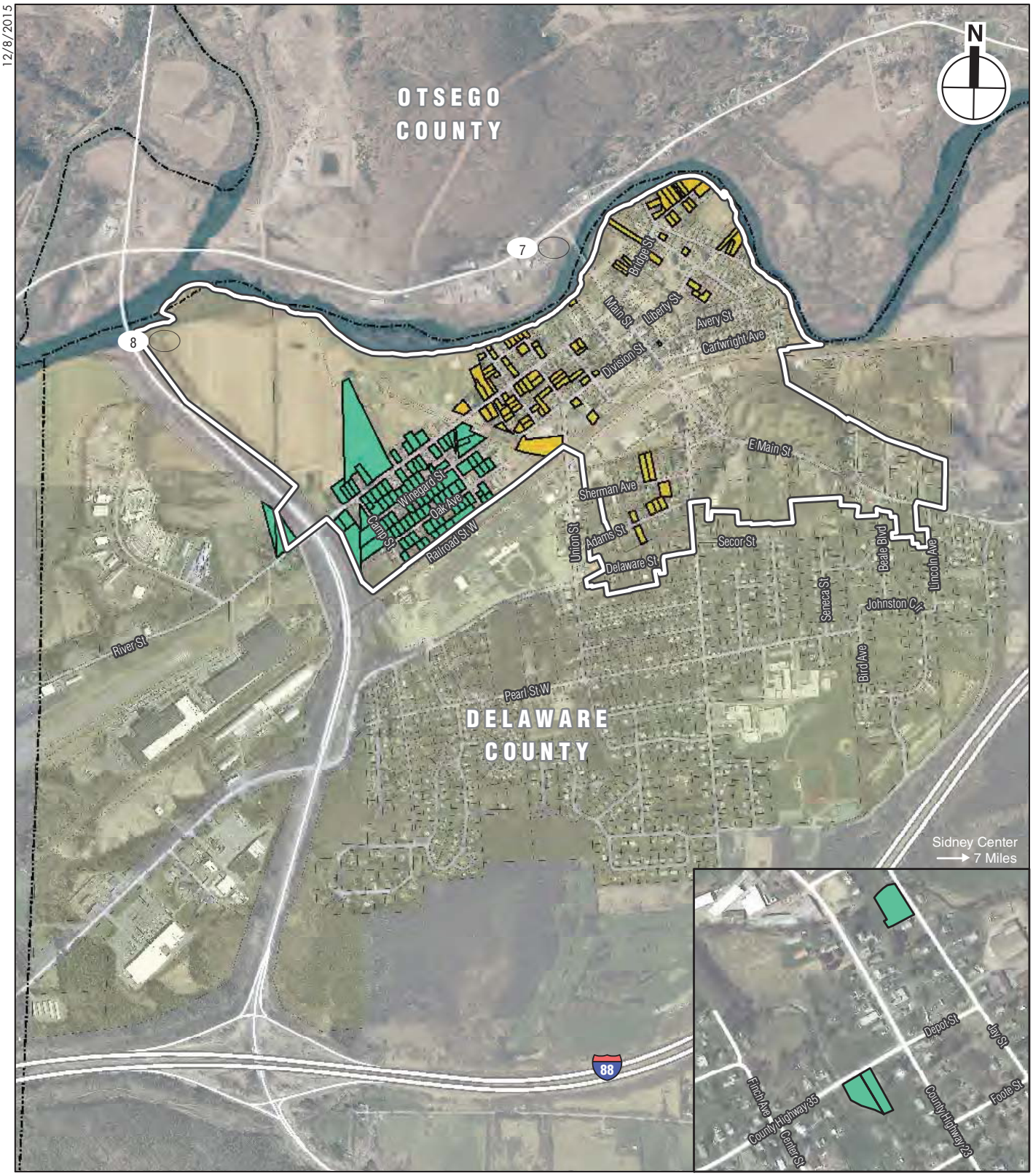
Project Location

0 10 MILES

HMGP Global Match - Sidney, NY

Project Location
Figure 1

12/8/2015



Potential Acquisition and Demolition Properties

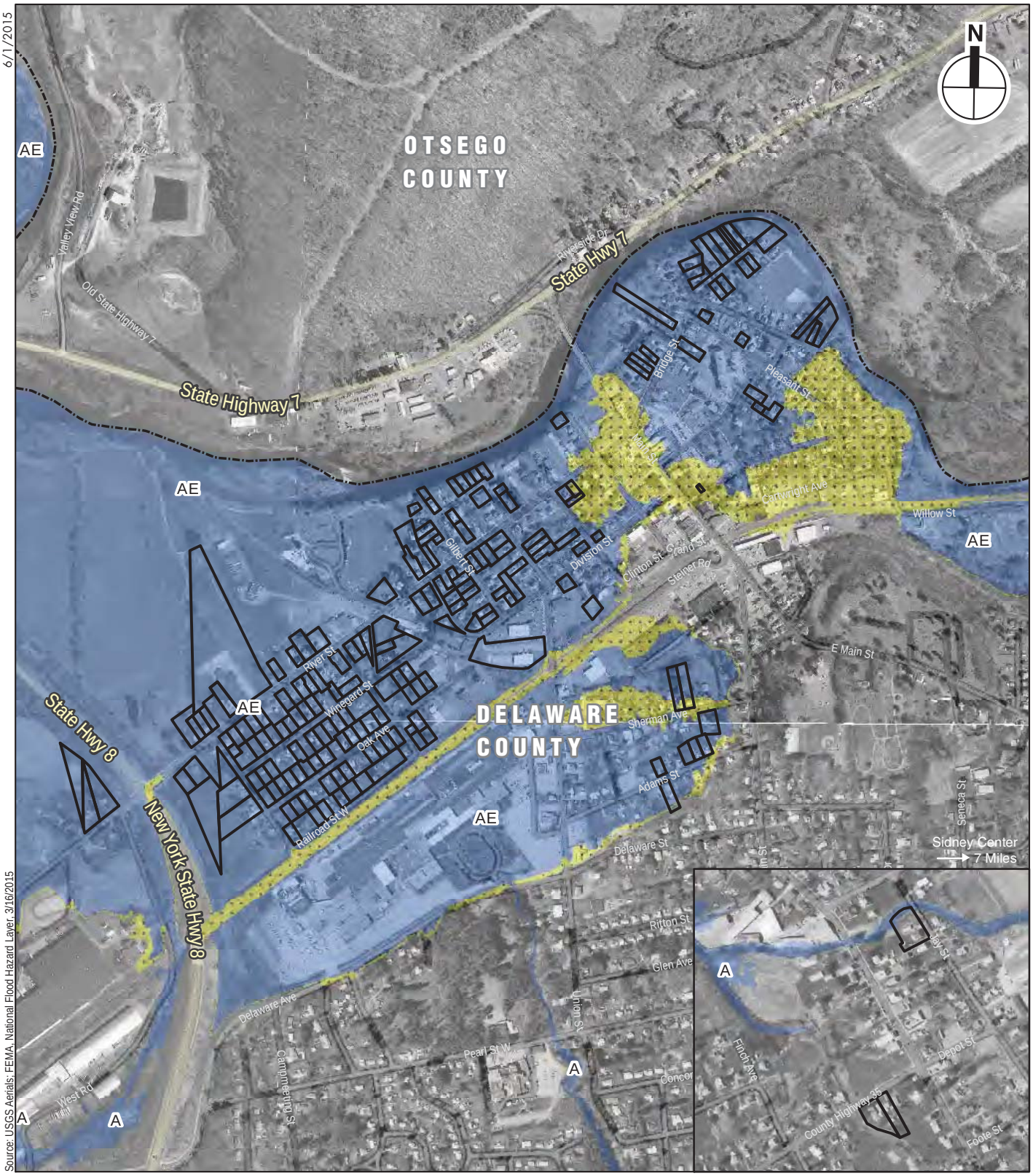
Potential Elevation or Acquisition and Demolition Properties

Sidney Historic District Boundary

0 1,000 Feet

HMGP Global Match - Sidney, NY

Project Site
Figure 2



HMGP Global Match - Sidney, NY

FEMA Effective FIRM
Figure 3

Adverse Impacts Identified and Potential Mitigation Measures

Cultural Resources

Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA), as amended, and implemented by 36 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 800 requires federal agencies to consider the effects of their actions on historic properties and provide the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP) an opportunity to comment on federal projects that would have an effect on historic properties. These actions must take place prior to the expenditure of federal funds. Historic properties include districts, buildings, structures, objects, landscapes, archaeological sites and traditional cultural properties that are listed in or eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP).

Existing Conditions

The Village of Sidney portion of the Proposed Action is entirely within the Sidney Historic District, which is listed on the State and National Register of Historic Places. 134 of the 136 properties are located within the boundaries of the Sidney Historic District. Of the 134 properties within the Sidney Historic District, 117 are contributing, 5 are non-contributing, and 12 are vacant lots that are also non-contributing to that district. The Area of Potential Effect (APE) is identified as the Sidney Historic District.

Potential Impacts and Proposed Mitigation

Per the Criteria of Adverse Effect (36 CFR 800.5(a)(1)), an adverse effect is found when an undertaking may alter, directly or indirectly, any of the characteristics of a historic property that qualify the property for inclusion in the National Register in a manner that would diminish the integrity of the property's location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, or association. Since the Proposed Action Alternative includes, partially, the acquisition and demolition of historic structures, it would meet the Criteria of Adverse Effect. The extent of adverse effect would be mitigated partially in the Proposed Action Alternative through elevation of approximately 74 homes rather than acquisition and demolition of all homes within the Project Area.

GOSR and FEMA have consulted with the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) and appropriate Consulting Parties (Oneida Indian Nation and Sidney Historical Association) to determine whether they concur with the determination of adverse effect. Once concurrence was established, the SHPO and other Consulting Parties were consulted to seek agreement on ways to avoid or reduce the adverse effect.

Agreement upon the selected mitigation measures to be implemented was effectuated through a Programmatic Agreement between the New York State Housing Trust Fund, the SHPO, Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), New York Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Services (DHSES), and Delaware County. The

Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP) was invited to participate in consultation on the Programmatic Agreement but chose not to participate in the consultation pursuant to 36 C.F.R. § 800.6(a)(1)(iii). Programmatic Agreements are used when effects on historic properties are similar and repetitive, such as those proposed under the Proposed Action Alternative; or when effects on historic properties cannot be fully determined before approval of an undertaking, among other reasons.

Initially, the Programmatic Agreement was drafted to evaluate the alternative in which all participating properties were acquired and demolished. Based on comments received during the Section 106 consultation process indicating opposition to the demolition of certain historic structures, the concurring parties of the Programmatic Agreement held a meeting with residents at the Sidney Central School on September 24, 2015 and the Proposed Action was identified as a preferable alternative. Many residents preferred the opportunity to elevate their homes, particularly those properties east of approximately 70 River Street, while the other identified properties would still receive acquisition and demolition assistance. Such homeowner preferences were confirmed through meetings with individual homeowners, which are ongoing.

In order to mitigate the adverse effect associated with acquisition and demolition or elevation of greater than four (4) feet of some properties, the Programmatic Agreement stipulates architectural salvage and recordation treatment measures to be implemented prior to any demolition activities. Treatment measures are to include documentation, recordation, design review, and salvage of architectural features. A complete listing of the required treatment measures is included in Appendix 4 of the Programmatic Agreement.

The Programmatic Agreement has been signed and executed by the concurring parties. The final Programmatic Agreement was filed with ACHP on December 24, 2015.

William J. Clarke, Regional Permit Administrator
New York State Department of Environmental Conservation Region 4 Office
1130 North Westcott Rd
Schenectady, NY 12306-2014

Mr. Larry Moss
Technical Assistance & Compliance Unit
New York State Division for Historic Preservation
Peebles Island State Park
P.O. Box 189
Waterford, NY 12188-0189

Mr. Richard Lord
Chief of Mitigation Programs
Agency Preservation Officer
New York State Division of Homeland Security & Emergency Services
1220 Washington Avenue, Bldg 7A – Floor 4,
Albany, New York 12242

New York State Department of Environmental Conservation
William Nechamen
Floodplain Management
Division of Water
625 Broadway
Albany, NY 12233-0001

SEQR Unit
New York State Department of Transportation
Traffic Engineering & Safety Division
44 Hawley Street
Binghamton, NY 13901

Jon Wimbush
New York Department of State
Office of Planning and Development
99 Washington Avenue, Suite 1010
Albany, NY 12231-0001

Ron Rausch, Director
Environmental Management Bureau
New York State OPRHP
625 Broadway
Albany, NY 12238

Shelly Johnson-Bennett
Chief Planner
Delaware County Planning
P.O. Box 367, 1 Page Avenue
Delhi, New York 13753

Office of Delaware County Chair of Legislature
Mr. James Eisel
Chair of Supervisors
111 Main St
Delhi, NY 13753

Office of the Delaware County Clerk
Sharon O'Dell
County Clerk
P.O. Box 426
Delhi, NY 13753

Delaware County Historian
Gabrielle Pierce
One Court House Square, Suite 1
Delhi, NY 13753

Mayor Andrew Matviak
Village of Sidney
Civic Center
21 Liberty Street
Sidney, NY 13838

Mr. Michael E. Wood, President
Sidney Historical Association
Sidney Civic Center
21 Liberty St.
Sidney, New York 13838

Agency Use Only [If applicable]	
Project :	
Date :	

Full Environmental Assessment Form
Part 2 - Identification of Potential Project Impacts

Part 2 is to be completed by the lead agency. Part 2 is designed to help the lead agency inventory all potential resources that could be affected by a proposed project or action. We recognize that the lead agency's reviewer(s) will not necessarily be environmental professionals. So, the questions are designed to walk a reviewer through the assessment process by providing a series of questions that can be answered using the information found in Part 1. To further assist the lead agency in completing Part 2, the form identifies the most relevant questions in Part 1 that will provide the information needed to answer the Part 2 question. When Part 2 is completed, the lead agency will have identified the relevant environmental areas that may be impacted by the proposed activity.

If the lead agency is a state agency **and** the action is in any Coastal Area, complete the Coastal Assessment Form before proceeding with this assessment.

Tips for completing Part 2:

- Review all of the information provided in Part 1.
- Review any application, maps, supporting materials and the Full EAF Workbook.
- Answer each of the 18 questions in Part 2.
- If you answer "**Yes"** to a numbered question, please complete all the questions that follow in that section.
- If you answer "**No"** to a numbered question, move on to the next numbered question.
- Check appropriate column to indicate the anticipated size of the impact.
- Proposed projects that would exceed a numeric threshold contained in a question should result in the reviewing agency checking the box "Moderate to large impact may occur."
- The reviewer is not expected to be an expert in environmental analysis.
- If you are not sure or undecided about the size of an impact, it may help to review the sub-questions for the general question and consult the workbook.
- When answering a question consider all components of the proposed activity, that is, the "whole action".
- Consider the possibility for long-term and cumulative impacts as well as direct impacts.
- Answer the question in a reasonable manner considering the scale and context of the project.

1. Impact on Land
Proposed action may involve construction on, or physical alteration of, the land surface of the proposed site. (See Part 1. D.1) ☐ NO ☑ YES
If "Yes", answer questions a - j. If "No", move on to Section 2.

	Relevant Part I Question(s)	No, or small impact may occur	Moderate to large impact may occur
a. The proposed action may involve construction on land where depth to water table is less than 3 feet.	E2d	☑	☐
b. The proposed action may involve construction on slopes of 15% or greater.	E2f	☑	☐
c. The proposed action may involve construction on land where bedrock is exposed, or generally within 5 feet of existing ground surface.	E2a	☑	☐
d. The proposed action may involve the excavation and removal of more than 1,000 tons of natural material.	D2a	☑	☐
e. The proposed action may involve construction that continues for more than one year or in multiple phases.	D1e	☑	☐
f. The proposed action may result in increased erosion, whether from physical disturbance or vegetation removal (including from treatment by herbicides).	D2e, D2q	☑	☐
g. The proposed action is, or may be, located within a Coastal Erosion hazard area.	B1i	☑	☐
h. Other impacts: _____ _____		☐	☐

2. Impact on Geological Features

The proposed action may result in the modification or destruction of, or inhibit access to, any unique or unusual land forms on the site (e.g., cliffs, dunes, minerals, fossils, caves). (See Part 1. E.2.g)

☑ NO ☐ YES

If "Yes", answer questions a - c. If "No", move on to Section 3.

	Relevant Part I Question(s)	No, or small impact may occur	Moderate to large impact may occur
a. Identify the specific land form(s) attached: _____ _____	E2g	☐	☐
b. The proposed action may affect or is adjacent to a geological feature listed as a registered National Natural Landmark. Specific feature: _____	E3c	☐	☐
c. Other impacts: _____ _____		☐	☐

3. Impacts on Surface Water

The proposed action may affect one or more wetlands or other surface water bodies (e.g., streams, rivers, ponds or lakes). (See Part 1. D.2, E.2.h)

☐ NO ☑ YES

If "Yes", answer questions a - l. If "No", move on to Section 4.

	Relevant Part I Question(s)	No, or small impact may occur	Moderate to large impact may occur
a. The proposed action may create a new water body.	D2b, D1h	☑	☐
b. The proposed action may result in an increase or decrease of over 10% or more than a 10 acre increase or decrease in the surface area of any body of water.	D2b	☑	☐
c. The proposed action may involve dredging more than 100 cubic yards of material from a wetland or water body.	D2a	☑	☐
d. The proposed action may involve construction within or adjoining a freshwater or tidal wetland, or in the bed or banks of any other water body.	E2h	☑	☐
e. The proposed action may create turbidity in a waterbody, either from upland erosion, runoff or by disturbing bottom sediments.	D2a, D2h	☑	☐
f. The proposed action may include construction of one or more intake(s) for withdrawal of water from surface water.	D2c	☑	☐
g. The proposed action may include construction of one or more outfall(s) for discharge of wastewater to surface water(s).	D2d	☑	☐
h. The proposed action may cause soil erosion, or otherwise create a source of stormwater discharge that may lead to siltation or other degradation of receiving water bodies.	D2e	☑	☐
i. The proposed action may affect the water quality of any water bodies within or downstream of the site of the proposed action.	E2h	☑	☐
j. The proposed action may involve the application of pesticides or herbicides in or around any water body.	D2q, E2h	☑	☐
k. The proposed action may require the construction of new, or expansion of existing, wastewater treatment facilities.	D1a, D2d	☑	☐

l. Other impacts: _____ _____		☐	☐

4. Impact on groundwater

The proposed action may result in new or additional use of ground water, or may have the potential to introduce contaminants to ground water or an aquifer. (See Part 1. D.2.a, D.2.c, D.2.d, D.2.p, D.2.q, D.2.t)

☑ NO ☐ YES

If "Yes", answer questions a - h. If "No", move on to Section 5.

	Relevant Part I Question(s)	No, or small impact may occur	Moderate to large impact may occur
a. The proposed action may require new water supply wells, or create additional demand on supplies from existing water supply wells.	D2c	☐	☐
b. Water supply demand from the proposed action may exceed safe and sustainable withdrawal capacity rate of the local supply or aquifer. Cite Source: _____	D2c	☐	☐
c. The proposed action may allow or result in residential uses in areas without water and sewer services.	D1a, D2c	☐	☐
d. The proposed action may include or require wastewater discharged to groundwater.	D2d, E2l	☐	☐
e. The proposed action may result in the construction of water supply wells in locations where groundwater is, or is suspected to be, contaminated.	D2c, E1f, E1g, E1h	☐	☐
f. The proposed action may require the bulk storage of petroleum or chemical products over ground water or an aquifer.	D2p, E2l	☐	☐
g. The proposed action may involve the commercial application of pesticides within 100 feet of potable drinking water or irrigation sources.	E2h, D2q, E2l, D2c	☐	☐
h. Other impacts: _____ _____		☐	☐

5. Impact on Flooding

The proposed action may result in development on lands subject to flooding. (See Part 1. E.2)

☐ NO ☑ YES

If "Yes", answer questions a - g. If "No", move on to Section 6.

	Relevant Part I Question(s)	No, or small impact may occur	Moderate to large impact may occur
a. The proposed action may result in development in a designated floodway.	E2i	☑	☐
b. The proposed action may result in development within a 100 year floodplain.	E2j	☑	☐
c. The proposed action may result in development within a 500 year floodplain.	E2k	☑	☐
d. The proposed action may result in, or require, modification of existing drainage patterns.	D2b, D2e	☑	☐
e. The proposed action may change flood water flows that contribute to flooding.	D2b, E2i, E2j, E2k	☑	☐
f. If there is a dam located on the site of the proposed action, is the dam in need of repair, or upgrade?	E1e	☑	☐

g. Other impacts: The Proposed Action involves the elevation or acquisition and demolition of existing single family homes in the 100 and 500 year floodplains. The Proposed Action would reduce development within the floodplain, and thus have a beneficial impact on flooding.		☑	☐

6. Impacts on Air

The proposed action may include a state regulated air emission source. (See Part 1. D.2.f., D,2,h, D.2.g) ☑ NO ☐ YES

If "Yes", answer questions a - f. If "No", move on to Section 7.

	Relevant Part I Question(s)	No, or small impact may occur	Moderate to large impact may occur
a. If the proposed action requires federal or state air emission permits, the action may also emit one or more greenhouse gases at or above the following levels:			
i. More than 1000 tons/year of carbon dioxide (CO_2)	D2g	☐	☐
ii. More than 3.5 tons/year of nitrous oxide (N_2O)	D2g	☐	☐
iii. More than 1000 tons/year of carbon equivalent of perfluorocarbons (PFCs)	D2g	☐	☐
iv. More than .045 tons/year of sulfur hexafluoride (SF_6)	D2g	☐	☐
v. More than 1000 tons/year of carbon dioxide equivalent of hydrochloroflourocarbons (HFCs) emissions	D2g	☐	☐
vi. 43 tons/year or more of methane	D2h	☐	☐
b. The proposed action may generate 10 tons/year or more of any one designated hazardous air pollutant, or 25 tons/year or more of any combination of such hazardous air pollutants.	D2g	☐	☐
c. The proposed action may require a state air registration, or may produce an emissions rate of total contaminants that may exceed 5 lbs. per hour, or may include a heat source capable of producing more than 10 million BTU's per hour.	D2f, D2g	☐	☐
d. The proposed action may reach 50% of any of the thresholds in "a" through "c", above.	D2g	☐	☐
e. The proposed action may result in the combustion or thermal treatment of more than 1 ton of refuse per hour.	D2s	☐	☐
f. Other impacts: _____		☐	☐

7. Impact on Plants and Animals

The proposed action may result in a loss of flora or fauna. (See Part 1. E.2. m.-q.) ☑ NO ☐ YES

If "Yes", answer questions a - j. If "No", move on to Section 8.

	Relevant Part I Question(s)	No, or small impact may occur	Moderate to large impact may occur
a. The proposed action may cause reduction in population or loss of individuals of any threatened or endangered species, as listed by New York State or the Federal government, that use the site, or are found on, over, or near the site.	E2o	☐	☐
b. The proposed action may result in a reduction or degradation of any habitat used by any rare, threatened or endangered species, as listed by New York State or the federal government.	E2o	☐	☐
c. The proposed action may cause reduction in population, or loss of individuals, of any species of special concern or conservation need, as listed by New York State or the Federal government, that use the site, or are found on, over, or near the site.	E2p	☐	☐
d. The proposed action may result in a reduction or degradation of any habitat used by any species of special concern and conservation need, as listed by New York State or the Federal government.	E2p	☐	☐

e. The proposed action may diminish the capacity of a registered National Natural Landmark to support the biological community it was established to protect.	E3c	☐	☐
f. The proposed action may result in the removal of, or ground disturbance in, any portion of a designated significant natural community. Source: _____	E2n	☐	☐
g. The proposed action may substantially interfere with nesting/breeding, foraging, or over-wintering habitat for the predominant species that occupy or use the project site.	E2m	☐	☐
h. The proposed action requires the conversion of more than 10 acres of forest, grassland or any other regionally or locally important habitat. Habitat type & information source: _____ _____	E1b	☐	☐
i. Proposed action (commercial, industrial or recreational projects, only) involves use of herbicides or pesticides.	D2q	☐	☐
j. Other impacts: _____ _____		☐	☐

8. Impact on Agricultural Resources

The proposed action may impact agricultural resources. (See Part 1. E.3.a. and b.) ☑ NO ☐ YES

If "Yes", answer questions a - h. If "No", move on to Section 9.

	Relevant Part I Question(s)	No, or small impact may occur	Moderate to large impact may occur
a. The proposed action may impact soil classified within soil group 1 through 4 of the NYS Land Classification System.	E2c, E3b	☐	☐
b. The proposed action may sever, cross or otherwise limit access to agricultural land (includes cropland, hayfields, pasture, vineyard, orchard, etc).	E1a, Elb	☐	☐
c. The proposed action may result in the excavation or compaction of the soil profile of active agricultural land.	E3b	☐	☐
d. The proposed action may irreversibly convert agricultural land to non-agricultural uses, either more than 2.5 acres if located in an Agricultural District, or more than 10 acres if not within an Agricultural District.	E1b, E3a	☐	☐
e. The proposed action may disrupt or prevent installation of an agricultural land management system.	El a, E1b	☐	☐
f. The proposed action may result, directly or indirectly, in increased development potential or pressure on farmland.	C2c, C3, D2c, D2d	☐	☐
g. The proposed project is not consistent with the adopted municipal Farmland Protection Plan.	C2c	☐	☐
h. Other impacts: _____		☐	☐

9. Impact on Aesthetic Resources

The land use of the proposed action are obviously different from, or are in sharp contrast to, current land use patterns between the proposed project and a scenic or aesthetic resource. (Part 1. E.1.a, E.1.b, E.3.h.) ☑ NO ☐ YES

If "Yes", answer questions a - g. If "No", go to Section 10.

	Relevant Part I Question(s)	No, or small impact may occur	Moderate to large impact may occur
a. Proposed action may be visible from any officially designated federal, state, or local scenic or aesthetic resource.	E3h	☐	☐
b. The proposed action may result in the obstruction, elimination or significant screening of one or more officially designated scenic views.	E3h, C2b	☐	☐
c. The proposed action may be visible from publicly accessible vantage points: i. Seasonally (e.g., screened by summer foliage, but visible during other seasons) ii. Year round	E3h	 ☐ ☐	 ☐ ☐
d. The situation or activity in which viewers are engaged while viewing the proposed action is: i. Routine travel by residents, including travel to and from work ii. Recreational or tourism based activities	E3h E2q, E1c	 ☐ ☐	 ☐ ☐
e. The proposed action may cause a diminishment of the public enjoyment and appreciation of the designated aesthetic resource.	E3h	☐	☐
f. There are similar projects visible within the following distance of the proposed project: 0-1/2 mile ½ -3 mile 3-5 mile 5+ mile	D1a, E1a, D1f, D1g	☐	☐
g. Other impacts: _____ _____		☐	☐

10. Impact on Historic and Archeological Resources

The proposed action may occur in or adjacent to a historic or archaeological resource. (Part 1. E.3.e, f. and g.) ☐ NO ☑ YES

If "Yes", answer questions a - e. If "No", go to Section 11.

	Relevant Part I Question(s)	No, or small impact may occur	Moderate to large impact may occur
a. The proposed action may occur wholly or partially within, or substantially contiguous to, any buildings, archaeological site or district which is listed on or has been nominated by the NYS Board of Historic Preservation for inclusion on the State or National Register of Historic Places.	E3e	☐	☑
b. The proposed action may occur wholly or partially within, or substantially contiguous to, an area designated as sensitive for archaeological sites on the NY State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) archaeological site inventory.	E3f	☑	☐
c. The proposed action may occur wholly or partially within, or substantially contiguous to, an archaeological site not included on the NY SHPO inventory. Source: _____	E3g	☑	☐

d. Other impacts: _____ _____		☐	☐
e. If any of the above (a-d) are answered "Moderate to large impact may occur", continue with the following questions to help support conclusions in Part 3:			
i. The proposed action may result in the destruction or alteration of all or part of the site or property.	E3e, E3g, E3f	☐	☑
ii. The proposed action may result in the alteration of the property's setting or integrity.	E3e, E3f, E3g, E1a, E1b	☐	☑
iii. The proposed action may result in the introduction of visual elements which are out of character with the site or property, or may alter its setting.	E3e, E3f, E3g, E3h, C2, C3	☑	☐

11. Impact on Open Space and Recreation

The proposed action may result in a loss of recreational opportunities or a reduction of an open space resource as designated in any adopted municipal open space plan.
(See Part 1. C.2.c, E.1.c., E.2.q.)
If "Yes", answer questions a - e. If "No", go to Section 12.

☑ NO ☐ YES

	Relevant Part I Question(s)	No, or small impact may occur	Moderate to large impact may occur
a. The proposed action may result in an impairment of natural functions, or "ecosystem services", provided by an undeveloped area, including but not limited to stormwater storage, nutrient cycling, wildlife habitat.	D2e, E1b E2h, E2m, E2o, E2n, E2p	☐	☐
b. The proposed action may result in the loss of a current or future recreational resource.	C2a, E1c, C2c, E2q	☐	☐
c. The proposed action may eliminate open space or recreational resource in an area with few such resources.	C2a, C2c E1c, E2q	☐	☐
d. The proposed action may result in loss of an area now used informally by the community as an open space resource.	C2c, E1c	☐	☐
e. Other impacts: _____ _____		☐	☐

12. Impact on Critical Environmental Areas

The proposed action may be located within or adjacent to a critical environmental area (CEA). (See Part 1. E.3.d)
If "Yes", answer questions a - c. If "No", go to Section 13.

☑ NO ☐ YES

	Relevant Part I Question(s)	No, or small impact may occur	Moderate to large impact may occur
a. The proposed action may result in a reduction in the quantity of the resource or characteristic which was the basis for designation of the CEA.	E3d	☐	☐
b. The proposed action may result in a reduction in the quality of the resource or characteristic which was the basis for designation of the CEA.	E3d	☐	☐
c. Other impacts: _____ _____		☐	☐

13. Impact on Transportation

The proposed action may result in a change to existing transportation systems. ☑ NO ☐ YES
(See Part 1. D.2.j)
If "Yes", answer questions a - f. If "No", go to Section 14.

	Relevant Part I Question(s)	No, or small impact may occur	Moderate to large impact may occur
a. Projected traffic increase may exceed capacity of existing road network.	D2j	☐	☐
b. The proposed action may result in the construction of paved parking area for 500 or more vehicles.	D2j	☐	☐
c. The proposed action will degrade existing transit access.	D2j	☐	☐
d. The proposed action will degrade existing pedestrian or bicycle accommodations.	D2j	☐	☐
e. The proposed action may alter the present pattern of movement of people or goods.	D2j	☐	☐
f. Other impacts: _____		☐	☐

14. Impact on Energy

The proposed action may cause an increase in the use of any form of energy. ☑ NO ☐ YES
(See Part 1. D.2.k)
If "Yes", answer questions a - e. If "No", go to Section 15.

	Relevant Part I Question(s)	No, or small impact may occur	Moderate to large impact may occur
a. The proposed action will require a new, or an upgrade to an existing, substation.	D2k	☐	☐
b. The proposed action will require the creation or extension of an energy transmission or supply system to serve more than 50 single or two-family residences or to serve a commercial or industrial use.	D1f, D1q, D2k	☐	☐
c. The proposed action may utilize more than 2,500 MWhrs per year of electricity.	D2k	☐	☐
d. The proposed action may involve heating and/or cooling of more than 100,000 square feet of building area when completed.	D1g	☐	☐
e. Other Impacts: _____			

15. Impact on Noise, Odor, and Light

The proposed action may result in an increase in noise, odors, or outdoor lighting. ☑ NO ☐ YES
(See Part 1. D.2.m., n., and o.)
If "Yes", answer questions a - f. If "No", go to Section 16.

	Relevant Part I Question(s)	No, or small impact may occur	Moderate to large impact may occur
a. The proposed action may produce sound above noise levels established by local regulation.	D2m	☐	☐
b. The proposed action may result in blasting within 1,500 feet of any residence, hospital, school, licensed day care center, or nursing home.	D2m, E1d	☐	☐
c. The proposed action may result in routine odors for more than one hour per day.	D2o	☐	☐

d. The proposed action may result in light shining onto adjoining properties.	D2n	☐	☐
e. The proposed action may result in lighting creating sky-glow brighter than existing area conditions.	D2n, E1a	☐	☐
f. Other impacts: _____ _____		☐	☐

16. Impact on Human Health

The proposed action may have an impact on human health from exposure to new or existing sources of contaminants. (See Part 1.D.2.q., E.1. d. f. g. and h.) ☐ NO ☑ YES

If "Yes", answer questions a - m. If "No", go to Section 17.

	Relevant Part I Question(s)	No,or small impact may cccur	Moderate to large impact may occur
a. The proposed action is located within 1500 feet of a school, hospital, licensed day care center, group home, nursing home or retirement community.	E1d	☑	☐
b. The site of the proposed action is currently undergoing remediation.	E1g, E1h	☑	☐
c. There is a completed emergency spill remediation, or a completed environmental site remediation on, or adjacent to, the site of the proposed action.	E1g, E1h	☑	☐
d. The site of the action is subject to an institutional control limiting the use of the property (e.g., easement or deed restriction).	E1g, E1h	☑	☐
e. The proposed action may affect institutional control measures that were put in place to ensure that the site remains protective of the environment and human health.	E1g, E1h	☑	☐
f. The proposed action has adequate control measures in place to ensure that future generation, treatment and/or disposal of hazardous wastes will be protective of the environment and human health.	D2t	☑	☐
g. The proposed action involves construction or modification of a solid waste management facility.	D2q, E1f	☑	☐
h. The proposed action may result in the unearthing of solid or hazardous waste.	D2q, E1f	☑	☐
i. The proposed action may result in an increase in the rate of disposal, or processing, of solid waste.	D2r, D2s	☑	☐
j. The proposed action may result in excavation or other disturbance within 2000 feet of a site used for the disposal of solid or hazardous waste.	E1f, E1g E1h	☑	☐
k. The proposed action may result in the migration of explosive gases from a landfill site to adjacent off site structures.	E1f, E1g	☑	☐
l. The proposed action may result in the release of contaminated leachate from the project site.	D2s, E1f, D2r	☑	☐
m. Other impacts: _____ _____		☐	☐

17. Consistency with Community Plans

The proposed action is not consistent with adopted land use plans. ☑ NO ☐ YES
(See Part 1. C.1, C.2. and C.3.)
If "Yes", answer questions a - h. If "No", go to Section 18.

	Relevant Part I Question(s)	No, or small impact may occur	Moderate to large impact may occur
a. The proposed action's land use components may be different from, or in sharp contrast to, current surrounding land use pattern(s).	C2, C3, D1a E1a, E1b	☐	☐
b. The proposed action will cause the permanent population of the city, town or village in which the project is located to grow by more than 5%.	C2	☐	☐
c. The proposed action is inconsistent with local land use plans or zoning regulations.	C2, C2, C3	☐	☐
d. The proposed action is inconsistent with any County plans, or other regional land use plans.	C2, C2	☐	☐
e. The proposed action may cause a change in the density of development that is not supported by existing infrastructure or is distant from existing infrastructure.	C3, D1c, D1d, D1f, D1d, Elb	☐	☐
f. The proposed action is located in an area characterized by low density development that will require new or expanded public infrastructure.	C4, D2c, D2d D2j	☐	☐
g. The proposed action may induce secondary development impacts (e.g., residential or commercial development not included in the proposed action)	C2a	☐	☐
h. Other: _____ _____		☐	☐

18. Consistency with Community Character

The proposed project is inconsistent with the existing community character. ☐ NO ☑ YES
(See Part 1. C.2, C.3, D.2, E.3)
If "Yes", answer questions a - g. If "No", proceed to Part 3.

	Relevant Part I Question(s)	No, or small impact may occur	Moderate to large impact may occur
a. The proposed action may replace or eliminate existing facilities, structures, or areas of historic importance to the community.	E3e, E3f, E3g	☐	☑
b. The proposed action may create a demand for additional community services (e.g. schools, police and fire)	C4	☑	☐
c. The proposed action may displace affordable or low-income housing in an area where there is a shortage of such housing.	C2, C3, D1f D1g, E1a	☑	☐
d. The proposed action may interfere with the use or enjoyment of officially recognized or designated public resources.	C2, E3	☑	☐
e. The proposed action is inconsistent with the predominant architectural scale and character.	C2, C3	☑	☐
f. Proposed action is inconsistent with the character of the existing natural landscape.	C2, C3 E1a, E1b E2g, E2h	☑	☐
g. Other impacts: _____ _____		☐	☐

PRINT FULL FORM

Agency Use Only [IfApplicable]

Project :

Date :

Full Environmental Assessment Form
Part 3 - Evaluation of the Magnitude and Importance of Project Impacts
and
Determination of Significance

Part 3 provides the reasons in support of the determination of significance. The lead agency must complete Part 3 for every question in Part 2 where the impact has been identified as potentially moderate to large or where there is a need to explain why a particular element of the proposed action will not, or may, result in a significant adverse environmental impact.

Based on the analysis in Part 3, the lead agency must decide whether to require an environmental impact statement to further assess the proposed action or whether available information is sufficient for the lead agency to conclude that the proposed action will not have a significant adverse environmental impact. By completing the certification on the next page, the lead agency can complete its determination of significance.

Reasons Supporting This Determination:

To complete this section:

- Identify the impact based on the Part 2 responses and describe its magnitude. Magnitude considers factors such as severity, size or extent of an impact.
- Assess the importance of the impact. Importance relates to the geographic scope, duration, probability of the impact occurring, number of people affected by the impact and any additional environmental consequences if the impact were to occur.
- The assessment should take into consideration any design element or project changes.
- Repeat this process for each Part 2 question where the impact has been identified as potentially moderate to large or where there is a need to explain why a particular element of the proposed action will not, or may, result in a significant adverse environmental impact.
- Provide the reason(s) why the impact may, or will not, result in a significant adverse environmental impact
- For Conditional Negative Declarations identify the specific condition(s) imposed that will modify the proposed action so that no significant adverse environmental impacts will result.
- Attach additional sheets, as needed.

Project components with the potential for adverse impacts:

Part 2 - Items 10.a & 10.e.i, Historic & Archaeological Resources
Part 2 - Item 18.a, Consistency with Community Character

Please see attached supplemental sheets for description of potential impacts and proposed mitigation.

Determination of Significance - Type 1 and Unlisted Actions

SEQR Status: ☑ Type 1 ☐ Unlisted

Identify portions of EAF completed for this Project: ☑ Part 1 ☑ Part 2 ☑ Part 3

Upon review of the information recorded on this EAF, as noted, plus this additional support information Environmental Assessment - Community Development Block Grant - Disaster Recovery & Hazard Mitigation Grant Program Global Match Acquisition and Elevation, Village of Sidney and Sidney Center, Delaware County, New York (FEMA-4020-DR-NY); Programmatic Agreement for Acquisition and Demolition and Potential Elevation or Relocation of Properties within the Village of Sidney, Delaware County, NY

and considering both the magnitude and importance of each identified potential impact, it is the conclusion of the Governor's Office of Storm Recovery as lead agency that:

☑ A. This project will result in no significant adverse impacts on the environment, and, therefore, an environmental impact statement need not be prepared. Accordingly, this negative declaration is issued.

☐ B. Although this project could have a significant adverse impact on the environment, that impact will be avoided or substantially mitigated because of the following conditions which will be required by the lead agency:

There will, therefore, be no significant adverse impacts from the project as conditioned, and, therefore, this conditioned negative declaration is issued. A conditioned negative declaration may be used only for UNLISTED actions (see 6 NYCRR 617.d).

☐ C. This Project may result in one or more significant adverse impacts on the environment, and an environmental impact statement must be prepared to further assess the impact(s) and possible mitigation and to explore alternatives to avoid or reduce those impacts. Accordingly, this positive declaration is issued.

Name of Action:	Hazard Mitigation Grant Program & Community Development Block Grant - Disaster Recovery Global Match Acquisition & Elevation Project (Village of Sidney & Sidney Center, Delaware County, NY)
Name of Lead Agency:	Governor's Office of Storm Recovery
Name of Responsible Officer in Lead Agency:	Thomas J. King
Title of Responsible Officer:	Assistant General Counsel
Signature of Responsible Officer in Lead Agency:	Date: 3/15/2016
Signature of Preparer (if different from Responsible Officer)	Date: 3/15/2016

For Further Information:

Contact Person: Thomas J. King, Assistant General Counsel, Governor's Office of Storm Recovery

Address: 99 Washington Avenue, Suite 1224, Albany, NY 12260

Telephone Number: 518-473-0015

E-mail: thomas.king@stormrecovery.ny.gov

For Type 1 Actions and Conditioned Negative Declarations, a copy of this Notice is sent to:

Chief Executive Officer of the political subdivision in which the action will be principally located (e.g., Town / City / Village of)
Other involved agencies (if any)
Applicant (if any)
Environmental Notice Bulletin: http://www.dec.ny.gov/enb/enb.html

PRINT FULL FORM

A. INTRODUCTION AND PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The Governor's Office of Storm Recovery ("GOSR") is acting as lead agency under the National Environmental Policy Act ("NEPA") and State Environmental Quality Review Act ("SEQRA") and related laws for the environmental review of the proposed Hazard Mitigation Grant Program ("HMGP") and Community Development Block Grant – Disaster Recovery ("CDBG-DR") Global Match Acquisition & Elevation Project (the "Proposed Action"). GOSR is conducting an environmental review of the Proposed Action on behalf of the State of New York as the recipient of CDBG-DR funds from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development under 42 U.S.C. § 5304(g).

The Proposed Action consists of the provision of homeowner assistance to elevate homes at least two feet above the Base Flood Elevation, and the acquisition and demolition of homes located within high-risk areas of the Special Flood Hazard Area in the Village of Sidney and Sidney Center, New York to address the significant flood damage sustained to homes and property related to Tropical Storm Lee and a significant flooding event in 2006 (declared disaster DR-1650). Although the total number of properties is yet to be determined, it is estimated based on community input and preliminary interest that at least 35 homes and as many as 74 homes would be elevated as part of the Proposed Action. In addition, although the total number of properties to be acquired and demolished is yet to be determined, it is estimated that approximately 60 homes would be acquired and demolished as part of the Proposed Action. Therefore, the Proposed Action would include up to 136 individual parcels within the Special Flood Hazard Area in the Village of Sidney and Sidney Center.

B. EVALUATION OF THE MAGNITUDE AND IMPORTANCE OF PROJECT IMPACTS

TOPOGRAPHY, SOILS, AND GEOLOGY

EXISTING CONDITIONS

Topography

The 134 Village of Sidney properties associated with the Proposed Action are located just south of the Susquehanna River, and just east of Weir Creek (see Figure 2). The 2 Sidney Center properties are located adjacent to and just east of an unnamed Class C stream that is a tributary to Carrs Creek (a tributary to the Susquehanna River). The Area of Disturbance is approximately 13.4 to 17.8 acres of the 44.5 acre project site.

The topography of the Village of Sidney, which lies in the floodplain of the Susquehanna River, is generally flat with a gentle slope towards the river. On the north side of the Susquehanna River, the elevation rises to 1,900 ft. above mean sea level (amsl). South of the Village of Sidney, and on the south side of Interstate 88, the elevation rises to 1,800 ft. amsl. Sidney Center is located at the bottom of a small river valley, bounded by hills ranging in elevation from 1,700 ft. amsl to the east and 1,900 ft. amsl to the west.

Soils

The U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) operates the Web Soil Survey (http://websoilsurvey.sc.egov.usda.gov/App/WebSoilSurvey.aspx), which includes the soils of Delaware County.

Village of Sidney

Based on soil survey findings, the majority of soils within the area of disturbance for the Proposed Action are characterized as having 0 to 3% slopes. The soil types within this area include: Chenango gravelly silt loam (ChA); Chenango gravelly silt loam (ChB); Chenango gravelly silt loam (ChE); Fluvaquents-Udifluvents complex (Ff); Udorthents, graded (Ud); Unadilla silt loam (Un), Urban land (Ur), and Wenonah silt loam (Wg). Of these soils, Chenango gravelly silt loam (A and B), Unadilla silt loam, and Wenonah silt loam (Wg), are considered prime farmland soils. The majority of the Project Site is comprised of Unadilla silt loam (Un) and Urban land (Ur).

Sidney Center

Based on soil survey findings, all of the soils within the Sidney Center portion of the Proposed Action are characterized as having 0 to 3% slopes. The soil types within this area include: Tunkhannock and Chenango soils, fan (TtA), which comprises 6.3% of the site; and Wenonah silt loam (Wg), which comprises 93.7% of the site. Both of these soil types are considered prime farmland soils.

Geology

Executive Order (EO) 12699 requires federal agencies assisting in the financing, through federal grants or loans, or guaranteeing the financing, through loan or mortgage insurance programs, of newly constructed buildings to initiate measures to assure appropriate consideration of seismic safety (WBDG, 1990).

The 2014 U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) National Seismic Hazard Maps display earthquake ground motions for various probability levels across the United States and are applied in seismic provisions of building codes, insurance rate structures, risk assessments, and other public policy. These maps indicate that the Project Sites are located in a low risk area. Bedrock in the area of the Project Site is greater than 80 inches below grade according to the above-referenced Soil Survey.

FUTURE WITH THE PROPOSED ACTION

With the appropriate short term Best Management Practices (BMPs) and, if required a Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP), in place, the elevation and demolition of homes and regrading of properties proposed in the Proposed Action would have no impacts on topography, geology or soils.

Elevation of selected properties would have no effect on topography. For those acquisition and demolition properties, after acquisition, the County would demolish all structures (including walkways, paved driveways, and patios), fill any basements, re-grade, place topsoil over the sites, and seed with a native seed mix in a manner consistent with limiting site disturbance. After

demolition and site reclamation, the properties would be turned over to the Village of Sidney to maintain as open space. Because these properties are already developed, no significant changes to slope are anticipated. Sites would be graded to direct stormwater runoff towards open space areas and away from existing roadways and other impervious surfaces.

There would be no long-term effect to soils as a result of elevation of selected properties. The homes proposed for acquisition and demolition are located within floodplain areas that are subject to erosion and loss of soil from storm activity. Properties would be graded and revegetated following demolition activities to prevent erosion.

However, during construction associated with both elevation and demolition, there would be a short-term increase in the potential for erosion from site disturbance. Short-term BMPs, such as silt fence and erosion prevention, would be implemented to mitigate erosion where highly erodible soils are present, if required by permit or agency discretion (see Soil Erosion Conditions for Approval). Since the elevation or demolition of 134 structures in the Village of Sidney would involve more than one acre of disturbance as defined by NYSDEC, a SWPPP pursuant to NYSDEC SPDES General Permit for Stormwater Discharges from Construction Activity (Permit No. GP-0-15-002) would be implemented on-site during construction to reduce the potential for erosion. State and local permitting requirements would incorporate BMPs (erosion blanketing, phasing, and sequencing of construction) to eliminate erosion impacts for program locations that require excavation or soil modification. Demolition and incidental grading would be carried out in a manner to avoid the discharge of fill in accordance with the Clean Water Act during demolition. Work in areas of soils with high wind erosion potential may have to be scheduled only during calm weather conditions or include additional watering and other dust suppression mitigation methods. However, the above mentioned soil survey indicates that soils within the Project Area are categorized as having a wind erodibility group of 5 and 6, which indicates that they are moderately susceptible to wind erosion.

Acquisition and demolition would return the land to open space, for which soil suitability issues would be minimal. BMPs, including silt fences, would be employed for stabilization from potential erosion during the revegetation process.

In addition, the elevation or acquisition and demolition of residential properties in an urbanized area do not involve the conversion of prime agricultural soils to a nonagricultural use. As such, no impacts to farmland are anticipated.

LAND USE AND ZONING

EXISTING CONDITIONS

The Village of Sidney portion of the Project Area is bounded by the Susquehanna River to the north, a commercial area and railroad tracks to the southwest, single family residential to the southeast, and farmland to the east.

The western portion of the Project Area within the Village of Sidney is characterized by single family homes on approximately ¼-acre lots. The majority of the Project Area is zoned "Residential District: One & Two Family Residential and Other Uses" (R-2). There are also some institutional uses typical of a residential area, such as schools, public parks, and churches,

interspersed between the residences in this area. Most of the homes are contributing to the Village of Sidney Historic District.

The western portion of the Project Area is separated from the eastern portion by Main Street, which is characterized by two to three story commercial/retail buildings with office and residential uses on the second and third floors. Main Street is zoned "Commercial District: Residential and Commercial Uses, Street Level Store Fronts Restricted to Commercial Use" (B1-A), and the blocks immediately surrounding Main Street are zoned "Commercial District: Residential and Commercial Uses" (B-1). These commercial/retail buildings form a unified street wall, with some alleys connecting to surface parking lots in the rear of the buildings.

The eastern portion of the Project Area is similarly characterized by single-family homes on ¼-acre lots, also zoned R-2. Many of these homes are also contributing to the Sidney Historic District.

The Sidney Center portion of the Project Site is located in a small hamlet surrounded by hills rising to an elevation of 1900 feet. Structures within this hamlet are characterized by single family homes on ¼-acre lots. There are some commercial uses along Main Street, particularly on the north end. The two homes within the Project Site are single family residences of a similar age and character to nearby homes. The lots on the north side of Depot Street, across from these residences, are currently vacant.

The Village of Sidney, Sidney Center, and Delaware County land use policies and plans regarding mitigation of flood risk have been considered as part of this assessment. In light of recent flooding events, municipalities have been revising building codes to incorporate requirements for flood and storm mitigation measures along the shore and riverbanks. The Village of Sidney has been actively pursuing land use and policy changes to improve the flood protection and resiliency of its community since 2006, when a regional flooding event caused substantial damage to the community. The demolition of homes in accordance with FEMA's acquisition/demolition program reflects these changing land use policies by prohibiting redevelopment of properties in the areas most prone to storm damage.

The Sidney Reconstruction Plan, which included extensive public outreach and involvement, serves as a master planning document for the Village of Sidney. It expresses the community's long term goals for land use, development, community resources, and resiliency. According to the Sidney Reconstruction Plan, the character of the riverside neighborhoods has eroded in recent years due to Tropical Storm Lee, as well as the 2006 flood. A substantial number of properties within these neighborhoods have already been bought out under previous programs, and other units have been abandoned because property owners did not have the resources to repair flood-damaged properties. This has left these neighborhoods with a "gap tooth effect." The Sidney Reconstruction Plan reported that FEMA has classified over 200 properties in the floodplain as "repetitive loss," meaning that flood insurance may increase dramatically unless a homeowner elevates their home to FEMA standards. This classification could lead to increasing rates of foreclosure in the high-risk neighborhoods, thus exacerbating the decline of community character.

FUTURE WITH THE PROPOSED ACTION

The Proposed Action would preserve at least 35 and as many as 74 residences within the floodplain by elevating the structures at least two feet above the BFE and would convert approximately 60 existing residential properties within the floodplain in storm-impacted areas to open space in perpetuity. Under this Alternative, a permanent covenant or comparable restriction would be placed on the continued use of demolished properties to preserve the floodplain from future development. Once all targeted properties are converted, much of the resulting open space would be contiguous and, therefore, compatible with the surrounding land uses. Acquisition and demolition would not require any changes to existing zoning designations as the land would revert to publicly owned vacant land. It is anticipated that Delaware County would transfer the ownership of the vacant land to the Village and Town of Sidney. As Village/Town owned land it would be immune from local zoning regulations.

The appropriate permits for all elevation and demolition activities would be obtained. Acquisition and demolition would create new open space within the Village of Sidney and Sidney Center, primarily in low-lying areas prone to flooding from the Susquehanna River and its tributaries. The Proposed Action conforms to all of the regional and local plans, particularly with regard to flood mitigation and conserving and creating open space. The conversion of a portion of the Project Area to open space land use and reduction in housing density is compatible with the visual character and quality of the acquisition and demolition area. Creating the open space would establish a larger buffer between the areas identified with potential for future flooding and residential uses.

The approximated 35 to 74 residences that would be elevated as part of the Proposed Action are located in the oldest portion of the Village of Sidney Historic District and are nearer to the Village's existing commercial corridor along Main Street. As a result, elevating these properties rather than demolishing them would help maintain the historic character of the Village and provide support to the commercial corridor.

COMMUNITY CHARACTER (PART 2, ITEM 18.A)

EXISTING CONDITIONS

The majority of the Project Area is located within the Village of Sidney Historic District, which is listed on the State and National Register of Historic Places. 134 of the 136 properties are located within the boundaries of the Sidney Historic District. Of the 134 properties within the Sidney Historic District, 117 are contributing, 5 are non-contributing, and 12 are vacant lots that are also non-contributing to that district.

The Village of Sidney portion of the Project Area is bounded by the Susquehanna River to the north, a commercial area and railroad tracks to the southwest, single family residential to the southeast, and farmland to the east. The western portion of the Project Area within the Village of Sidney is characterized by single family homes on approximately ¼-acre lots. There are some institutional uses typical of a residential area, such as schools, public parks, and churches, interspersed within the residences in this area. Most of these homes are contributing to the Village of Sidney Historic District. This area is separated from the eastern portion of the Project Area by Main Street, which is characterized by two to three story commercial/retail buildings with office and residential uses on the second and third floors. These commercial/retail buildings

form a unified street wall, with some alleys connecting to surface parking lots in the rear of the buildings. The eastern portion of the Project Area is similarly characterized by single-family homes on ¼ acre lots. Many of these homes are also contributing to the Sidney Historic District.

The Sidney Center portion of the Project Site is located in a small hamlet surrounded by hills rising to an elevation of 1900 feet. Structures within this hamlet are characterized by single family homes on ¼-acre lots. There are some commercial uses along Main Street, particularly on the north end. The two homes within the Project Site are single family residences of a similar age and character to nearby homes. The lots on the north side of Depot Street across from these residences are currently vacant.

FUTURE WITH THE PROPOSED ACTION

The Proposed Action would have an effect on the aesthetic quality of the Village of Sidney Historic District, as the Proposed Action would acquire and demolish approximately 60 properties within the Sidney Historic District and elevate at least 35 and as many as 74 properties within the District. The demolition of structures would irreversibly affect the visual character of the Village of Sidney Historic District.

However, the Proposed Action would reestablish a portion of the Project Area as public open space, which as its own beneficial visual and aesthetic qualities. Furthermore, by elevating at least 35 and as many as 74 homes in the eastern portion of the Sidney Historic District, some of the oldest, most historic homes and the associated aesthetic and visual character would be preserved.

WATER RESOURCES AND WATER QUALITY

EXISTING CONDITIONS

The 134 Village of Sidney properties associated with the Proposed Action are located just south of the Susquehanna River, and just east of Weir Creek (See Figure 2). The NYSDEC has classified the Susquehanna River as a Class B protected waterbody, not suitable for drinking water but suitable for fishing and primary contact activities. NYSDEC has classified Weir Creek as a Class C stream, which can support fishing, but is not suitable for primary contact activities or drinking water. The two Sidney Center properties are located adjacent to and just east of an unnamed Class C stream that is a tributary to Carrs Creek (a tributary to the Susquehanna River).

The Village of Sidney and Sidney Center are not located over a sole source aquifer. Therefore, review under the Section 1424(e) of the Safe Drinking Water Act governing Sole Source Aquifers is not required.

There are no Wild and Scenic Rivers within the Village of Sidney or Sidney Center, as designated by the U.S. Department of the Interior, and no Wild, Scenic, or Recreational Rivers, as designated by the NYSDEC.

FUTURE WITH THE PROPOSED ACTION

The Proposed Action would have no impact to surface water quality of the Susquehanna River, Weir Creek, or the unnamed tributary to Carrs Creek. Disturbances to either watercourse's bed or banks are not proposed. There are no proposed discharges to these surface waters.

Stormwater discharges during construction would be regulated by the NYSDEC Stormwater SPDES General Permit. Stormwater would be controlled to prevent pollutants from entering the off-site surface water. Since the elevation or demolition of 134 structures in the Village of Sidney would involve more than one acre of disturbance as defined by NYSDEC, a SWPPP pursuant to NYSDEC SPDES General Permit for Stormwater Discharges from Construction Activity (Permit No. GP-0-15-002) would be implemented on-site during demolition to reduce the potential for erosion. These regulations prohibit or strictly limit the volume and quality of stormwater discharges to protect water quality in surface waters on and off the Project Site. The SPDES permit would ensure that stormwater runoff from construction sites related to the Proposed Action is controlled through best management practices, and would prevent stormwater runoff from polluting Weir Creek or the Susquehanna River.

The properties associated with the Proposed Action comprise 44.5 acres, of which approximately 13.4 to 17.8 acres would be disturbed during either elevation or demolition. The County would create, implement and maintain erosion and sedimentation control measures to prevent deposition of sediment and eroded soil in on-site and off-site wetlands and waters. Soil compaction would be controlled by minimizing project activities in vegetated areas, including lawns. The demolition of two structures in Sidney Center would involve less than one acre of ground disturbance. However, BMPs would be employed to ensure that stormwater runoff from the demolition sites is controlled.

Overall, the removal of approximately 60 existing residential buildings and associated impervious surfaces and conversion to open space would reduce the amount of stormwater runoff, and could have a beneficial impact on groundwater recharge. Elevation of at least 35 and as many as 74 existing structures would have no impact on the quantity or quality of stormwater runoff in the area.

WETLANDS

EXISTING CONDITIONS

The project sites have been evaluated for the presence of wetlands. Based on a review of the project sites on NYSDEC's "Environmental Resource Mapper" website (http://www.dec.ny.gov/imsmaps/ERM/viewer.htm), and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Services' (USFWS) National Wetland Inventory (NWI) "Wetlands Mapper" website (http://www.fws.gov/wetlands/data/mapper.HTML), there are no state or federally regulated wetlands mapped within the Project Area.

According to the USDA Web Soil Survey, there are some small areas of hydric soils are mapped in the Project Area, including Chenango gravelly silt loam (ChA), Chenango gravelly silt loam (ChB), Fluvaquents-Udifluvents complex (Ff), Tunkhannock and Chenango soils (TtA), and Wenonah silt loam (Wg). These areas are primarily found adjacent to the Susquehanna River, Weir Creek, and the unnamed tributary to Carrs Creek. The majority of the homes within the Village of Sidney portion of the Project Site are located on non-hydric soils. However, the two homes in Sidney Center are located entirely within mapped hydric soil groups Tunkhannock and Chenango soils (TtA) and Wenonah silt loam (Wg).

FUTURE WITH THE PROPOSED ACTION

The project sites have been evaluated for the presence of wetlands. Based on a review of the project sites on NYSDEC's "Environmental Resource Mapper" website (http://www.dec.ny.gov/imsmaps/ERM/viewer.htm), and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Services' (USFWS) National Wetland Inventory (NWI) "Wetlands Mapper" website (http://www.fws.gov/wetlands/data/mapper.HTML), there are no state or federally regulated wetlands mapped within the Project Area. The Proposed Action would not impact state or federal wetlands.

FLOODPLAINS

EXISTING CONDITIONS

According to the National Flood Hazard Layer published February 17, 2015, the parcels are located in Zones AE and X and are within the 100-year and 500-year floodplains (see Figure 3).

FUTURE WITH THE PROPOSED ACTION

The Proposed Action would reduce risk of future flood damage to the residential properties elevated or acquired, and reduce the chance that an occupant of such a property faces physical danger resulting from floodwaters. The Proposed Action would also remove impervious surfaces on acquired properties and allow for greater infiltration and reduced stormwater runoff. Overall, the Proposed Action would have a beneficial impact on flood protection.

VEGETATION

EXISTING CONDITIONS

The Project Area is currently composed of residential properties and associated driveways, patios, lawns and landscaping. Native vegetation has been previously disturbed by development. There are no significant vegetation or habitat areas within the Project Area.

As of May 2015, The Town and Village of Sidney are located within the Severe Risk Area of the Unadilla Quarantine Boundary for Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) (Agrilus planipennis). Portions of the Village of Sidney and Sidney Center are located in the Infested Core Area, while the entire project area is located within the Severe Risk Area. It is important to note that EAB Quarantine Boundaries are subject to revision per annual updates and thus these conditions may change.

FUTURE WITH THE PROPOSED ACTION

The Proposed Action would restore disturbed areas of the acquired and demolished sites with native seed and/or plant species to minimize soil erosion and sedimentation, as well as enhance environmental habitat quality of the Project Site. The acquired properties would be maintained by the Village of Sidney and Sidney Center, and would be mowed periodically. There would be no change to vegetation on properties to be elevated in place.

Should any removal and disposal of vegetative debris be necessary, disposal methods would adhere to the EAB Quarantine Protocol pursuant to NYS Department of Agriculture and Markets Law Sections 18, 164, and 167; and CFR Title 7 Parts 300-399.

WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES HABITAT

EXISTING CONDITIONS

Terrestrial

The Project Area is categorized as a residential neighborhood with maintained lawn areas and residential landscaping. It does not support any sensitive landscape features such as wetlands, streams or water bodies. Habitat areas within the Project Area support the types of species accustomed to living in developed areas, such as raccoons, skunks, chipmunks, squirrels, sparrows, wild turkey, whitetail deer, rabbits and passerine birds. The Proposed Action takes place within the Atlantic Flyway, but there is no sensitive migratory bird habitat at the site.

The Project Area is located in close proximity to the Susquehanna River, Weir Creek, and an unnamed tributary to Carrs Creek. However, the Proposed Action would not involve direct disturbance to any of these waterbodies.

Aquatic

The Susquehanna River and its tributaries support freshwater fish and shellfish habitat. However, the Proposed Action is not located in or near Essential Fish Habitat; as such, further review under the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act is not required. The Carrs Creek tributary is classified by NYSDEC a Class C stream, and is suitable fish habitat, but does not support trout or trout spawning.

FUTURE WITH THE PROPOSED ACTION

The Proposed Action would have no impact on wildlife, birds, and fisheries habitat. As noted, the Project Area is comprised of residential development. This Alternative would restore disturbed areas of the site with native seed and/or plant species to minimize soil erosion and sedimentation, as well as enhance environmental habitat quality of properties to be acquired and demolished.

The Proposed Action would have no significant adverse impact on migratory birds or their habitat. It is anticipated that passerine birds would temporarily leave the area during construction and demolition due to noise and disturbance. There is a small likelihood that a nest in a structure to be demolished or in vegetation to be incidentally removed could be disturbed; however, the residential backyard habitat is not sensitive priority habitat. The conversion of the acquired and demolished properties to deed-restricted open space would provide long-term benefits for migratory bird habitat. Elevation of properties would have no effect on habitat.

A SWPPP and BMPs would be employed during elevation, demolition, and site restoration activities to ensure that stormwater runoff would not contaminate the Susquehanna River, Weir Creek, or the unnamed stream.

The Proposed Action involves the elevation or acquisition and demolition of existing residential structures and appurtenances, with minimal grading and revegetation to reestablish acquired and demolished properties. There would be no significant adverse impact to migratory bird habitat and no take of migratory bird species associated with the Proposed Action.

THREATENED AND ENDANGERED SPECIES AND CRITICAL HABITAT

EXISTING CONDITIONS

The Proposed Action was reviewed on January 23, 2015 using the USFWS Information for Planning and Conservation (IPaC) website (http://ecos.fws.gov/ipac/). Endangered species identified as being in the project area include the clam species dwarf wedgemussel (Alasmidonta heterodon) and the threatened mammal species, the northern long-eared Bat (Myotis septentrionalis).

There are currently no known maternity roost trees or hibernacula known to be occupied by northern long-eared bats within ¼-mile of the project locations' boundaries. However, the proposed Project Area serves as potential summer roosting habitat for the northern long-eared bat.

According to NY Natural Heritage Program (NYNHP) consultation dated September 4, 2014, the NYNHP database has no records of state or federal endangered, threatened, or rare species being found in residential buildings in New York State. Furthermore, the elevation or acquisition and demolition of a property in itself would not impact endangered, threatened, and/or rare species or their habitats.

The NYNHP "Nature Explorer" website (http://www.dec.ny.gov/natureexplorer/app/) identifies bald eagles as being present in Delaware County. Bald eagle (Haliaeetus leucocephalus) habitat and breeding sites have been found within 1.5 miles of the Project Area in neighboring Chenango County. However, the backyard habitats of the Project Area do not provide habitat for the eagle, and vegetation removal is anticipated to be minimal.

FUTURE WITH THE PROPOSED ACTION

The Proposed Action would not adversely affect endangered, threatened or rare species, including the dwarf wedgemussel (Alasmidonta heterodon), northern long-eared bat (Myotis septentrionalis), or any critical habitat.

The Proposed Action would have no effect on the endangered dwarf wedgemussel, as no habitat for this species is within the residential Project Area. The Action involves no in-stream work and no discharge to streams.

The Proposed Action may affect, but is not likely to adversely affect, the northern long-eared bat. The scope of work does not specifically include tree removal, but some incidental tree removal may be necessary to provide access to buildings to be demolished. The scope of work does include removal of housing structures that may be vacant and could become viable habitat for bats. The USFWS has concurred with this determination regarding the in a letter dated April 3, 2015. An updated consultation letter was sent to USFWS on November 20, 2015. Confirmation of continued concurrence from USFWS was assumed, as an updated concurrence letter from USFWS was not received.

CULTURAL RESOURCES (PART 2, ITEMS 10.A & 10.E.I)

EXISTING CONDITIONS

The Village of Sidney portion of the Proposed Action is entirely within the Sidney Historic District, which is listed on the State and National Register of Historic Places. 134 of the 136 properties are located within the boundaries of the Sidney Historic District. Of the 134 properties within the Sidney Historic District, 117 are contributing, 5 are non-contributing, and 12 are vacant lots that are also non-contributing to that district. The Area of Potential Effect (APE) is identified as the Sidney Historic District.

FUTURE WITH THE PROPOSED ACTION

Per the Criteria of Adverse Effect (36 CFR 800.5(a)(1)), an adverse effect is found when an undertaking may alter, directly or indirectly, any of the characteristics of a historic property that qualify the property for inclusion in the National Register in a manner that would diminish the integrity of the property's location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, or association. Since the Proposed Action includes, partially, the acquisition and demolition of historic structures, it would meet the Criteria of Adverse Effect. The extent of adverse effect would be mitigated partially in the Proposed Action through elevation of at least 35 and as many as 74 homes rather than acquisition and demolition of all homes within the Project Area.

GOSR and FEMA have consulted with the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) and appropriate Consulting Parties (Oneida Indian Nation and Sidney Historical Association) to determine whether they concur with the determination of adverse effect. Once concurrence was established, the SHPO and other Consulting Parties were consulted to seek agreement on ways to avoid or reduce the adverse effect.

Agreement upon the selected mitigation measures to be implemented was effectuated through a Programmatic Agreement between the New York State Housing Trust Fund, the SHPO, FEMA, DHSES, and Delaware County. The Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP) was invited to participate in consultation on the Programmatic Agreement but chose not to participate in the consultation pursuant to 36 C.F.R. § 800.6(a)(1)(iii). Programmatic Agreements are used when effects on historic properties are similar and repetitive, such as those proposed under the Proposed Action; or when effects on historic properties cannot be fully determined before approval of an undertaking, among other reasons.

Initially, the Programmatic Agreement was drafted to evaluate the alternative in which all participating properties within the project area were acquired and demolished. Based on comments received during the Section 106 consultation process indicating opposition to the demolition of certain historic structures, the concurring parties of the Programmatic Agreement held a meeting with residents at the Sidney Central School on September 24, 2015 and the Proposed Action was identified as a preferable alternative. Many residents preferred the opportunity to elevate their homes, particularly those properties east of approximately 70 River Street, while the other identified properties would still receive acquisition and demolition assistance. Such homeowner preferences were confirmed through meetings with individual homeowners, which are ongoing.

In order to mitigate the adverse effect associated with acquisition and demolition or elevation of greater than four (4) feet of some properties, the Programmatic Agreement stipulates architectural salvage and recordation treatment measures to be implemented prior to any demolition activities. Treatment measures are to include documentation, recordation, design review, and salvage of architectural features. The Programmatic Agreement has been signed and executed by the concurring parties. The final Programmatic Agreement was filed with ACHP on December 24, 2015.

AESTHETICS AND VISUAL RESOURCES

EXISTING CONDITIONS

The majority of the Project Area is located within the Village of Sidney Historic District, which is listed on the State and National Register of Historic Places. 134 of the 136 properties are located within the boundaries of the Sidney Historic District. Of the 134 properties within the Sidney Historic District, 117 are contributing, 5 are non-contributing, and 12 are vacant lots that are also non-contributing to that district.

The Village of Sidney portion of the Project Area is bounded by the Susquehanna River to the north, a commercial area and railroad tracks to the southwest, single family residential to the southeast, and farmland to the east. The western portion of the Project Area within the Village of Sidney is characterized by single family homes on approximately ¼-acre lots. There are some institutional uses typical of a residential area, such as schools, public parks, and churches, interspersed within the residences in this area. Most of these homes are contributing to the Village of Sidney Historic District. This area is separated from the eastern portion of the Project Area by Main Street, which is characterized by two to three story commercial/retail buildings with office and residential uses on the second and third floors. These commercial/retail buildings form a unified street wall, with some alleys connecting to surface parking lots in the rear of the buildings. The eastern portion of the Project Area is similarly characterized by single-family homes on ¼ acre lots. Many of these homes are also contributing to the Sidney Historic District.

The Sidney Center portion of the Project Site is located in a small hamlet surrounded by hills rising to an elevation of 1900 feet. Structures within this hamlet are characterized by single family homes on ¼ acre lots. There are some commercial uses along Main Street, particularly on the north end. The two homes within the Project Site are single family residences of a similar age and character to nearby homes. The lots on the north side of Depot Street across from these residences are currently vacant.

FUTURE WITH THE PROPOSED ACTION

The Proposed Action would have an effect on the aesthetic quality of the Village of Sidney Historic District, as the Proposed Action would acquire and demolish approximately 60 properties within the Sidney Historic District and elevate at least 35 and as many as 74 properties within the District. The demolition of structures would irreversibly affect the visual character of the Village of Sidney Historic District.

However, the Proposed Action would reestablish a portion of the Project Area as public open space, which as its own beneficial visual and aesthetic qualities. Furthermore, by elevating at least 35 and as many as 74 homes in the eastern portion of the Sidney Historic District, some of

the oldest, most historic homes and the associated aesthetic and visual character would be preserved.

SOCIOECONOMIC RESOURCES

EXISTING CONDITIONS

The U.S. Census Bureau indicates the population within the Town of Sidney (which encompasses the Village of Sidney and Sidney Center) was 5,774 persons in 2010, down from 6,109 in 2000. This is consistent with the population decline in Delaware County as a whole, which was 47,980 in 2010, a decrease from 48,055 in 2000. The Village of Sidney also declined from 4,068 in 2000 to 3,900 in 2010.

The total number of households located within the Town of Sidney was approximately 2,520 in 2010. At that time, 1,543 (or 61.2%) of households in the Town of Sidney were classified as family households, meaning those living together are related. The remaining households were classified as non-family households or those with individuals who cohabitate but are unrelated, such as roommates. The average household size in the Town was 2.28 persons in 2010, while average family size was 2.83 persons.

The total number of households located within the Village of Sidney was approximately 1,697 in 2010. At that time, 1,005 (or 59.2%) of households in the Village of Sidney were classified as family households, meaning those living together are related. The remaining households were classified as non-family households or those with individuals who cohabitate but are unrelated, such as roommates. The average household size in the Village was 2.28 persons in 2010, while the average family size was 2.90 persons.

The US Census 2009-2013 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates of median annual household income for the Village of Sidney was $35,213, the Town of Sidney was $40,672, and Delaware County was estimated to be $44,470. Approximately 17.5% of individuals in the Village and 12.2% of individuals in the Town are estimated to be below the poverty level. Of individuals within Delaware County, 14.2% are estimated to be below the poverty level.

The Project Site includes 134 properties in the Village of Sidney and two properties in Sidney Center, located in the Town of Sidney outside the Village; all are single family detached housing units. Village of Sidney representatives have stated that the vast majority of the Village homes are currently occupied. The 134 properties represent approximately 6.8% of the total Village housing stock (1,960 units) and 12.1% of the 1,108 single family detached housing units in the Village. The two housing units that in Sidney Center represent 0.8% of the total Town of Sidney housing stock (2,520 units) and 0.12% of the Town's 1,693 single family detached housing units.

According to the US Census 2009-2013 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates, 7.6% of the Village of Sidney, and 11.6 % of the Town of Sidney housing stock is vacant. According to the Multiple Listing Service (MLS), as of April 29, 2015, approximately 85 homes were listed for sale in the Town of Sidney, of which 65 were located in the Village of Sidney.

In 2014, the Village of Sidney had an annual operating budget of $3,495,604, and annual real property tax revenues of $2,388,854. In 2014 the 134 properties in the Project Site in the Village of Sidney generated approximately $112,261 in real property tax revenue, representing 4.7% of

the total real property tax revenue for the Village. In 2014, these properties also generated approximately $40,704 in Delaware County taxes, $24,490 in Town and Highway taxes, and $87,371 in Sidney Central School District taxes. The two properties in Sidney Center generated approximately $579 in Delaware County taxes, $354 in Town and Highway taxes, and $1,334 in Sidney Central School District taxes in 2014. In total, the real property taxes for the properties associated with the Proposed Action represent approximately 0.14% of the Delaware County real property tax revenue, 2.6% of the Town and Highway real property tax revenue, and 1.5% of the Sidney Central School District real property tax revenue annually.

FUTURE WITH THE PROPOSED ACTION

In the Proposed Action, individual property owners in the Village's Historic North End Neighborhood would receive assistance to elevate their homes in their original locations. This assistance would include financial support and requirements for resiliency upgrades to the individual properties that would reduce the potential damage from future storms. As part of the Proposed Action, it is estimated for the purposes of this evaluation that approximately 74 homes would be elevated so that their lowest floor was at least two feet above the Base Flood Elevation. These properties are located in the oldest portion of the Village of Sidney Historic District, and are contiguous to the Village's existing commercial corridor along Main Street.

In the Proposed Action, at least 35 and as many as 74 households would remain in the Village's Historic North End Neighborhood and would continue to purchase goods and services, including food and beverage, household items and services, apparel, healthcare, and transportation. This continued spending power would support businesses in the local area and throughout Delaware County. Based on the median household income in the Village of Sidney and Bureau of Labor Statistics Census Consumer Expenditure Survey data, the total after-tax household income for these estimated approximate 74 households is an estimated $2.57 million.

The economic benefits that would result from $2.57 million in household expenditures were estimated using the IMPLAN (Impact Analysis for PLANning) economic model. Based on the IMPLAN economic model, it is estimated that the household expenditures would support 14 direct, indirect, and induced full- and part-time jobs in Delaware County. Total direct, indirect, and induced employee compensation resulting from the household expenditures is estimated at $298,400 annually. The total effect on the Delaware County economy from the household expenditures, measured as economic output or demand, is estimated at approximately $1.76 million annually. Given the close proximity of the estimated approximate 74 households to businesses in the Village, it is expected that the Village would capture a portion of estimated economic benefits resulting from household spending.

In addition, the Proposed Action would fund the purchase of approximately 60 properties in the Camp Street Neighborhood and two properties in Sidney Center by Delaware County. These properties are located in the areas most susceptible to flooding, and are not located within the older portion of the Village of Sidney Historic District. After demolition and site reclamation, the properties would be turned over to the Village of Sidney and Town of Sidney (for Sidney Center properties) to maintain as open space.

With the acquisition and demolition of approximately 60 homes, local businesses may experience some level of reduced demand for products and services. Based on the methodology

described above, expenditure potential for these approximately 60 households in the Village is estimated at $2.15 million. Businesses in the Village would be less likely to capture a portion of this expenditure potential with the acquisition and demolition of approximately 60 homes, as these households could relocate further from the Village's commercial corridor along Main Street.

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE

EXISTING CONDITIONS

According to 2010 US Census, the population of the Town of Sidney is predominantly Caucasian (96.4%). Approximately 12.2% of Town residents live below the poverty level. The project location is not identified as an Environmental Justice community. According to the NYSDEC (http://www.dec.ny.gov/docs/permits_ej_operations_pdf/delawareej.pdf), a portion of the Village of Sidney contains a potential environmental justice area. However, this site is not within the Project Area.

FUTURE WITH THE PROPOSED ACTION

The Proposed Action would not have disproportionately high or adverse impacts on human health and human environment of minority or low-income populations.

AIR QUALITY

EXISTING CONDITIONS

The Proposed Action is located in Delaware County, which is not within the most recent nonattainment or maintenance area for inhalable particulate matter (PM2.5) or 8-hour ozone as of April 23, 2015. Therefore, a conformity assessment is not warranted.

FUTURE WITH THE PROPOSED ACTION

Construction activities as a result of the Proposed Action may result in temporary increases in emissions from on-site equipment, construction-related vehicles and non-road engines, and fugitive dust. However, all activities under the Proposed Action would comply with applicable federal, state, and local laws and regulations regarding construction emissions, as discussed in the project description. Overall, construction activities would occur at scattered sites under the Proposed Action, and air pollutant concentration increments from construction activities are highly localized, i.e., almost entirely due to construction activity in close proximity to receptor locations and not due to cumulative impacts from the larger area.

The Proposed Action would result in a temporary minor impact to air quality due to construction activities; no long-term impacts are anticipated. Construction activities on the project site may have a potential impact on the local air quality through the generation of fugitive dust or airborne dust. Fugitive dust is generated during ground breaking and excavation activities. Emissions from diesel construction vehicles are also a potential source of air pollution. The use of BMPs would help minimize dust and vehicle emissions. Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) standards would be followed to preserve public health of construction workers and nearby residences.

CONTAMINATED MATERIALS

EXISTING CONDITIONS

HUD policy requires that the proposed site and adjacent areas be free of hazardous materials, contamination, toxic chemicals and gases, and radioactive substances, where a hazard could affect the health and safety of occupants of the property.

According to the EPA, Delaware County is located in Radon Zone 1, where predicted average indoor radon screening level greater than 4 pCi/L (picocuries per liter). However, radon testing and mitigation measures would not be necessary for structures to be acquired for demolition as no housing would be constructed or reoccupied. In the case of elevations, post elevation radon testing should be performed, and homes with measurements exceeding 4 pCi/L should be evaluated to determine the appropriate intervention.

FUTURE WITH THE PROPOSED ACTION

The Proposed Action would include elevation or demolition of structures constructed prior to 1978. As such, structures to be modified or demolished may include lead-based paint and materials containing asbestos. All solid waste materials would be managed and transported in accordance with the state's solid and hazardous waste rules. Program activities would conform to Part 56 of Title 12 of the Official Compilation of Codes, Rules and Regulations of the NYS Department of Labor (12 NYCRR Part 56); the National Emission Standard for Asbestos—Standard for demolition and renovation (40 CFR Part 61.145); National Emission Standard for Asbestos—Standard for waste disposal for manufacturing, fabricating, demolition, and spraying operations (40 CFR Part 61.150); EPA Repair, Renovation, and Painting (RRP) Rule (40 CFR 745.80 Subpart E), HUD's lead-based paint regulations in 24 CFR Part 35 Subparts A, B, H, J, and R, and HUD "Guidelines for the Evaluation and Control of Lead-Based Paint Hazards in Housing." The Guidelines complement regulations that have been issued by HUD, the EPA, and the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA), and policies from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). In general, these regulations apply to housing constructed prior to 1978.

All activities must comply with applicable federal, state, and local laws and regulations regarding lead-based paint, including but not limited to, EPA Repair, Renovation, and Painting (RRP) Rule (40 CFR 745.80 Subpart E), HUD's lead-based paint regulations in 24 CFR Part 35 Subparts A, B, H, J, and R, HUD "Guidelines for the Evaluation and Control of Lead-Based Paint Hazards in Housing. The Guidelines complement regulations that have been issued by HUD, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), and the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA), and policies from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). In general, these regulations apply to housing constructed prior to 1978.

Prior to demolition or disturbance of building materials for elevation, an asbestos survey would be prepared by a Qualified Environmental Professional (QEP) for each property to determine the presence or absence of asbestos containing materials. Based on the findings of the asbestos survey, remediation would be conducted prior to demolition or elevation in accordance with all applicable city, state, and federal regulations. Any remediation would be appropriately scheduled and coordinated with any demolition, elevation, and/or redevelopment activities.

For homes to be elevated where painted surfaces will be disturbed, a Lead-Based Paint risk assessment will be carried out by a QEP if painted surfaces are to be disturbed by the elevation work. If lead hazards are discovered, they must be remediated by a QEP prior to grant closeout.

When the target residential property is on or within 3,000 feet of a potentially hazardous site, a QEP would determine if the potential hazard requires remediation. If remediation is required, it would be appropriately scheduled and coordinated with any demolition or elevation activities. There may be some residential properties with improper storage and excessive accumulation of toxic substances (i.e. petroleum products, pesticides, cleaning substances). Initial site inspection of residential properties may document the presence of abandoned and otherwise non-working vehicles with the potential for leakage of toxic materials. Barrels or tanks with petroleum products or other potentially toxic substances may be identified. Remediation activities may include the purging of lines, tanks, and equipment containing hazardous chemicals, gasses, or flammable materials. If tank removal is required, tanks would be excavated, soil would be removed, and soil samples would be taken prior to closure. Air monitoring equipment may be used to determine if any hazardous conditions remain. Demolition and elevation activities would adhere to dust suppression and personal protective gear to minimize exposure to lead paint.

Mold can also have an adverse effect on human health and is a very common problem in houses that have been flooded. Some situations would require extra precautions to limit the distribution of airborne mold spores during demolition or elevation.

NOISE

EXISTING CONDITIONS

The ambient noise level in the vicinity of the project site is typical for a residential/rural area. Most of the land in the vicinity of the Project Area is comprised of residential development. Temporary increases in noise levels due to demolition activities would be minimized through compliance with local noise ordinances, including time-of-day work limitations and construction of temporary noise barriers. During demolition, GOSR would ensure that all equipment would operate with mufflers.

Noise regulations under 24 CFR Part 51 Subpart B do not apply to disaster recovery programs which meet the definition under Part 51.101(a)(3), which states, "[t]he policy does not apply to research demonstration projects which do not result in new construction or reconstruction, flood insurance, interstate land sales registration, or any action or emergency assistance under disaster assistance provisions or appropriations which are provided to save lives, protect property, protect public health and safety, remove debris and wreckage, or assistance that has the effect of restoring facilities substantially as they existed prior to the disaster."

FUTURE WITH THE PROPOSED ACTION

Construction activities associated with elevation, demolition and re-grading at selected properties could cause temporary increases in noise levels. Temporary increases in noise levels would be mitigated by compliance with local noise ordinances. HUD has determined that its Part 51 noise regulations are not applicable to a disaster recovery program which meets the definition of 24 CFR Part 51.101(a)(3) for emergency assistance under disaster provisions or appropriations provided to save lives, protect property, protect public health and safety, and

remove debris and wreckage, or provide assistance that has the effect of restoring facilities substantially as they existed prior to the disaster. The Proposed Action provides disaster assistance for the purpose of saving lives and protecting property, public health, and public safety. However, the Proposed Action would comply with all applicable local noise regulations, including hours of operation.

TRAFFIC

EXISTING CONDITIONS

The Village of Sidney and Sidney Center are accessible from Interstate 88 and NYS Route 8. Exit 9 on Interstate 88 provides access to the Village of Sidney, and Exit 10 provides access to Sidney Center. Interstate 88 has an average daily total of 5,408 eastbound and 5,390 westbound trips.

NYS Route 8 is classified by NYS as a Rural Principal Arterial road. Through the Project Area is four-lanes (two north and two south), with an average daily total volume of 7,319 trips (3,660 north and 3,659 south).

Within the Project Area, the main roads include West Main Street and County Highway 23/East Main Street. West Main Street has an average daily total volume of 1,413 eastbound and 1,582 westbound. County Highway 23/East Main Street has an average daily total volume of 1,441 eastbound and 1,404 westbound.

FUTURE WITH THE PROPOSED ACTION

A short-term impact to traffic would be anticipated during the construction period associated with elevation, demolition and, site restoration of properties. The presence of construction and delivery vehicles is unavoidable; however, this impact would be short lived and all site construction activities would comply with local ordinances that relate to operations on a construction site. No long-term impacts to traffic are anticipated as a result of the Proposed Action.

INFRASTRUCTURE

EXISTING CONDITIONS

The Project Area is located in the Village of Sidney and Sidney Center. The 134 properties within the Village are served by Village water and sewer services. The two Sidney Center properties have individual wells and septic systems.

FUTURE WITH THE PROPOSED ACTION

The Proposed Action would involve the acquisition and demolition of approximately 60 existing residential structures within the Village of Sidney, most of which are currently occupied. As such, the Proposed Action would reduce existing demand on the Village's water and sewer infrastructure. Water and sewer lines to the acquired and demolished properties would be capped and existing wells and septic systems at the two properties to be acquired and demolished in Sidney Center would be abandoned in accordance with all applicable regulations. Point of use connections to existing homes to be elevated may require minor modification to accommodate

added structural elevation. There would be no change to existing water or sewer demand as a result of the elevation of at least 35 and as many as 74 homes in the Village of Sidney.

PUBLIC HEALTH AND SAFETY

EXISTING CONDITIONS

The Village of Sidney and Sidney Center's public health and safety was negatively impacted by Tropical Storm Lee. The homes within the floodplain experienced extensive flood damage, which threatened life and safety.

FUTURE WITH THE PROPOSED ACTION

The overall public health and safety of the Village of Sidney and Sidney Center would be positively impacted by the Proposed Action. The elevation of at least 35 and as many as 74 properties within the Project Area would reduce the risk to life and safety associated with residential flooding. The acquisition and demolition of approximately 60 properties within the Project Area would result in fewer residents in the areas most susceptible to future flood hazards and contribute to natural storm attenuation characteristics.

CLIMATE CHANGE

EXISTING CONDITIONS

Climate change could potentially increase temperatures in the northeast United States; could potentially cause more severe weather incidents to occur; and could potentially cause sea levels to rise.

Climate change impacts relevant to the Proposed Action are summarized below. Broader discussion of climate change impacts can be found in the following documents and are incorporated here by reference, as recommended by CEQ:

- Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change Fifth Assessment Report (IPCC 2013)
- Third National Climate Assessment (United States Global Change Research Program 2014)

While climate change impacts many aspects of the climate, resulting in myriad secondary effects, the effects most relevant to the Proposed Action's planning efforts are an increase in temperatures in the northeast United States; the potential to cause more severe weather incidents to occur; and a projected rise in mean sea levels.

Under existing conditions, the homes within the project area use energy, and induce energy use by associated with the production of materials and construction required for rebuilding efforts after flooding events. This energy use results in both direct and indirect greenhouse gas emissions.

FUTURE WITH THE PROPOSED ACTION

The Proposed Action would provide for flood damage risk reduction that are relevant to climate change; through the demolition of flood-prone structures, the creation of open space, and restoration of floodplain functions. Likewise, structure elevations will reduce the risk of future damages caused by increasingly severe storm events. Though the Proposed Action would result

in a short-term increase in energy use and emissions from construction equipment, the Proposed Action would result in improved long-term climate preparedness and resilience.

CUMULATIVE IMPACTS

Potential cumulative impacts of the Proposed Action were considered. The Sidney Reconstruction Plan identifies several future projects that the Village would like to undertake to mitigate loss of life and property during future storm events, as well as create a more stable and resilient community. Two of these projects, the Riverlea Housing Project and the Sidney GreenPlain, if developed, would have cumulative impacts with the Proposed Action. Additionally, these potential future projects would be tiered and implemented separately from one another.

The Riverlea Housing project would seek to relocate existing area residents to safer locations within the community. This proposed project contemplates a 165-lot development on a 165 acre parcel that would be annexed to the Village of Sidney. The Riverlea Housing project, which has independent utility from the acquisition/demolition program, would be evaluated under a separate SEQRA review once the project has been more fully formulated.

The Sidney Reconstruction Plan also contemplates the possible future development of a "GreenPlain" which would incorporate some parcels associated with the Proposed Action. The 140-acre Sidney GreenPlain would be designed to provide additional flood storage for both the Susquehanna River and Weir Creek by creating a series of meandering channels that connect to larger vegetated storage areas. With or without the Proposed Action, the GreenPlain could move forward. However, in the absence of the Proposed Action, it would likely involve a smaller area. The cumulative impact of the GreenPlain and the Proposed Action would be the reduction of loss of life and property damage during future storm events, as well as enhanced flood protection. The review of the potential future GreenPlain project would be evaluated under SEQRA at such time that the scope of the project has been more fully formulated. The acquisition/demolition of homes under the Proposed Action has independent utility from the GreenPlain, thus justifying independent SEQRA reviews for these complementary projects.

Additionally, there are potential regional projects currently proposed which would include breaching of dams on tributary waterways and establishment of alternative drinking water sources. Careful study of system-level hydrodynamic effects associated with such a project would be required. Understanding of the cumulative impact of this type of project and the Proposed Action will continue to evolve as further project information becomes available.

FLOOD RISK

Many of the properties encompassed by the Proposed Action are older, and therefore were not built to current standards and codes. In some areas, flood information was not available, not applicable at the time, or not taken into account when these homes were built. The areas which experienced flood damage from the recent storms are at risk of flooding in future storms. Climate change poses an increasing risk of flooding as sea levels rise and storms become more intense.

Flood risk maps have been and are being revised to account for the projected increasing flooding due to climate change. Building codes have been and are being changed to reflect these changes in flood risk.

The Proposed Action would result in the elevation of at least 35 and as many as 74 homes to an elevation of at least two feet above the BFE and the acquisition and demolition of approximately 60 homes, thereby greatly reducing the risk of flood damage within the Project Area. For acquisition properties, after demolition of the structures, basements, and foundations, any holes from the removed foundation would be filled, topsoil would be placed, and the sites would be re-graded and seeded in a manner consistent with limiting site disturbance. After demolition and site reclamation, Delaware County would transfer ownership of the Village parcels to the Village of Sidney to maintain as open spaces. All open space compatible uses would be in accordance with FEMA requirements under the HMGP requirements. The program would create open space for flood attenuation, which would mitigate the future flood risk for nearby neighborhoods.

The Sidney Reconstruction Plan identifies several village neighborhoods that are at extreme risk of flooding. These include River Street at Division and at Oak Avenue, the Sherman Avenue and Adams Street neighborhood, and the Willow and Liberty Street neighborhood. The majority of the properties within these neighborhoods are included in the Proposed Action.

CONSTRUCTION IMPACTS

While there is the potential for a cumulative impact from the generation of construction debris from the elevation or demolition of a great number of homes through the Proposed Action, most of the impact would be mitigated. Strict requirements for the disposal of debris are in place to prevent, to the extent possible, any negative impacts to the environment. The handling and disposal of demolition and construction debris, control of storm water runoff, and noise impacts resulting from the Proposed Action in Sidney would be in accordance with all local, state, and federal regulations as part of the acceptance of assistance funding.

GROWTH INDUCEMENT

The Proposed Action involves purchasing approximately 60 storm-damaged residential properties, securing the sites, and demolishing and clearing existing structures. While the Proposed Action would partially displace existing neighborhoods, it is anticipated that these residents would relocate elsewhere in the community, or perhaps the region. Furthermore, the Proposed Action would elevate at least 35 and as many as 74 homes in their original locations, thereby maintaining a large portion of the neighborhood and its residents.

As such, the Proposed Action is not anticipated to substantially alter regional growth patterns, change residential settlement patterns, displace any public or publicly funded community facilities, or significantly affect growth in employment centers. Therefore, the Proposed Action would not be expected to generate significant secondary or induced effects, or induce any significant development activity that would otherwise not occur in the region or study area.

MITIGATION MEASURES

To avoid significant adverse impacts, the following mitigation measures have been included as part of the Proposed Action.

1. Buildings must be elevated in accordance with state/local building code and be in compliance with the flood damage prevention local law; generally, at a minimum, buildings should have their lowest floor elevated above the base flood elevation, as identified under the community's Flood Insurance Rate Maps incorporating best available data with appropriate freeboard.
2. Any proposed construction in the floodplain will need to be coordinated with the local floodplain administrator and must comply with Federal, state, and local floodplain laws and regulations.
3. Excavated soil and waste materials will be managed and disposed of in accordance with applicable federal, state and local regulations.
4. The Proposed Action will comply with the NYSDEC State Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (SPDES) permit for stormwater discharge from construction activity or other applicable SPDES permit, in accordance with NYSECL.
5. The Proposed Action will comply with all applicable state and local noise regulations, including all hours of operation, and the use of muffling equipment where feasible to reduce noise associated with construction and demolition activities.
6. In accordance with the Programmatic Agreement, in the event that unmarked graves, burials, human remains or archaeological deposits are uncovered, the Project Sponsor and its contractors will immediately halt construction activities in the vicinity of the discovery, secure the site and take reasonable measures to avoid or minimize harm to the finds. The Project Sponsor will inform the DHSES, SHPO and FEMA immediately. FEMA would then notify the Delaware Tribe of Indians, the St. Regis Mohawk Tribe, Oneida Indian Nation, and the Stockbridge Munsee Band of Mohicans. The Project Sponsor must secure all archaeological findings and shall restrict access to the area. Work in sensitive areas may not resume until consultations are completed or until an archaeologist who meets the Secretary of the Interior's Professional Qualification Standards determines the extent and historical significance of the discovery. Work may not resume at or around the delineated archaeological deposit until the Project Sponsor is notified by DHSES.
7. The disconnection of any water supply or sanitary sewer connection shall be coordinated with the Delaware County Health Department, the New York State Department of Health, and/or the Village of Sidney.
8. The project area serves as potential summer roosting habitat for the threatened Northern long-eared bat (Myotis septentrionalis). The following conditions shall apply:
    a. Avoid cutting or destroying trees within 150 feet of known, occupied maternity roost trees during the pup season (June 1-July 31) for the Northern long-eared bat;
    b. Any bat colonies observed in structures to be demolished shall be reported to FEMA, HUD & USFWS. If bats (of any species) are using a structure (e.g., residences, barns or other outbuildings) as a roost, demolition of the structure will be performed outside of the June 1-July 31 bat pup season, unless there are human health or safety concerns associated with the structure; and

c. Limit removal of existing vegetation, such as woody shrubs and trees, to conserve habitat for bats, migratory birds and other wildlife.

9. To minimize impact to bird nests, woody vegetation removal shall be scheduled outside of March 15 to July 31, if practicable.

10. Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) standards shall be followed during construction to avoid adverse impacts to worker health and safety.

11. Any woody tree and shrub material to be removed for the Proposed Action is required to be chipped on site to chips of less than one inch in two dimensions or must not be transported whole outside the community.

12. Disturbed construction areas will be restored with native seed and/or plant species to minimize soil erosion and sedimentation, as well as enhance environmental habitat quality of project area. Disturbed soil areas would be planted with native plant material as soon as practicable after exposure to avoid or minimize growth of undesired and potentially invasive plant species that can potentially take hold without competition of native plant materials.

CONCLUSION

The Proposed Action, which involves the elevation or acquisition and demolition of up to 134 structures in the Village of Sidney, and two structures in Sidney Center, would not significantly adversely impact the human environment. It is estimated that at least 35 and as many as 74 homes in the Village of Sidney would be elevated in place and that approximately 60 homes in the Village of Sidney and two homes in Sidney Center would be acquired and demolished. The estimated numbers of homes to be elevated or acquired and demolished are preliminary and may be subject to change. Elevation and acquisition/demolition activities under the Proposed Action would occur in extreme risk areas, including some that have been identified as “repetitive loss.”

During construction associated with elevation or demolition of homes, short-term impacts to soils, surface water, transportation, air quality, and noise are anticipated. Short-term impacts would be mitigated utilizing BMPs, such as silt fences, proper equipment maintenance, and appropriate signage. Environmental impacts of elevation or demolition activities would also be minimized per adherence to the required Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) and conditions of issued permits. In the event that contamination is encountered during construction, it would be handled and disposed of properly and in compliance with applicable regulations. Adverse effects to cultural resources would be fully mitigated in accordance with the requirements set forth in the Programmatic Agreement, included as part of the Proposed Action.

After considering the alternatives, GOSR has determined that there is no practicable alternative other than to proceed with the proposed program. The individual actions undertaken by the described Proposed Action would result in fewer residents in the areas most susceptible to future flood hazards and contribute to the communities’ storm attenuation characteristics. While the Proposed Action is anticipated to result in an adverse effect to historic properties, the benefits of the Proposed Action outweigh the anticipated impacts.

HAZARD MITIGATION GRANT PROGRAM
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT – DISASTER RECOVERY
GLOBAL MATCH ACQUISITION & ELEVATION
VILLAGE OF SIDNEY AND SIDNEY CENTER, DELAWARE COUNTY

Negative Declaration Distribution List

Environmental Notice Bulletin

NYSDHSES
1220 Washington Avenue, Suite 101, Building 22
Albany, NY 12226-2251
NYSDEC Region 4
1130 North Westcott Road
Schenectady, NY 12306-2014

Mr. John Bonafide
New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation
Peebles Island, PO Box 189
Waterford, NY 12188-0189

Larry Moss
Technical Assistance & Compliance Unit
New York State Division for Historic Preservation
Peebles Island State Park
P.O. Box 189
Waterford, NY 12188-0189

Rick Lord
Chief of Mitigation Programs
Agency Preservation Officer
New York State Division of Homeland Security & Emergency Services
1220 Washington Avenue, Bldg 7A – Floor 4,
Albany, New York 12242

New York Department of Transportation
Commissioner Matthew J. Driscoll
NYSDOT Main Office
50 Wolf Road
Albany, NY 12232

New York State Department of Environmental Conservation
Acting Commissioner Basil Seggos
625 Broadway
Albany, NY 12233-0001

New York State Department of Environmental Conservation
James Tierney
Assistant Commissioner of Water Resources
625 Broadway
Albany, NY 12233-0001

New York State Department of Environmental Conservation
William Nechamen
Floodplain Management
Division of Water
625 Broadway
Albany, NY 12233-0001

New York Department of State
Office of Planning and Development
Suite 1010
One Commerce Place, 99 Washington Avenue
Albany, NY 12231-0001

New York State Office of Emergency Management
Director Kevin Wisely
1220 Washington Avenue
Suite 101, Building 22
Albany, NY 12226-2251

Ron Rausch, Director
Environmental Management Bureau
New York State OPRHP
625 Broadway
Albany, NY 12238

Preservation League of New York State
44 Central Avenue
Albany, NY 12206-3002

Shelly Johnson-Bennett
Chief Planner
Delaware County Planning
P.O. Box 367, 1 Page Avenue
Delhi, New York 13753

Office of Delaware County Chair of Legislature
Mr. James Eisel
Chair of Supervisors
111 Main St
Delhi, NY 13753

Office of the Delaware County Clerk
Sharon O'Dell
County Clerk
P.O. Box 426
Delhi, NY 13753
Delaware County Historian
Gabrielle Pierce
One Court House Square, Suite 1
Delhi, NY 13753

Delaware County Historical Association
46549 State Hwy 10
Delhi, NY 13753

Village of Sidney
Civic Center
21 Liberty Street
Sidney, NY 13838

Mr. Michael E. Wood, President
Sidney Historical Association
Sidney Civic Center
21 Liberty St.
Sidney, New York 13838

Town of Sidney Historian
Sidney Civic Center
21 Liberty St.
Sidney, NY 13838

Sidney Historical Museum
Sidney Civic Center
21 Liberty St.
2nd Fl. – Room 218
Sidney, NY 13838