



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE
GREATER ATLANTIC REGIONAL FISHERIES OFFICE
55 Great Republic Drive
Gloucester, MA 01930-2276

MAR 2 2015

Mr. Daniel Greene
Deputy General Counsel and Certifying Officer
Governor's Office of Storm Recovery
25 Beaver Street
New York, New York 10004


Dear Mr. Greene,

This letter is in response to your request, dated January 30, 2015, that we participate as a cooperating agency in the environmental review of the proposed Rebuild by Design Living Breakwaters Project and the proposed New York Rising Community Reconstruction Tottenville Dune Project. We agree to participate as a cooperating agency to help advance effective interagency coordination on this project.

Our role and degree of involvement as a cooperating agency is dependent on existing staff and fiscal resources. We will provide written comments in response to your documents prepared as part of the NEPA process, i.e. draft EA, EIS and scoping documents. You can expect our comments to provide technical information identifying species and habitats of concern, identification of issues and topics that need consideration and evaluation in your NEPA process, and guidance on evaluating, minimizing and avoiding effects to our trust resources. We are not in a position to undertake data collection, conduct EIS analyses, or prepare sections of the draft or final EIS as staff and resources are fully tasked in other obligatory NOAA Fisheries programs. Please note that our participation as a cooperating agency does not constitute an endorsement of this project, nor does it obviate the need for consultations required under the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act, Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act; and the Endangered Species Act.

Thank you for the opportunity to participate as a cooperating agency on this project. We look forward to working with you. If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact Melissa Alvarez at (732) 872-3116 for information regarding EFH (Habitat Conservation Division Contact) or for Jennifer Goebel at (978) 281-9373 for information regarding ESA (Protected Resources Division Contact).

Sincerely,

for 
John K. Bullard
Regional Administrator

cc: Melissa Alvarez, NMFS HCD
Jennifer Goebel, NMFS PRD

