



United States Department of the Interior

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Washington, DC 20240



DEC 6 2005

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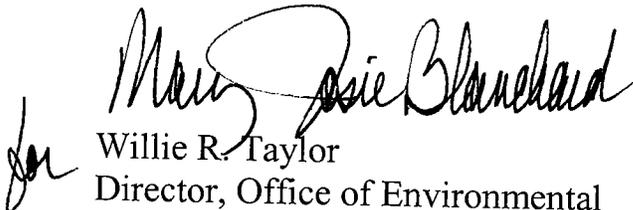
Mr. Thomas W. Waters
Chief, Policy and Policy Compliance Division
Directorate of Civil Works
Headquarters, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
CECW-P (SA)
7701 Telegraph Road
Alexandria, VA 22315-3860

Dear Mr. Waters:

As requested, the U.S. Department of the Interior has reviewed the Chief of Engineers' Proposed Report on Montauk Point, Hurricane and Storm Damage Reduction, New York.

The Department does not object to the proposed project and has no comments to offer. The point of contact is Ms. Loretta Sutton, 202-208-7565. We appreciate the opportunity to review the Chief's Proposed Report and supporting documents.

Sincerely,


Willie R. Taylor
Director, Office of Environmental
Policy and Compliance



New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation
The Governor Nelson A. Rockefeller Empire State Plaza
Agency Building 1, Albany, New York 12238

518-474-0456

Human Resources
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518-474-0061

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December 16, 2005

Thomas W. Waters, P.E.
Chief, Policy and Policy Compliance Division
Directorate of Civil Works
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Washington, D.C. 20314-1000

RE: Montauk Point Storm Damage Reduction Project

Dear Mr. Waters:

The New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation (OPRHP) has reviewed the Final Feasibility report for the above-referenced project, including the Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS).

The FEIS addresses the major environmental and operational concerns that we have discussed with the Army Corps and the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) in the past. As the time for implementation nears, we request a consultation or pre-construction meeting on access needs and coordination of the work with respect to continued operation of the lighthouse and Montauk Point State Park.

There are three primary aspects to OPRHP involvement that require consultation. One is its function as the State Historic Preservation Officer pursuant to that National Historic Preservation Act. The second involves easements on State parkland to be issued by the State Office of General Services working with OPRHP as the jurisdictional authority and DEC as the non-Federal Sponsor. DEC should contact OPRHP directly on this matter. In addition, as the project will have an impact on State parkland and its users, as indicated within the FEIS, communication with OPRHP will continue throughout all phases of the Project. Following are examples of the types of items that should be addressed during the above-referenced consultation meeting:

- If previously unidentified archaeological materials are uncovered during construction, the on-site archaeologist should contact OPRHP to help determine the significance (National Register eligibility) of the materials and to consult as needed.
- For any work affecting roads, paths or other areas in the Park, preliminary plans should be submitted to the park contact (see below) for review and input prior to final decisions.
- The preliminary plan to be developed for notice and signage to the shorefront for sightseers, trail walkers, and fishermen should also be submitted to the park contact for review and input.

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- As also indicated in the FEIS, a seasonal schedule will be developed in coordination with the Montauk Historical Society and OPRHP.
- Preliminary plans for restoration of roads and paths should also be submitted to the park contact for review and input.

OPRHP has an interest in any work that may not be located on, but may affect, State Parklands or their users. Best Management Practices for erosion control should be used to protect parklands and adjacent waters from erosion and sedimentation.

The primary contact on implementation matters is:

Thomas Dess, Park Manager III
Montauk State Park Complex
50 South Fairview Ave.
Montauk, NY 11954
631-668-3781; Fax 631-668-7893
Thomas.Dess@oprhp.state.ny.us

Thank you for consideration of these comments. We look forward to working closely with the Corps and DEC to preserve the historically important Lighthouse and surrounding lands.

Sincerely,



Daniel S. Kane
Director, Resource Management

cc: Headquarters, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, ATTN: CECW-P(IP), Alexandria VA
Dr. Christopher Ricciardi, Project Archaeologist, USACE
Christopher Pushkarsh, Deputy Commissioner, OPRHP
John Norbeck, Regional Director, OPRHP
Thomas B. Lyons, Director, Environmental Management, OPRHP
Ruth Pierpont, director, Field Services Bureau, Division for Historic Preservation, OPRHP
Scott Fish, Regional Capital Facilities Manager, OPRHP
Thomas Dess, Park Manager, Montauk State Park Complex