

Considering the Environment

1. What is the Purpose of this Meeting?

These are scoping meetings, being held to solicit your input.

2. What is Scoping?

Scoping allows all interested parties an equal opportunity to express concerns so that they may be considered by the decision makers in identifying the environmental consequences of a proposed course of action. The process involves bringing together Federal, state and local governments and agencies, as well as interest groups and the public, to discuss concerns and how they may best be addressed in the EIS.

3. When and Where to Scope?

To initiate the scoping process, the District prepared a preliminary scoping document. Copies were mailed to agencies in October 1996, and an interagency meeting was held in November 1996. Input from agencies was received and incorporated into the revised scoping document. Copies of that scoping document are available here, or by writing the District. Public Information meetings, such as this, have also been planned to broaden the public's opportunity to ask questions and provide input into the scope of the EIS.

4. Preparing an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)

An EIS is prepared whenever a major Federal action is being considered which has the potential for significant environ-



mental impact. The Fire Island Inlet to Montauk Point Reformulation Study EIS will consider a range of alternatives to address direct, indirect and cumulative impacts.

5. What will the EIS Do?

An EIS ensures that decision makers take the environmental impacts of a project into full consideration before they determine if the project is in the public interest. Some of the areas to be evaluated include impacts to the biological communities, habitat features, and impacts to cultural resources.

6. We Need Your Help!

Your input is important to be sure that all appropriate concerns are included in the EIS. To be sure that your concerns aren't misinterpreted, we ask you to put them in writing. There are comment forms available here. These forms can be returned to any Corps representative, or placed in a comment box. If you would prefer to take some additional time considering your comments you may mail the form (or a letter) to the District at the address below.

To be sure your comments and concerns receive full attention, they must reach the District no later than September 15, 1997. Address your correspondence on the scope of the EIS to:

Peter Wepler, EIS Coordinator
(212) 264-4663
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
ATTN: CENAN-PL-EA
26 Federal Plaza
New York, NY 10278-0090