



**US Army Corps
of Engineers®**
New York District

News Release

Contact: Peter H. Shugert
Phone: (917) 790-8007
E-mail: peter.h.shugert@usace.army.mil
Fax: (212) 264-0614

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
October 5, 2006

Corps announces Route 92 FEIS, comment period

NEW YORK -- The U. S. Army Corps of Engineers, New York District, today announced completion of the Final Environmental Impact Statement for the Route 92 project proposed by the New Jersey Turnpike Authority. The public comment period on the document is scheduled to close Nov. 14.

A notice of availability of the FEIS will be published in the *Federal Register* Oct. 13. The FEIS addresses various issues raised during the application review and public comment process to date. It does not include a recommended decision. The Corps will announce its decision some time after this public comment period on this FEIS is closed, and after the New Jersey Turnpike Authority obtains approvals from the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection, including a Water Quality Certificate required by Section 401 of the Clean Water Act, and after the public and agency comments are assessed and incorporated into the Corps final decision making.

Comments on the FEIS must be submitted in writing to the New York District Corps of Engineers to be received prior to the end of the comment period, 5 p.m. Nov. 14, by one of the following three ways:

Written comments, showing the application number 1999-00240-J1, can be submitted by fax machine (212) 264-4260.

-- more --

2 – 2 – 2 Corps announces Route 92

Written comments, showing the application number 1999-00240-J1, can be submitted by mail addressed to New York District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Regulatory Branch, ATTN: NJTA Route 92 Application, Jacob K. Javits Federal Building, Room 1937, New York, NY 10278-0090.

Written comments, showing the application number 1999-00240-J1, can be submitted by e-mail addressed to Nan.Route92EIS@usace.army.mil

The FEIS was prepared to assist the Corps in evaluating a permit application submitted by the New Jersey Turnpike Authority. The application requests authorization under the Federal Clean Water Act to discharge fill material into approximately 12.03 acres of wetlands and open waters, with an additional 1.16 acres of shading of wetlands from elevated sections of the roadway in and adjacent to Devil's Brook, Shallow Brook and unnamed tributaries within the Raritan River watershed. The applicant's proposed project is located in the townships of South Brunswick, Plainsboro and Monroe, Middlesex County, N.J.

The applicant's project involves filling wetlands and open water to facilitate construction of a 6.7-mile, limited-access toll highway that would provide express east-west travel capacity for through traffic, and connect U.S. Route 1 in South Brunswick Township to U.S. Route 130 and the New Jersey Turnpike at Interchange 8A in Monroe Township.

The applicant proposes to compensate for the permanent wetland impacts by establishing 56 acres of wetlands and 0.85 acres of open water. The proposed mitigation area would extend north and south from the proposed Route 92 alignment east of Haypress Road in the Township of South Brunswick. The FEIS evaluates existing site conditions and potential impacts including cumulative impacts of the permit applicant's proposed Route 92, and alternatives to the applicant's proposed project. A Draft Environmental Impact Statement was issued in April 2004. A public hearing was held on the project and the DEIS on May 20, 2004. Responses to the DEIS and public hearing comments are included in the FEIS.

-- more --

3 – 3 – 3 Corps announces Route 92

Corps officials note that there has been great public interest in the applicant's project, and that interested parties have already offered many comments for and against the proposal. The Corps welcomes continued public participation in the coordination process, and encourages the public to offer comments regarding the information included in the FEIS.

The FEIS may be requested from the Corps of Engineers, or may be reviewed at the following locations:

- U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New York District, 26 Federal Plaza, Room 1937, New York, N.Y., (917) 790-8412
- South Brunswick Public Library, 110 Kingston Lane, Monmouth Junction, N.J., (732) 274-7280
- New Jersey DEP, Information Resource Center, 432 East State St., Trenton, N.J. (609) 984-2249
- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 2 Library, 16th Floor, 290 Broadway, New York, N.Y., (212) 637-3185
- Plainsboro Public Library, 641 Plainsboro Rd., Plainsboro, N.J. (609) 275-2899
- Monroe Township Municipal Building, Dept. of Planning and Environmental Protection, One Municipal Plaza, Lower Level, Monroe Twp., N.J., (732) 521-4400

The Corps public notice announcing the availability of the FEIS and listing frequently asked questions can be accessed on the New York District web site at

<http://www.nan.usace.army.mil/business/buslinks/regulat/eis/index.htm>