

APPENDIX A

Reconfirmation of SEQR Lead Agency Status

Dated July 8, 2005



ALBANY COUNTY AIRPORT AUTHORITY
ALBANY INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
ADMINISTRATION BUILDING
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ALBANY, NEW YORK 12211-1057

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July 8, 2005

Hon. Mary Brizzell, Supervisor
John Frazer, Jr., Superintendent
Town of Colonie Memorial Town Hall
534 Loudon Road
Newtonville, New York 12128

James B. Curcetti, MD., M.P.H., Commissioner
Albany County Department of Health
175 Green Street
Albany, New York 12202

Ruth L. Pierpont, Director
NYSOPRHP
Historic Preservation Field Services Bureau
Pebbles Island, PO Box 189
Waterford, New York 12188

Mark Fitzsimmons, Director
Albany County Department of Planning and
Economic Development
112 State Street
Albany, New York 12207

Steve Schassler, Regional Director
NYSDOEC
Region 4
1150 N. Westcott Road
Schenectady, New York 12306

Michael Burke, Director
New York State Department of Health
Bureau of Public Water Supply
Flanigan Square, Room 400
547 River Street
Troy, New York 12180

Thomas Werner, Regional Director
NYSDOT
Region 1
328 State Street
Schenectady, New York 12305

**RE: Reconfirmation of SEQR Lead Agency Status
Runway 28 Obstruction Removal Project**

Dear Sir/Madam:

The Albany County Airport Authority, pursuant to a Resolution dated June 13, 2005 seeks to reopen the New York State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQR) process for the Runway 28 Obstruction Removal Project. This reopening of SEQR is being made at the request of the Town of Colonie to include "consideration" of the removal of the Latham Water District Tank at Ross Court as part of the project. The Town may or may not follow through with the Ross Court tank removal, depending upon the final design for the new facilities, however, the Town wishes to have the option available for implementation.

In response to the Town of Colonie's request to include consideration of the Ross Court tank removal as part of the SEQR evaluation for the Runway 28 Obstruction Removal Project, the Authority has classified the amended action as Type I in accordance with 6 NYCRR 617.4(b)(6)(i). The Authority plans to make a determination of significance for the amended action, upon the completion of an environmental assessment report that addresses the potential impacts associated with the proposed action, as modified to include consideration of the Ross Court tank removal. This expanded environmental assessment is currently planned to be completed on or around August 1, 2005. Part 1 of the Full Environmental Assessment Form (EAF) for the proposed action as herein defined is attached.

REV. MICHAEL A. FARANO, CHAIR
DAVID E. LANGDON, VICE CHAIR

HENRY E. DENNIS, JR.
DANIEL M. SLEASMAN
CHARLA M. EVERETTE

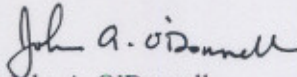
ABRAHAM M. LACKMAN
RICHARD J. SHERWOOD
JOHN A. O'DONNELL, CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

July 8, 2005
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The Authority wishes to continue to serve as the lead agency for the Runway 28 Obstruction Removal Project. Pursuant to 6 NYCRR 617.6(b)(3), this letter serves as a coordinated review letter for the proposed action. Within 30 calendar days of this transmittal the Authority respectfully requests your concurrence on lead agency. If your agency does not respond within this time frame, your concurrence with the Authority continuing to assume the role of lead agency will be understood.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter. Please feel free to contact me at your convenience should you have any comment or question in this matter. Thank you and best wishes for Independence Day.

Sincerely,



John A. O'Donnell
Chief Executive Officer

JOD/jh
Enclosure

cc: Robert Mitchell, P.E.
Arnis Zilgme, Town Attorney
John Tabner, Esq.
Michael Breslin, County Executive
Michael Perrin, County Executive Office
Lorin Bird, NYSDOT
William Clarke, NYSDEC
Philip Pearson, Colonie Planning
Michael Franchini, P.E., Albany County Public Works
John Munsey, C.T. Male
Peter F. Stuto, General Counsel
Stephen Iachetta, Airport Planner

617.20
Appendix A
State Environmental Quality Review
FULL ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT FORM

Purpose: The full EAF is designed to help applicants and agencies determine, in an orderly manner, whether a project or action may be significant. The question of whether an action may be significant is not always easy to answer. Frequently, there are aspects of a project that are subjective or unmeasurable. It is also understood that those who determine significance may have little or no formal knowledge of the environment or may not be technically expert in environmental analysis. In addition, many who have knowledge in one particular area may not be aware of the broader concerns affecting the question of significance.

The full EAF is intended to provide a method whereby applicants and agencies can be assured that the determination process has been orderly, comprehensive in nature, yet flexible enough to allow introduction of information to fit a project or action.

Full EAF Components: The full EAF is comprised of three parts:

- Part 1:** Provides objective data and information about a given project and its site. By identifying basic project data, it assists a reviewer in the analysis that takes place in Parts 2 and 3.
- Part 2:** Focuses on identifying the range of possible impacts that may occur from a project or action. It provides guidance as to whether an impact is likely to be considered small to moderate or whether it is a potentially-large impact. The form also identifies whether an impact can be mitigated or reduced.
- Part 3:** If any impact in Part 2 is identified as potentially-large, then Part 3 is used to evaluate whether or not the impact is actually important.

DETERMINATION OF SIGNIFICANCE - Type 1 and Unlisted Actions

Identify the Portions of EAF completed for this project: Part 1 Part 2 Part 3

Upon review of the information recorded on this EAF (Parts 1 and 2 and 3 if appropriate), and any other supporting information, and considering both the magnitude and importance of each impact, it is reasonably determined by the lead agency that:

- A. The project will not result in any large and important impact(s) and, therefore, is one which **will not** have a significant impact on the environment, therefore **a negative declaration will be prepared.**
- B. Although the project could have a significant effect on the environment, there will not be a significant effect for this Unlisted Action because the mitigation measures described in PART 3 have been required, therefore **a CONDITIONED negative declaration will be prepared.***
- C. The project may result in one or more large and important impacts that may have a significant impact on the environment, therefore **a positive declaration will be prepared.**

* A Conditioned Negative Declaration is only valid for Unlisted Actions.

Runway 28 Obstruction Removal Project

Name of Action

Albany County Airport Authority

Name of Lead Agency

Print or Type Name of Responsible Officer in Lead Agency

Title of Responsible Officer

Signature of Responsible Office in Lead Agency

Signature of Preparer (If different from responsible officer)

Date

PART 1 - PROJECT INFORMATION

Prepared by Project Sponsor

NOTICE: This document is designed to assist in determining whether the action proposed may have a significant effect on the environment. Please complete the entire form, Parts A through E. Answers to these questions will be considered as part of the application for approval and may be subject to further verification and public review. Provide any additional information you believe will be needed to complete Parts 2 and 3.

It is expected that completion of the full EAF will be dependent on information currently available and will not involve new studies, research or investigation. If information requiring such additional work is unavailable, so indicate and specify each instance.

NAME OF ACTION <i>Runway 28 Obstruction Removal Project</i>		
LOCATION OF ACTION (Include Street Address, Municipality and County) <i>The proposed action will take place entirely within the Town of Colonie, Albany County, New York. Refer to the description of the proposed action for specific project component locations.</i>		
NAME OF APPLICANT/SPONSOR <i>Albany County Airport Authority</i>		BUSINESS TELEPHONE <i>(518) 242-2222</i>
ADDRESS <i>Albany International Airport; Administration Building, Suite 200</i>		
CITY/PO <i>Albany</i>	STATE <i>NY</i>	ZIP CODE <i>12211-1057</i>
NAME OF OWNER (if different)		BUSINESS TELEPHONE <i>()</i>
ADDRESS		
CITY/PO	STATE	ZIP CODE
DESCRIPTION OF ACTION <i>This project involves the removal and replacement in kind for two (2) water storage tanks owned by the Town of Colonie Department of Public Works (DPW), Division of Latham Water located at the north end of Utica Avenue. The two (2) tanks consist of a circa 1965, 3.0 million gallons (MG) tank, and a smaller circa 1929, 100,000 gallon tank. The useable hydraulic capacity of the two tanks is approximately 2 MG. The tops of both of these existing water tanks penetrate the Federal Aviation Regulation (FAR) – Part 77 approach surface for Runway 28, and are classified as obstructions to the primary surface of the runway (i.e., hazards to aeronautical navigation and persons on the ground). The removal of these two tanks necessitates the replacement in-kind of the hydraulic function that they presently provide within the Latham Water system. Thus, in addition to the removal of the two (2) tanks, the project also involves the installation of a new tank and piping to make the water system “whole”. In addition, the proposed action includes consideration of the removal of the Ross Court Tank, as requested by the Town of Colonie. Refer to the Draft Environmental Assessment (EA) prepared for the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) by the Albany County Airport Authority for a more detailed description of the proposed action.</i>		

Please Complete Each Question - Indicate N.A. if not applicable.

A. Site Description

Physical setting of overall project, both developed and undeveloped areas.

1. Present land use: Urban Industrial Commercial Residential (suburban) Rural (non-farm)
 Forest Agriculture Other Governmental Uses

2. Total acreage of project area: 22.9 acres. *Approximate acreage including new tank site 11.8 acres, 36" and 24" pipelines, and Ross Court tank site (~0.5 acres). Area of disturbance is approximately 10.3 acres.*

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE	PRESENTLY	AFTER COMPLETION
Meadow or Brushland (Non-agricultural)	<u>1</u> acres	<u>5.8</u> acres
Forested	<u>14.5</u> acres	<u>9.5</u> acres
Agricultural (Includes orchards, cropland, pasture, etc.)	<u>2</u> acres	<u>2</u> acres
Wetland (Freshwater or tidal as per Articles 24, 25 of ECL)	<u>1</u> acres	<u>1</u> acres
Water Surface Area	<u> </u> acres	<u> </u> acres
Unvegetated (Rock, earth or fill)	<u>2</u> acres	<u>2</u> acres
Roads, buildings and other paved surfaces	<u>2.4</u> acres	<u>3.1</u> acres
Other (Indicate type) <u>Ross Court tank site</u>	<u>0.5</u> acres	<u> </u> acres

3. What is predominant soil type(s) on project site? Primarily Colonie sands, but locally variable.
 - a. Soil drainage: Well drained 80 % of site Moderately well drained 10 % of site
 Poorly drained 10 % of site

- b. If any agricultural land is involved, how many acres of soil are classified within soil group 1 through 4 of the NYS Land Classification System? None acres. (See 1 NYCRR 370).
4. Are there bedrock outcroppings on project site? Yes No
- a. What is depth to bedrock? >10 (in feet)
5. Approximate percentage of proposed site with slopes: 0-10% 75 % 10-15% 15 %
 15% or greater 10 %
6. Is project substantially contiguous to, or contain a building, site, or district, listed on the State or the National Registers of Historic Places? Yes No _____
7. Is project substantially contiguous to a site listed on the Register of National Natural Landmarks? Yes No
8. What is the depth of the water 0->10 (in feet) table? _____
9. Is site located over a primary, principal, or sole source aquifer? Yes No
10. Do hunting, fishing or shell fishing opportunities presently exist in the project area? Yes No Hunting north of Sparrowbush Road on private lands.
11. Does project site contain any species of plant or animal life that is identified as threatened or endangered?
 Yes No According to Field reviews and correspondence with NYSDEC and USFWS. Refer to Draft EA for additional information.
Identify each species _____
12. Are there any unique or unusual land forms on the project site? (i.e., cliffs, dunes, other geological formations)
 Yes No Describe _____
13. Is the project site presently used by the community or neighborhood as an open space or recreation area?
 Yes No If yes, explain _____
14. Does the present site include scenic views known to be important to the community?
 Yes No
15. Streams within or contiguous to project area: Delphus Kill along the corridor of the proposed 36" pipeline.
- a. Name of Stream and name of River to which it is tributary Mohawk River
16. Lakes, ponds, wetland areas within or contiguous to project area:
a. Name DEC Wetlands along Delphus Kill. b. Size (In acres) >12.4
17. Is the site served by existing public utilities? Yes No
- a. If Yes, does sufficient capacity exist to allow connection? Yes No
- b. If Yes, will improvements be necessary to allow connection? Yes No
18. Is the site located in an agricultural district certified pursuant to Agriculture and Markets Law, Article 25-AA, Section 303 and 304?
 Yes No
19. Is the site located in or substantially contiguous to a Critical Environmental Area designated pursuant to Article 8 of the ECL, and 6 NYCRR 617?
 Yes No
20. Has the site ever been used for the disposal of solid or hazardous wastes? Yes No

B. Project Description

1. Physical dimensions and scale of project (fill in dimensions as appropriate)
- a. Total contiguous acreage owned or controlled by project sponsor None acres.
- b. Project acreage to be developed: ~10.3 acres initially; 10.3 acres ultimately.
- c. Project acreage to remain undeveloped ~13.1 acres.

- d. Length of project, in miles: ~0.8 (24" pipeline) and ~2.4 (36" pipeline) (If appropriate)
- e. If the project is an expansion, indicate percent of expansion NA %; proposed _____
- f. Number of off-street parking spaces existing 0 ; proposed 2-3 .
- g. Maximum vehicular trips generated per hour 1 (upon completion of project)?
- h. If residential: Number and type of housing units: NA
- | | One Family | Two Family | Multiple Family | Condominium |
|------------|------------|------------|-----------------|-------------|
| Initially | _____ | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| Ultimately | _____ | _____ | _____ | _____ |
- i. Dimensions (in feet) or largest proposed structure 127 height; 100 width; 100 length.
- j. Linear feet of frontage along a public thoroughfare project will occupy NA ft. is? _____
2. How much natural material (i.e., rock, earth, etc.) will be removed from the site? None tons/cubic yards.
3. Will disturbed areas be reclaimed? Yes No N/A
- a. If yes, for what intended purpose is the site being reclaimed? Utility right-of-way and seeded areas.
- b. Will topsoil be stockpiled for reclamation? Yes No
- c. Will upper subsoil be stockpiled for reclamation? Yes No
4. How many acres of vegetation (trees, shrubs, ground covers) will be removed from site? ~0.7 acres
5. Will any mature forest (over 100 years old) or other locally-important vegetation be removed by this project?
 Yes No At new tank site.
6. If single phase project: Anticipated period of *Refer to Draft EA. months, (including demolition) construction _____
7. If multi-phased: NA
- a. Total number of phases anticipated _____ (number).
- b. Anticipated date of commencement phase 1 _____ month _____ year, (including demolition).
- c. Approximate completion date of final phase _____ month _____ year.
- d. Is phase 1 functionally dependent on subsequent phases? Yes No
8. Will blasting occur during construction? Yes No
9. Number of jobs generated: during construction ~10-15 ; after project is complete None .
10. Number of jobs eliminated by this project None .
11. Will project require relocation of any projects or facilities? Yes No If yes, explain _____
-
12. If surface liquid waste disposal involved? Yes No
- a. If yes, indicate type of waste (sewage, industrial, etc.) and amount _____
- b. Name of water body into which effluent will be discharged _____
13. Is subsurface liquid waste disposal involved? Yes No Type _____
14. Will surface area of an existing water body increase or decrease by proposal? Yes No
Explain _____
15. Is project or any portion of project located in a 100 year flood plain? Yes No 36" water pipeline installation across the Delphus Kill Floodplain. Refer to Draft EA.
16. Will the project generate solid waste? Yes No
- a. If yes, what is the amount per month _____ tons
- b. If yes, will an existing solid waste facility be used? Yes No

- c. If yes, give name _____; location _____
- d. Will any wastes not go into a sewage disposal system or into a sanitary landfill? Yes No
- e. If Yes, explain _____
17. Will the project involve the disposal of solid waste? Yes No
 a. If yes, what is the anticipated rate of disposal? _____ tons/month.
 b. If yes, what is the anticipated site life? _____ years.
18. Will project use herbicides or pesticides? Yes No
19. Will project routinely produce odors (more than one hour per day)? Yes No
20. Will project produce operating noise exceeding the local ambient noise levels? Yes No
21. Will project result in an increase in energy use? Yes No
 If yes, indicate type(s) _____
22. If water supply is from wells, indicate pumping capacity _____ NA _____ gallons/minute.
23. Total anticipated water usage per day _____ NA _____ gallons/day.
24. Does project involve Local, State or Federal funding? Yes No
 If Yes, explain FAA Airport Improvement Grant.

25. Approvals Required:

			Type	Submittal Date
City, Town, Village Board	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<i>Project approval by Colonie Town Board.</i>	_____
City, Town, Village Planning Board	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	_____	_____
City, Town Zoning Board	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	_____	_____
City, County Health Department	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<i>Review and approval of engineering plans from Albany County DOH</i>	<i>Pending</i>
Other Local Agencies	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	_____	_____
Other Regional Agencies	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	_____	_____
State Agencies	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<i>Freshwater wetlands (Article 24), 401 Water Quality Certification, SPDES (construction activity), and possibly Protection of Waters (Article 15) from NYSDEC</i>	<i>Pending</i>
Federal Agencies	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<i>Funding from FAA; NWP#12 (Utility Line Activities) from US Army Corps of Engineers</i>	<i>1999 to FAA; Corps permit pending</i>

C. Zoning and Planning Information

1. Does proposed action involve a planning or zoning decision? Yes No
 If Yes, indicate decision required:
 zoning amendment zoning variance special use permit subdivision site plan
 new/revision of master plan resource management plan other _____
2. What is the zoning classification(s) of the site? A-2, A-1 and Undeveloped Districts. Refer to Section 3.2 of the Draft EA for additional information.
3. What is the maximum potential development of the site if developed as permitted by the present zoning? 100%, except for required green space.
4. What is the proposed zoning of the site? No zoning changes proposed.
5. What is the maximum potential development of the site if developed as permitted by the proposed zoning? NA

6. Is the proposed action consistent with the recommended uses in adopted local land use plan Yes No
7. What are the predominant land use(s) and zoning classifications within a ¼ mile radius of proposed action? Residential and Undeveloped.
-
8. Is the proposed action compatible with adjoining/surrounding land uses within a ¼ mile? Yes No
9. If the proposed action is the subdivision of land, how many lots are proposed? NA
- a. What is the minimum lot size proposed? _____
10. Will proposed action require any authorization(s) for the formation of sewer or water districts Yes No
11. Will the proposed action create a demand for any community provided services (recreation, education, police, fire protection)?
 Yes No
- a. If yes, is existing capacity sufficient to handle projected demand? Yes No
12. Will the proposed action result in the generation of traffic significantly above present level? Yes No
- a. If yes, is the existing road network adequate to handle the additional traffic? Yes No

D. Informational Details

Attach any additional information as may be needed to clarify your project. If there are or may be any adverse impacts associated with your proposal, please discuss such impacts and the measures which you propose to mitigate or avoid them.

***The Draft EA for the proposed Runway 28 Obstruction Removal Project is included by reference to Part 1 of this EAF.

E. Verification

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

Applicant/Sponsor Name John S. Munsey/C.T. Male Associates, P.C. Date June 23, 2005

Signature  Title Managing Scientist & Principal

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