



September 2015

Project Status

RBD – Hudson River Project is currently performing a Feasibility Study and Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). The Feasibility Study is an analysis of the ability to complete a project successfully, taking into account legal, economic, technological, scheduling and other factors. The EIS is a document prepared to describe the effects of proposed activities on the natural and physical environment and the relationship of people with that environment.

The Feasibility Study began on June 4, 2015. In September, NJDEP's engineer, Dewberry Engineers, Inc., have been working to gather preexisting information from your local, county, state and federal governments; utility companies servicing the areas, and some private concerns that may have useful information. This effort is being performed in order to gather as much flood related information as possible and also identify areas that additional information may be needed.

It is possible that you may have seen some of Dewberry's people working in your area. Dewberry has been walking throughout the project area trying to locate areas that may be able to be developed into green infrastructure. This green infrastructure will allow for the removal of some impervious surface and replace it with something porous that will delay rainwater from entering the storm sewers. Dewberry and its subcontractors have also installed eight monitoring wells and performed five soil borings in the Project Area. These monitoring wells will allow Dewberry to determine the depth to groundwater. These monitoring wells will be measured over the next few months to determine the seasonal changes to the groundwater levels. The soil borings allow Dewberry to see the types of soil in different areas and determine how much weight the soil can hold.

The EIS process has also begun. The [Notice of Intent to Publish a Draft Environmental Impact Statement](#) (NOI) was published in the Federal Register on September 4, 2015. This publication was the official start of the NEPA (National Environmental Policy Act) process. With the publication, came the release of the [Draft Scoping Document](#) on September 4, 2015. This document is available both [here](#) on the NJDEP website and in your local libraries. This document ("scope") outlines the topics of how a preferred alternative will be determined as well as how the EIS will address the potential environmental impacts of that preferred alternative.

A public meeting took place on September 24, 2015. The meeting was well attended and well received by the community. Continue to check the website for updates on when the next Public Meeting will take place.

We are currently in a public comment period for the Draft Scoping Document. Please be aware that the comment period for the Draft Scoping Document ends on October 9, 2015. Comments on the Draft Scoping Document can be sent via email to rbd-hudsonriver@dep.nj.gov, or mailed to David Rosenblatt, Director, Office of Flood Hazard Risk Reduction Measures, 501 East State Street, Mail Code 501-01A, PO Box 420, Trenton, NJ 08625-0420. Comments must be received by October 9, 2015 to be considered.

The Scoping document is available at: <http://www.state.nj.us/dep/floodhazard/docs/rbd-hudson-river-working-draft-scoping-document.pdf>.

If you would like to be informed of any additional RBD – Hudson River website updates, please sign up for the NJDEP list serv at the following link:
<http://www.state.nj.us/dep/floodhazard/rbd-hudsonriver-subscribe.htm>.