



## October 2015

### Current 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.

In October, NJDEP's engineer, Dewberry Engineers, Inc., has primarily been in the office processing information gathered over the last 4 or 5 months. This information is being used to program a computer model to determine how waters from storm surge, tidal events, and rainfall effect the project area. Once this model has been tested and can accurately predict water reactions to the three different events, it can be used to see the effectiveness of potential resiliency measures on the project area. Dewberry is also working to develop a Concepts Screening Criteria Matrix that will eventually be useful in bringing five (5) concepts to three (3) build alternatives.

You may also have seen some of Dewberry's subcontractors working in your area as well. Dewberry is performing geotechnical borings in some areas. These borings are being done in order to perform percolation tests. The "perc" tests will tell us how quickly water absorbs into the underlying soils. This information will let us determine if and where we may be able to locate some areas that show potential to delay rainwater from entering the storm sewers. Dewberry is also currently performing a noise survey in order to establish current noise levels in the project area. This is one of many requirements of the EIS, and it will allow us to determine what measures may be needed during future work in order to maintain reasonable noise levels.

The Draft Scoping Document comment period ended on October 9, 2015. Well over 100 comments were received. Dewberry is currently working to provide answers to the comments as well as make changes to the Scoping Document based on the comments. It is expected that the Final Scoping Document will be issued in early November 2015. 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.

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>.

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