



December 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.

As a part of the NEPA (National Environmental Policy Act) process, a Draft Scoping Document was given to the public for review on September 4, 2015, and a Public Meeting held on September 24, 2015 to discuss the document. This document ("scope") outlines the process of how a preferred alternative will be determined as well as how the EIS will address the potential environmental impacts of that preferred alternative. Comments from the public were taken concerning the Draft Scoping Document until October 9, 2015. Modifications were made to the Scoping Document based on comments received and the [Final Scoping Document](#) was issued on November 20, 2015. The final document is available on the NJDEP website at www.rbd-hudsonriver.nj.gov.

The Project developed five flood risk reduction concepts that address the Project's Purpose and Need.

The concept development process involved the identification of flooding sources, locations of flooding and the development of appropriate flood risk reduction concepts. The Study Area is subject to two sources of flooding – coastal storm surge events and systemic inland flooding from moderate to severe rainfall events. Each concept consists of Resist, Delay, Store and Discharge design elements.

The concepts were evaluated using a screening matrix in a Citizen Advisory Group (CAG) workshop setting. The concept screening matrix was developed with input from stakeholders and the CAG, informed by the team's Subject Matter Experts (SMEs). The screening matrix was used to evaluate each concept on its impacts to the many resources within the Study Area. This process allowed for the selection of the five concepts to be advanced to the public for comment.

A Public Meeting was held on December 10, 2015 to introduce the five concepts and begin to receive public input. The public input period ended on December 31, 2015. The Project is currently evaluating significant public input and evaluating possible modifications that will lead to the selection of 3 concepts to be advanced forward as the Project's Three Build Alternatives.

During the fourth quarter, Stevens Institute of Technology engineering professors were engaged using the NJ Sea Grant Consortium Contract EC16-011. The Stevens professors have expertise in modeling coastal flooding and have been tasked with conducting a peer review of the flood modeling process and providing engineering consulting services.

An additional meeting concerning the concepts is planned, but no schedule has been developed yet. When a meeting is finalized, the website will be updated and individuals signed up to receive emails will be notified. Please continue to check the website for updates.

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>.

If you would like to unsubscribe from the NJDEP list serv and stop receiving notifications of additional website updates, please use the following link: <http://www.state.nj.us/dep/floodhazard/rbd-hudsonriver-unsubscribe.htm>.