I. Project Description

The New York State Legislature through the NYS Housing Trust Fund - Homes and Community Renewal has allocated $3.8 million to Ulster County to extend the Greater Catskills Flood Remediation Program to provide for purchase and demolition of residential properties damaged by seepage and/or flooding with preference given to areas adjacent to the Delaware Aqueduct in the Town of Wawarsing. Under the original program, eligible counties in the Southern Tier and Catskill regions purchased one or two family homes that have been damaged by floods since April 1, 2004 and were determined to be at future risk. The initiative allowed homeowners to relocate from areas vulnerable to flooding. In order to qualify for the State program, the home must be the primary residence of the owner with a family income up to 150% of the Area Median Income, as defined by HUD. Homes purchased must be condemned, demolished and property dedicated for open space, recreational, wetlands, or flood mitigation purposes.

In addition, the New York City Department of Environmental Protection has offered to provide funds up to the amount of $3.7 million for purchase and demolition of homes that lie within an area it has designated around the known leaking section of the Delaware Aqueduct in the Town of Wawarsing.

The State and City of New York funding will be used in concert by Ulster County in order to remove people and their possessions from harm’s way that have been hit particularly hard by seepage, inundation and flooding. By implementing this program, Ulster County will enable homeowners to relocate from areas that remain subject to seepage and flooding that occurs on a regular basis in a manner that threatens the health and safety of the residents. In addition, the State funding legislation requires that after a parcel is acquired and the structure is demolished, the parcel is to remain open space. Approved uses of the sites include recreational access, floodplain restoration, wetland remediation or wetland mitigation.

II. SEQR Determination

Ulster County is progressing the environmental review of this program as an Unlisted Action as per the NY State Environmental Review Act (6 NYCRR Part 617) and is completing an uncoordinated review.
III. Program Environmental Review

This project will remove flooded structures, provide area for passive and or active ecological/floodplain restoration, and provide a public benefit by designating open/recreational space in our communities. These activities are generally viewed as being of great environmental, social and economic benefit.

At this time, the specific list of homes for acquisition under this program is not known. However, general areas (the Town of Wawarsing adjacent to the Delaware Aqueduct) in which residences have suffered repeated flooding are known. In order to review this program under SEQR, we have done two things. First, we performed a general review in which we examined the types of impacts and areas which this program may entail. Second, we have outlined a process which we will follow once sites are selected, in order to ensure that site specific characteristics are addressed and an appropriate environmental and historic/cultural review is completed. Once sites are selected, they will under go this more specific environmental review process.

A. General Programmatic Review

a. Endangered and Threatened Species- From initial review of potential sites, as compared to the Environmental Resource Mapper available on the NYS DEC website, none of the potential project areas have instances of known endangered or threatened species. However, as definite sites are selected we will again consult with NYS Natural Heritage databases. However since project scope is limited to existing residential parcels, we do not anticipate that there is any significant potential to disturb habitat for any plants or animal species.

b. Coastal Zone- It is not anticipated that any property acquired under this program will be within the NYS Department of State designated Coastal Zone. After the specific list of properties is determined, the Coastal Zone area will be checked and documentation provided for file.

c. Noise- Since this project entails demolition, this project will cause temporary increases in local noise levels. However, the noise will be limited to the working day and limited to the demolition period.

d. Public Health and Safety-This project will remove residential structures which are frequently inundated. It will have a positive effect on public health and safety since it will relocate people to safer locations and decrease the demand on emergency responders during rainfall events.

e. Solid Waste- Because this project entails demolition, construction and demolition (C&D) debris will be generated. All C&D waste generated in conjunction with this project will be properly disposed of or reclaimed. Also, if any materials identified in the Phase 1 Environmental Site Assessment (ESA) can not be processed as ordinary C&D waste, those materials will be appropriately handled and disposed of as is required under NYS law.

f. Recreational Opportunities/ Fishing Opportunities- This program requires that sites selected for the program be permanently protected as open space. Recreational access is considered, as per the funding legislation, to be an acceptable site use. The County may transfer these properties, once demolition is complete, to a third party. Such transfers are in accordance with the program rules. Each transfer will require that assurances be put in place to guarantee that the property is used in accordance with the program legislation and program
guidance. Future site development as allowed by the program rules would require additional review under SEQR.

B. Proposed Site Specific Environmental Review Process

a. Environmental Site Inspection - Once a home site is selected for this program, it will be subject to an environmental site inspection. This walkover will document any wetlands or important vegetation on the site as well as any other significant environmental features. The results of the site inspection will be used to guide the demolition plan so that environmental resources on site are protected to the extent practicable.

b. Phase 1 Environmental Site Assessment (ESA) - Each parcel, before transfer to County ownership, will be subject to a Phase 1 ESA. A Phase 1 ESA is an industry standard screening often used during real estate transactions that assesses and identifies recognized environmental conditions. Recognized environmental conditions include use of petroleum or other hazardous materials, potential water and soil contamination, hazardous materials in building materials (e.g. lead and asbestos), and other recognized environmental liabilities. Since the County will be taking ownership of residential homes, the ESA screening will most likely focus on the presence and condition of underground storage tanks as well as Potential Asbestos Containing Materials (PACMs) or lead. Any questionable materials identified in the ESA will be properly disposed of or appropriately remediated before demolition or transfer to the County.

c. Historic and Cultural Resources - All the sites selected for this program will be screened for the 1) historic and or cultural resources associated with the structures on site and 2) likelihood to disturb archeological resources. The NY State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) will be consulted prior to any site work.

   i. Structures - Using information about the structure’s age available in the Real Property Services database along with photo documentation from the environmental site inspection, information regarding the presumed age and condition of the structure will be documented. The State Historic Preservation Office will be consulted with this information and the County will work with SHPO to make a determination as to the significance of the structure. Currently, none of the houses being preliminarily considered for this program are included on the State or National Historic Preservation lists. It is not anticipated that any homes on the State or National lists will be considered for this program. However, when sites are selected for this program, additional screening for historic or cultural preservation value of the homes will be completed.

   ii. Site Disturbance and Potential Archaeological Resources - SHPO will be consulted prior to site work and steps will be taken to minimize site disturbance. Similar acquisition projects have been successfully carried out in coordination with SHPO. Typically, if heavy machinery is limited to driveways and the perimeters of the structure, and ground disturbance is limited to the immediate area of the structure, overall site disturbance can be limited to a point that there is negligible impact on any potential archaeological resources.
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.

---

THIS AREA FOR LEAD AGENCY USE ONLY

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
Greater Catskills Flood Remediation Program- Round II

Name of Action

Ulster County

Name of Lead Agency

Hon. Terry Bernardo  Chair, Ulster County Legislature

Print or Type Name of Responsible Officer in Lead Agency  Title of Responsible Officer

Signature of Responsible Officer in Lead Agency  Signature of Preparer (if different from responsible officer)

Date

Page 1 of 21
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 Greater Catskills Flood Remediation Program- Round II

Location of Action (include Street Address, Municipality and County)
Ulster County

Name of Applicant/Sponsor County of Ulster

Address 244 Fair Street- PO Box 1800

City / PO Kingston State NY Zip Code 12402

Business Telephone (845) 340-3900

Name of Owner (if different)

Address

City / PO State Zip Code

Business Telephone

Description of Action:
Please see attached Project Description document.
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

2. Total acreage of project area: 20 acres. *At this point in time, the exact acreage is not known. Based on the funding levels, we estimate that the total project area will be approx. 20 acres or less.

   APPROXIMATE ACREAGE

   Meadow or Brushland (Non-agricultural)
   Presently: ________ acres  After Completion: ________ acres

   Forested
   Presently: ________ acres  After Completion: ________ acres

   Agricultural (Includes orchards, cropland, pasture, etc.)
   Presently: ________ acres  After Completion: ________ acres

   Wetland (Freshwater or tidal as per Articles 24,25 of ECL)
   Presently: ________ acres  After Completion: ________ acres

   Water Surface Area
   Presently: ________ acres  After Completion: ________ acres

   Unvegetated (Rock, earth or fill)
   Presently: ________ acres  After Completion: ________ acres

   Roads, buildings and other paved surfaces
   Presently: ________ acres  After Completion: ________ acres

   Other (Indicate type)  Residential home sites  Presently: ________ acres  After Completion: ________ acres
                            Preserved open space  Presently: 20 acres  After Completion: 20 acres

3. What is predominant soil type(s) on project site? Exact soil type not know at this time.
   a. Soil drainage:  ■ Well drained ______% of site  □ Moderately well drained ______% of site.
                      ■ Poorly drained ______% 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? ________ acres (see 1 NYCRR 370).

4. Are there bedrock outcroppings on project site?  □ Yes  □ No  Unknown at this time- but not expected.
   a. What is depth to bedrock ______ (in feet)

5. Approximate percentage of proposed project site with slopes: Unknown at this time- but slopes between 0-10% are expected.
   ■ 0-10% ______%  ■ 10-15% ______%  ■ 15% or greater ______%

6. Is project substantially contiguous to, or contain a building, site, or district, listed on the State or National Registers of Historic Places?  □ Yes  □ No  Please see the attached project description for additional information on Historic and Cultural resources.

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 table?  ______Varies (in feet)

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
11. Does project site contain any species of plant or animal life that is identified as threatened or endangered?  □ Yes  □ No

Unknown at this time. Due to the current residential use of the properties it is not anticipated that the sites contain threatened or endangered species. However, Natural Heritage and the US Fish and Wildlife Service will be consulted after specific sites are selected and before site work commences.

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

Unknown at this time. However since this project is limited to demolition of existing residential structures on small residential lots, it is not anticipated that the final sites selected for this project will contain any unique or unusual land forms. In addition, demolition of the homes is not anticipated to impact the sites in such a way as to impact unique or unusual land forms.

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:

Due to the nature of this program, sites may be near or within designated flood zones and/or streams.

a. Name of Stream and name of River to which it is tributary

Parcels may be adjacent to main stem of the Rondout Creek or its tributaries.

16. Lakes, ponds, wetland areas within or contiguous to project area:

It is unknown at this time if any of the potential sites contain wetlands or other water bodies. This project will not result in the filling or disturbance to wetlands. Once specific sites are identified, a wetland screening and site inspection for wetlands will be performed. Although it is anticipated that all demolition activities will be carried out from driveway and yard surfaces, any identified wetlands on site will be marked to avoid unintended disturbance.

b. Size (in acres):
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

See the attached project description for additional information on Phase 1 Environmental Site Assessments to be performed.

1. Physical dimensions and scale of project (fill in dimensions as appropriate).

   a. Total contiguous acreage owned or controlled by project sponsor: _____ NA acres.
   b. Project acreage to be developed: _____ 0 acres initially; _____ 0 acres ultimately.
   c. Project acreage to remain undeveloped: all _____ acres.
   d. Length of project, in miles: _____ NA (if appropriate)
   e. If the project is an expansion, indicate percent of expansion proposed: _____ NA %
   f. Number of off-street parking spaces existing: _____ NA; proposed: _____ NA
   g. Maximum vehicular trips generated per hour: _____ NA (upon completion of project)?
   h. If residential: Number and type of housing units:


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<td>Ultimately</td>
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   i. Dimensions (in feet) of largest proposed structure: _____ NA height; _____ NA width; _____ NA length.
   j. Linear feet of frontage along a public thoroughfare project will occupy is? _____ NA ft.

2. How much natural material (i.e. rock, earth, etc.) will be removed from the site? See attached 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?
   ☐ Disturbed Areas will be reclaimed as protected open or recreational space.
   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? See attached _____ acres.
5. Will any mature forest (over 100 years old) or other locally-important vegetation be removed by this project?
   [ ] Yes  [ ] No

6. If single phase project: Anticipated period of construction: NA months, (including demolition)

7. If multi-phased:
   a. Total number of phases anticipated NA (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 See attached; after project is complete See attached

10. Number of jobs eliminated by this project

11. Will project require relocation of any projects or facilities? [ ] Yes [ ] No
    If yes, explain:

12. Is 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
    If yes, explain:

15. Is project or any portion of project located in a 100 year flood plain? [ ] Yes [ ] No

16. Will the project generate solid waste? [ ] Yes [ ] No  See attachment
    a. If yes, what is the amount per month? UNK tons
    b. If yes, will an existing solid waste facility be used? [ ] Yes [ ] No
    c. If yes, give name UNK ; location
    d. Will any wastes not go into a sewage disposal system or into a sanitary landfill? [ ] Yes [ ] No
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  See attachment
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:

   Project is funded by New York State and the New York City Department of Environmental Protection.
25. Approvals Required:

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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 ☐ New/revision of master plan ☐ Subdivision

☐ Site plan ☐ Special use permit ☐ Resource management plan ☐ Other
2. What is the zoning classification(s) of the site?

Exact location of sites is unknown at this time, but as per the program rules, all sites are single or two family residential structures which are currently owner occupied.

3. What is the maximum potential development of the site if developed as permitted by the present zoning?

Varies as exact sites locations are unknown. However, residential sites selected for this program will be preserved as open space.

4. What is the proposed zoning of the site?

No change to the existing zoning is being proposed.

5. What is the maximum potential development of the site if developed as permitted by the proposed zoning?

Various.

6. Is the proposed action consistent with the recommended uses in adopted local land use plans?  

☐ Yes  ☐ No  

Unknown.

7. What are the predominant land use(s) and zoning classifications within a ¼ mile radius of proposed action?

Adjacent land uses vary. However the areas being preliminarily considered for this program have residential, agricultural, undeveloped, commercial and industrial land uses in the adjacent areas.

8. Is the proposed action compatible with adjoining/surrounding land uses with 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 levels? □ 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.

E. Verification

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

Applicant/Sponsor Name ___________________________________________ Date ____________

Signature ____________________________________________________________

Title ________________________________________________________________

If the action is in the Coastal Area, and you are a state agency, complete the Coastal Assessment Form before proceeding with this assessment.
PART 2 - PROJECT IMPACTS AND THEIR MAGNITUDE
Responsibility of Lead Agency

General Information (Read Carefully)

1. In completing the form the reviewer should be guided by the question: Have my responses and determinations been reasonable? The reviewer is not expected to be an expert environmental analyst.

2. The Examples provided are to assist the reviewer by showing types of impacts and wherever possible the threshold of magnitude that would trigger a response in column 2. The examples are generally applicable throughout the State and for most situations. But, for any specific project or site other examples and/or lower thresholds may be appropriate for a Potential Large Impact response, thus requiring evaluation in Part 3.

3. The impacts of each project, on each site, in each locality, will vary. Therefore, the examples are illustrative and have been offered as guidance. They do not constitute an exhaustive list of impacts and thresholds to answer each question.

4. The number of examples per question does not indicate the importance of each question.

5. In identifying impacts, consider long term, short term and cumulative effects.

Instructions (Read carefully)

a. Answer each of the 20 questions in PART 2. Answer Yes if there will be any impact.

b. Maybe answers should be considered as Yes answers.

c. If answering Yes to a question then check the appropriate box(column 1 or 2) to indicate the potential size of the impact. If impact threshold equals or exceeds any example provided, check column 2. If impact will occur but threshold is lower than example, check column 1.

d. Identifying that an Impact will be potentially large (column 2) does not mean that it is also necessarily significant. Any large impact must be evaluated in PART 3 to determine significance. Identifying an impact in column 2 simply asks that it be looked at further.

e. If reviewer has doubt about size of the impact then consider the impact as potentially large and proceed to PART 3.

f. If a potentially large impact checked in column 2 can be mitigated by change(s) in the project to a small to moderate impact, also check the Yes box in column 3. A No response indicates that such a reduction is not possible. This must be explained in Part 3.

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<th>Small to Moderate Impact</th>
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<th>Potential Large Impact</th>
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<th>Can Impact Be Mitigated by Project Change</th>
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Impact on Land

1. Will the Proposed Action result in a physical change to the project site?

   NO ☐ YES ☑

Examples that would apply to column 2

- Any construction on slopes of 15% or greater, (15 foot rise per 100 foot of length), or where the general slopes in the project area exceed 10%.

- Construction on land where the depth to the water table is less than 3 feet.

- Construction of paved parking area for 1,000 or more vehicles.

- Construction on land where bedrock is exposed or generally within 3 feet of existing ground surface.

- Construction that will continue for more than 1 year or involve more than one phase or stage.

- Excavation for mining purposes that would remove more than 1,000 tons of natural material (i.e., rock or soil) per year.
- Construction or expansion of a sanitary landfill.  
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<th>Can Impact Be Mitigated by Project Change</th>
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<td>Yes</td>
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- Construction in a designated floodway.  
  | 1 | 2 | 3 | Can Impact Be Mitigated by Project Change |
  |   |   | Yes | No          |

- Other impacts:  
  | 1 | 2 | 3 | Can Impact Be Mitigated by Project Change |
  |   |   | Yes | No          |

Action will be result in the demolition and removal of existing residential structures. Structures may, as per program rules, be located within a designated flood zone.

2. Will there be an effect to any unique or unusual land forms found on the site? (i.e., cliffs, dunes, geological formations, etc.)  
- Specific land forms:  
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<td>Yes</td>
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Impact on Water

3. Will Proposed Action affect any water body designated as protected? (Under Articles 15, 24, 25 of the Environmental Conservation Law, ECL)  
- Examples that would apply to column 2  
  - Developable area of site contains a protected water body.  
    | 1 | 2 | 3 | Can Impact Be Mitigated by Project Change |
    |   |   | Yes | No          |
  - Dredging more than 100 cubic yards of material from channel of a protected stream.  
    | 1 | 2 | 3 | Can Impact Be Mitigated by Project Change |
    |   |   | Yes | No          |
  - Extension of utility distribution facilities through a protected water body.  
    | 1 | 2 | 3 | Can Impact Be Mitigated by Project Change |
    |   |   | Yes | No          |
  - Construction in a designated freshwater or tidal wetland.  
    | 1 | 2 | 3 | Can Impact Be Mitigated by Project Change |
    |   |   | Yes | No          |
  - Other impacts:  
    | 1 | 2 | 3 | Can Impact Be Mitigated by Project Change |
    |   |   | Yes | No          |

Sites are potentially adjacent to protected water bodies (i.e. Rondout Creek and its tributaries). However, no disturbance to the waterbody is anticipated as part of this project.

4. Will Proposed Action affect any non-protected existing or new body of water?  
- Examples that would apply to column 2  
  - A 10% increase or decrease in the surface area of any body of water or more than a 10 acre increase or decrease.  
    | 1 | 2 | 3 | Can Impact Be Mitigated by Project Change |
    |   |   | Yes | No          |
  - Construction of a body of water that exceeds 10 acres of surface area.  
    | 1 | 2 | 3 | Can Impact Be Mitigated by Project Change |
    |   |   | Yes | No          |
  - Other impacts:  
    | 1 | 2 | 3 | Can Impact Be Mitigated by Project Change |
    |   |   | Yes | No          |
5. Will Proposed Action affect surface or groundwater quality or quantity?

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**Examples** that would apply to column 2
- Proposed Action will require a discharge permit.
- Proposed Action requires use of a source of water that does not have approval to serve proposed (project) action.
- Proposed Action requires water supply from wells with greater than 45 gallons per minute pumping capacity.
- Construction or operation causing any contamination of a water supply system.
- Proposed Action will adversely affect groundwater.
- Liquid effluent will be conveyed off the site to facilities which presently do not exist or have inadequate capacity.
- Proposed Action would use water in excess of 20,000 gallons per day.
- Proposed Action will likely cause siltation or other discharge into an existing body of water to the extent that there will be an obvious visual contrast to natural conditions.
- Proposed Action will require the storage of petroleum or chemical products greater than 1,100 gallons.
- Proposed Action will allow residential uses in areas without water and/or sewer services.
- Proposed Action locates commercial and/or industrial uses which may require new or expansion of existing waste treatment and/or storage facilities.
- Other impacts:
6. Will Proposed Action alter drainage flow or patterns, or surface water runoff?
   - [ ] NO  [ ] YES

   **Examples** that would apply to column 2
   - Proposed Action would change flood water flows
   - Proposed Action may cause substantial erosion.
   - Proposed Action is incompatible with existing drainage patterns.
   - Proposed Action will allow development in a designated floodway.
   - Other impacts:

   Project may remove structures from the floodplain thereby having a beneficial effect on floodplain function.

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7. Will Proposed Action affect air quality?
   - [ ] NO  [ ] YES

   **Examples** that would apply to column 2
   - Proposed Action will induce 1,000 or more vehicle trips in any given hour.
   - Proposed Action will result in the incineration of more than 1 ton of refuse per hour.
   - Emission rate of total contaminants will exceed 5 lbs. per hour or a heat source producing more than 10 million BTU's per hour.
   - Proposed Action will allow an increase in the amount of land committed to industrial use.
   - Proposed Action will allow an increase in the density of industrial development within existing industrial areas.
   - Other impacts:

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8. Will Proposed Action affect any threatened or endangered species?
   - [ ] NO  [ ] YES

   **Examples** that would apply to column 2
   - Reduction of one or more species listed on the New York or Federal list, using the site, over or near the site, or found on the site.

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- Removal of any portion of a critical or significant wildlife habitat.
  
- Application of pesticide or herbicide more than twice a year, other than for agricultural purposes.
  
- Other impacts:
  
  See attached project description.

9. Will Proposed Action substantially affect non-threatened or non-endangered species?
   - NO
   - YES

Examples that would apply to column 2
   - Proposed Action would substantially interfere with any resident or migratory fish, shellfish or wildlife species.
   - Proposed Action requires the removal of more than 10 acres of mature forest (over 100 years of age) or other locally important vegetation.
   - Other impacts:

   Proposed project has the potential to increase habitat.

10. Will Proposed Action affect agricultural land resources?
    - NO
    - YES

Examples that would apply to column 2
   - The Proposed Action would sever, cross or limit access to agricultural land (includes cropland, hayfields, pasture, vineyard, orchard, etc.)
   - Construction activity would excavate or compact the soil profile of agricultural land.
   - The Proposed Action would irreversibly convert more than 10 acres of agricultural land or, if located in an Agricultural District, more than 2.5 acres of agricultural land.
- The Proposed Action would disrupt or prevent installation of agricultural land management systems (e.g., subsurface drain lines, outlet ditches, strip cropping); or create a need for such measures (e.g. cause a farm field to drain poorly due to increased runoff).

- Other impacts:

**IMPACT ON AESTHETIC RESOURCES**

11. Will Proposed Action affect aesthetic resources? (If necessary, use the Visual EAF Addendum in Section 617.20, Appendix B.)

   ☐ NO    ☐ YES

**Examples** that would apply to column 2
- Proposed land uses, or project components obviously different from or in sharp contrast to current surrounding land use patterns, whether man-made or natural.
- Proposed land uses, or project components visible to users of aesthetic resources which will eliminate or significantly reduce their enjoyment of the aesthetic qualities of that resource.
- Project components that will result in the elimination or significant screening of scenic views known to be important to the area.
- Other impacts:

**IMPACT ON HISTORIC AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESOURCES**

12. Will Proposed Action impact any site or structure of historic, prehistoric or paleontological importance?

   ☐ NO    ☐ YES

**Examples** that would apply to column 2
- Proposed Action occurring wholly or partially within or substantially contiguous to any facility or site listed on the State or National Register of historic places.
- Any impact to an archaeological site or fossil bed located within the project site.
- Proposed Action will occur in an area designated as sensitive for archaeological sites on the NYS Site inventory.
IMPACT ON OPEN SPACE AND RECREATION

13. Will proposed Action affect the quantity or quality of existing or future open spaces or recreational opportunities?
   [ ] NO   [ ] YES

   Examples that would apply to column 2
   • The permanent foreclosure of a future recreational opportunity.
   • A major reduction of an open space important to the community.
   • Other impacts:

   As per the funding legislation, proposed project will increase open space and recreational opportunities.

IMPACT ON CRITICAL ENVIRONMENTAL AREAS

14. Will Proposed Action impact the exceptional or unique characteristics of a critical environmental area (CEA) established pursuant to subdivision 6NYCRR 617.14(g)?
   [ ] NO   [ ] YES

   There are three designated CEAs in Ulster County. 1) DEC freshwater wetlands in the Town of Woodstock; 2) The Shawangunk Ridge; and 3) the Walkill public water supply and watershed in the Town of Shawangunk. The proposed project area is not adjacent to any of these CEAs nor would the project have an impact on the exceptional or unique characteristics of these CEAs.

   Examples that would apply to column 2
   • Proposed Action to locate within the CEA?
   • Proposed Action will result in a reduction in the quantity of the resource?
   • Proposed Action will result in a reduction in the quality of the resource?
   • Proposed Action will impact the use, function or enjoyment of the resource?
   • Other impacts:
### IMPACT ON TRANSPORTATION

15. Will there be an effect to existing transportation systems?

- **NO** □
- **YES** □

**Examples** that would apply to column 2
- Alteration of present patterns of movement of people and/or goods.
- Proposed Action will result in major traffic problems.
- Other impacts:

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### IMPACT ON ENERGY

16. Will Proposed Action affect the community's sources of fuel or energy supply?

- **NO** □
- **YES** □

**Examples** that would apply to column 2
- Proposed Action will cause a greater than 5% increase in the use of any form of energy in the municipality.
- Proposed Action will require the creation or extension of an energy transmission or supply system to serve more than 60 single or two family residences or to serve a major commercial or industrial use.
- Other impacts:

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### NOISE AND ODOR IMPACT

17. Will there be objectionable odors, noise, or vibration as a result of the Proposed Action?

- **NO** □
- **YES** □

**Examples** that would apply to column 2
- Blasting within 1,500 feet of a hospital, school or other sensitive facility.
- Odors will occur routinely (more than one hour per day).
- Proposed Action will produce operating noise exceeding the local ambient noise levels for noise outside of structures.
- Proposed Action will remove natural barriers that would act as a noise screen.
- Other impacts:

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## IMPACT ON PUBLIC HEALTH

18. Will Proposed Action affect public health and safety?

- Proposed Action may cause a risk of explosion or release of hazardous substances (i.e. oil, pesticides, chemicals, radiation, etc.) in the event of accident or upset conditions, or there may be a chronic low level discharge or emission.
- Proposed Action may result in the burial of "hazardous wastes" in any form (i.e. toxic, poisonous, highly reactive, radioactive, irritating, infectious, etc.)
- Storage facilities for one million or more gallons of liquefied natural gas or other flammable liquids.
- Proposed Action may result in the excavation or other disturbance within 2,000 feet of a site used for the disposal of solid or hazardous waste.
- Other impacts:

Moving residences out of inundated homes and areas will have a beneficial effect on public health and safety.

## IMPACT ON GROWTH AND CHARACTER OF COMMUNITY OR NEIGHBORHOOD

19. Will Proposed Action affect the character of the existing community?

- Examples that would apply to column 2
  - The permanent population of the city, town or village in which the project is located is likely to grow by more than 5%.
  - The municipal budget for capital expenditures or operating services will increase by more than 5% per year as a result of this project.
  - Proposed Action will conflict with officially adopted plans or goals.
  - Proposed Action will cause a change in the density of land use.
  - Proposed Action will replace or eliminate existing facilities, structures or areas of historic importance to the community.
  - Development will create a demand for additional community services (e.g. schools, police and fire, etc.)
- Proposed Action will set an important precedent for future projects.  
- Proposed Action will create or eliminate employment.  
- Other impacts: Relocating residents has the potential to impact community character. However, because of the financial, environmental, and public safety benefits an overall positive effect on community character is anticipated.

20. Is there, or is there likely to be, public controversy related to potential adverse environment impacts?
- NO ✔ YES

If Any Action in Part 2 is Identified as a Potential Large Impact or if you Cannot Determine the Magnitude of impact, Proceed to Part 3
Part 3 - EVALUATION OF THE IMPORTANCE OF IMPACTS

Responsibility of Lead Agency

Part 3 must be prepared if one or more impact(s) is considered to be potentially large, even if the impact(s) may be mitigated.

Instructions (If you need more space, attach additional sheets)

Discuss the following for each impact identified in Column 2 of Part 2:

1. Briefly describe the impact.

2. Describe (if applicable) how the impact could be mitigated or reduced to a small to moderate impact by project change(s).

3. Based on the information available, decide if it is reasonable to conclude that this impact is Important.

To answer the question of importance, consider:

- The probability of the impact occurring
- The duration of the impact
- Its irreversibility, including permanently lost resources of value
- Whether the impact can or will be controlled
- The regional consequence of the impact
- Its potential divergence from local needs and goals
- Whether known objections to the project relate to this impact.
State Environmental Quality Review
NEGATIVE DECLARATION
Notice of Determination of Non-Significance

Project Number

Date: February 29, 2012

This notice is issued pursuant to Part 617 of the implementing regulations pertaining to Article 8 (State Environmental Quality Review Act) of the Environmental Conservation Law.

The County of Ulster as lead agency, has determined that the proposed action described below will not have a significant environmental impact and a Draft Impact Statement will not be prepared.

Name of Action:
Great Catskills Flood Remediation Program- Round II

SEQR Status: Type 1
Unlisted

Conditioned Negative Declaration: Yes
No

Description of Action:
The New York State Legislature through the NYS Housing Trust Fund - Homes and Community Renewal has allocated $3.8 million to Ulster County to extend the Greater Catskills Flood Remediation Program to provide for purchase and demolition of residential properties damaged by seepage and/or flooding with preference given to areas adjacent to the New York City Aqueduct in the Town of Wawarsing. In addition, the New York City Department of Environmental Protection has offered to provide funds up to the amount of $3.7 million for purchase and demolition of homes that lie within an area it has designated around the known leaking section of the Delaware Aqueduct in the Town of Wawarsing.

The State and City of New York funding will be used in concert by Ulster County in order to remove people and their possessions from harm’s way that have been hit particularly hard by seepage, inundation and flooding. By implementing this program, Ulster County will enable homeowners to relocate from areas that remain subject to seepage and flooding that occurs on a regular basis in a manner that threatens the health and safety of the residents. In addition, the funding legislation requires that after a parcel is acquired and the structure is demolished, the parcel is to remain open space. Approved uses of the sites include recreational access, floodplain restoration, wetland remediation or wetland mitigation.

Location: (Include street address and the name of the municipality/county. A location map of appropriate scale is also recommended.)

NA: Specific home sites TBD.
Reasons Supporting This Determination:
(See 617.7(a)-(c) for requirements of this determination ; see 617.7(d) for Conditioned Negative Declaration)

This project has been determined to not have a significant environmental impact for three main reasons. First, the overall goal of this program is to remove structures which are frequently inundated and establish open space which can be used for recreational access, floodplain restoration, and wetland remediation or mitigation which is a significant environmental benefit. Second, a site screening and walkover procedure has been detailed to screen for any potential environmental impacts and to minimize certain types of potential environmental impact. And finally, if through this process significant potential environmental impacts or conditions are identified, the County will not take title to the property.

Key aspects of the site screening procedure are detailed below:

Site Review and Walkover- As potential sites are selected for demolition, the parcels and structures will be reviewed for any potential environmental resources or hazards. In addition to consulting mappings and database resources, each site will be inspected for unique habitat, wetlands, or other unique or important features.

Environmental Site Assessments- Before title transfer, each parcel will undergo a Phase 1 Environmental Site Assessment (ESA) to assess and identify recognized environmental liabilities from petroleum, lead, asbestos or other hazardous materials. Any questionable materials identified in the ESA will be properly disposed of or appropriately remediated before or during the demolition process. If serious environmental issues exist on a site, the County will not take title to the property.

Historic and Cultural Resources- Although the potential homes do not have historic designation, the NY State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) will be consulted prior to any site work. In addition, language will be included in the demolition bid documents that will minimize any site disturbance. All equipment operating on site will be limited to previously disturbed areas such as driveways and sidewalks. This will limit disturbance to the site and protect any archaeological resources which may exist on the site. Any future site development (for recreation or flood remediation as allowed in the program rules) will require additional site review and consultation with SHPO.

**If Conditioned Negative Declaration, provide on attachment the specific mitigation measures imposed, and identify comment period (not less than 30 days from date of publication in the ENB)**

**For Further Information:**

**Contact Person:** Amanda LaValle/ Coordinator/ UC Department of the Environment

**Address:** PO Box 1800, Kingston , NY 12402

**Telephone Number:** (845) 338-7287

**For Type 1 Actions and Conditioned Negative Declarations, a Copy of this Notice is sent to:**

Chief Executive Officer, Town / City / Village of

Other involved agencies (If any)

Applicant (If any)

Environmental Notice Bulletin, 625 Broadway Albany NY 12233-1750 (Type One Actions only)