### DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY



PHILADELPHIA DISTRICT, CORPS OF ENGINEERS WANAMAKER BUILDING, 100 PENN SQUARE EAST PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA 19107-3391

CENAP-PL-E

United States Army Corps of Engineers, Philadelphia District FINAL General Conformity Determination Notice

On October 30, 2012, New York State (DR-4085) and New Jersey State (DR-4086) declared Super Storm Sandy a Major Disaster. In response to the unprecedented breadth and scope of the damages sustained along the New York and New Jersey coastlines, the U.S. Congress passed Public Law (PL) 113-2 "Disaster Relief Appropriations Act 2013", also known as House Resolution (H.R.) 152-2 Title II which was signed into law on January 29, 2013. PL 113-2, which states "That the amounts... are designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985", provides funding for numerous projects to repair, restore and fortify the coastline in both states as a result of the continuing emergency as people and property along the coast remain in a vulnerable condition until the coastline is restored and fortified. To this end, New Jersey Governor Christie signed Executive Order No. 140 on September 25, 2013, which authorized the means for the State to acquire all lands outside the State's ownership needed to ensure the sustainability of its coastline, and improve safeguards to diminish the impacts of future storm events, including flood protection for coastal communities that were impacted by the storm. To protect the investments by the Federal, State, local governments and individuals to rebuild damaged sites, it is imperative that these emergency disaster relief projects proceed as expeditiously as possible.

There are a number of coastal projects that were previously proposed and authorized but unconstructed (ABU). The Barnegat Inlet to Little Egg Harbor Inlet (Long Beach Island) [WRDA 2000, Title 1, §101a (1)] project is an ABU project that is anticipated to start construction after April 2014 and this document represents the General Conformity Determination required under 40CFR§93.154 by the United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE). USACE is the lead Federal agency that will contract, oversee, approve, and fund the project's work, and thus is responsible for making the General Conformity determination for this project.

USACE has coordinated this determination with the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP) [see NJDEP letter provided as Attachment A]. The Philadelphia-Wilmington-Atlantic City PA-New Jersey-Maryland-Delaware nonattainment area is currently classified as "marginal" nonattainment for the 2008 8-hour ozone standard. Ozone is controlled through the regulation of its precursor emissions, which include oxides of nitrogen (NOx) and volatile organic compounds (VOCs).

The equipment associated with this project that is evaluated under General Conformity (40CFR§93.153) includes direct and indirect nonroad diesel sources, such as dredging equipment and land based earth-moving equipment. The primary precursor of concern with this type of equipment is NOx, as VOCs are generated at a significantly lower rate. The NOx emissions associated with the project are estimated to range from 455 to 520 tons per calendar year for 2014 and 2015 respectively (see emissions estimates provided as Attachment B). The project exceeds the NOx trigger level of 100 tons in any calendar year and as a result, the USACE is required to fully offset the emissions of this project. The project does not exceed the VOC trigger level of 50 tons in any calendar year.

USACE is committed to fully offsetting the emissions generated as a result of the disaster relief coastal work associated with this project. USACE recognizes that the feasibility and cost-effectiveness of each offset option is influenced by whether the emission reductions can be achieved without introducing delay to the construction schedule that would prevent timely disaster relief.

USACE will demonstrate conformity with the New Jersey State Implementation Plan by utilizing the emission offset options listed below. The demonstration can consist of any combination of options, and is not required to include all or any single options to meet conformity. The options for meeting general conformity requirements include the following:

- a. Emission reductions from project and/or non-project related sources in an appropriately close vicinity to the project location. In assessing the potential impact of this offset option on the construction schedule, USACE recognizes the possibility of lengthening the time period in which offsets can be generated as appropriate and allowable under the general conformity rule (40CFR§93.163 and §93.165).
- b. Use of a portion of the Department of Defense Joint Base McGuire and Lakehurst State Implementation Plan emissions budget, as determined by the NJDEP, and in coordination with the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).
- c. Use of Clean Air Interstate Rule (CAIR) ozone season NOx Allowances with a distance ratio applied to allowances, similar to the one used by stationary sources found at N.J.A.C 7:27-18.5(c) Table 2.
- d. Use of Surplus NOx Emission Offsets (SNEOs) generated under the Harbor Deepening Project (HDP). As part of the mitigation of the HDP, USACE and the Port Authority of New York & New Jersey developed emission reduction programs coordinated through the Regional Air Team (RAT). The RAT is comprised of the USACE, NJDEP, EPA, New York State Department of Environmental Conservation, and other stakeholders. SNEOs will be applied in concurrence with the agreed upon SNEO Protocols to ensure the offsets are real, surplus, and not double counted.

Due to unpredictable nature of dredge-related construction and the preliminary estimates of sand required to restore the integrity of the coastlines, the project emissions will be monitored as appropriate and regularly reported to the RAT to assist the USACE in ensuring that the project is fully offset.

In summary, USACE will achieve conformity for NOx using the options outlined above, as coordinated with the NJDEP and coordinated through the RAT.

John C. Becking, P.E.

Lieutenant Colonel, Corps of Engineers

District Engineer

### Attachment A

Bob Martin, Commissioner, NJDEP Letter to Colonel Paul E. Owen, P.E., Commander New York District, USACE and Lieutenant Colonel John C. Becking, PE., Commander Philadelphia District, USACE November 4, 2013



## State of New Jersey

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER
Mail Code 401-07
P.O. BOX 402
Trenton, NJ 08625-0402
TEL # (609) 292-2885
FAX # (609) 292-7695

BOB MARTIN Commissioner

CHRIS CHRISTIE
Governor

KIM GUADAGNO Lt. Governor

November 4, 2013

Colonel Paul E. Owen, P.E Commander-NY District U.S. Army Corps of Engineers 26 Federal Plaza New York, NY 10278

Lieutenant Colonel John C. Becking, P.E (Chris) Commander-Philadelphia District U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Wanamaker Building 100 Penn Square East Philadelphia, PA 19107-3390

Re: Clean Air Act and Superstorm Sandy Coastal Restoration and Repair Projects

Dear Colonel Owen and Colonel Becking:

The purpose of this letter is to assist the United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) in complying with the requirements of the Clean Air Act as USACE performs coastal restoration and repair projects in New Jersey.

Superstorm Sandy significantly diminished the protective value of New Jersey's beach and dune system, leaving New Jersey coastal communities vulnerable to damage from future storms. The New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection has been working with your Districts to ensure that federal emergency coastal restoration and repair projects start as quickly as possible.

Emissions of oxides of nitrogen (NO<sub>x</sub>) for several of the Authorized but Unconstructed beach and dune repair/restoration projects will be greater than 100 tons/calendar year. As a result, USACE must demonstrate that those projects meet the so-called "General Conformity" requirements of the Clean Air Act. Under the General Conformity rule, federal agencies must work with state governments in a nonattainment area (such as New Jersey) with the goal of ensuring that federal actions conform to the air quality plans established by the state.

USACE must demonstrate compliance for the following projects:

- 1. Sea Bright to Ocean Township Beach Erosion Control Project (Elberon to Loch Arbour)
- 2. Manasquan Inlet to Barnegat Inlet
- 3. Barnegat Inlet to Little Egg Harbor Inlet (Long Beach Island)
- 4. Brigantine Inlet to Great Egg Harbor Inlet (Absecon Island)
- 5. Great Egg Harbor Inlet to Townsends Inlet

NJDEP does not have the authority to exempt USACE from General Conformity requirements.

Due to the extraordinary nature of the emergency created by Sandy and the ongoing threat to health and safety that would arise from any delay in undertaking these projects, all compliance options should be jointly considered, including invoking the emergency exemption in the Conformity Rules at 40 C.F.R. § 93.153(e), and seeking a Presidential exemption under section 118(b) of the Clean Air Act.

Alternatively, the USACE may comply with General Conformity for the projects by purchasing ozone season NOx allowances created pursuant to the federal Clean Air Interstate Rule (CAIR) (an emissions program created by the United States Environmental Protection Agency to reduce emissions from power generation facilities). The Department requests that USACE give greater weight to allowances from facilities close to New Jersey in its purchases. See N.J.A.C 7:27-18.5(c) Table 2. USACE may also use Surplus NO<sub>x</sub> emission Offsets (SNEOs) that were generated by USACE and others as part of the New York - New Jersey Harbor Deepening Project. Further, the Department of Defense may be willing to reallocate to USACE emissions from its emissions budget for Joint Base McGuire and Lakehurst.

Coastal restoration and repair projects will enhance the sustainability of New Jersey's coastline and diminish the impacts of future storms. I would like to acknowledge the coordinated effort between USACE and the Department's staff to identify opportunities for these projects to meet their regulatory obligations and move forward in a timely manner. I appreciate your time and attention to this matter. Should you have any further questions or need for assistance, please do not hesitate to contact Jane Kozinski, Assistant Commissioner, at (609) 292-2795.

Bob Martin Commissioner

c: Jane Kozinski, Assistant Commissioner, NJDEP Chris Salmi, Assistant Director, Division of Air Quality, NJDEP

## **Attachment B**

General Conformity Related Emission Estimates



## US Army Corps of Engineers – Philadelphia District Barnegat Inlet to Little Egg Inlet ABU Project General Conformity Related Emission Estimates

Emissions have been estimated using project planning information developed by the Philadelphia District, consisting of anticipated equipment types and estimates of the horsepower and operating hours of the diesel engines powering the equipment. In addition to this planning information, conservative factors have been used to represent the average level of engine load of operating engines (load factors) and the average emissions of typical engines used to power the equipment (emission factors). The basic emission estimating equation is the following:

### E = hrs x LF x EF

Where:

**E** = Emissions per period of time such as a year or the entire project.

**hrs** = Number of operating hours in the period of time (e.g., hours per year, hours per project).

**LF** = Load factor, an estimate of the average percentage of full load an engine is run at in its usual operating mode.

**EF** = Emission factor, an estimate of the amount of a pollutant (such as  $NO_x$ ) that an engine emits while performing a defined amount of work.

In these estimates, the emission factors are in units of grams of pollutant per horsepower hour (g/hphr). For each piece of equipment, the number of horsepower hours (hphr) is calculated by multiplying the engine's horsepower by the load factor assigned to the type of equipment and the number of hours that piece of equipment is anticipated to work during the year or during the project. For example, a crane with a 250-horsepower engine would have a load factor of 0.43 (meaning on average the crane's engine operates at 43% of its maximum rated power output). If the crane were anticipated to operate 1,000 hours during the course of the project, the horsepower hours would be calculated by:

### 250 horsepower x 0.43 x 1,000 hours = 107,500 hphr

The emissions from diesel engines vary with the age of an engine and, most importantly, with when it was built. Newer engines of a given size and function typically emit lower levels of pollutants than older engines. The  $NO_x$  emission factors used in these calculations assume that the equipment pre-dates most emission control requirements (known as Tier 0 engines in most cases), to provide a reasonable "upper bound" to the emission estimates. If newer engines are actually used in the work, then emissions will be lower than estimated for the same amount of work. In the example of the crane engine, a  $NO_x$  emission factor of 9.5 g/hphr would be used to estimate emissions from this crane on the project by the following equation:

# $\frac{107,500 \text{ hphr } \times 9.5 \text{ g NO}_x/\text{hphr}}{453.59 \text{ g/lb } \times 2,000 \text{ lbs/ton}} = 1.1 \text{ tons of NO}_x$

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## US Army Corps of Engineers – Philadelphia District Barnegat Inlet to Little Egg Inlet ABU Project General Conformity Related Emission Estimates

As noted above, information on the equipment types, horsepower, and hours of operation associated with the project have been obtained from the project's plans and represent current best estimates of the equipment and work that will be required. Load factors have been obtained from various sources depending on the type of equipment. Marine engine load factors are primarily from a document associated with the New York and New Jersey Harbor Deepening Project (HDP): "Marine and Land-Based Mobile Source Emission Estimates for the Consolidated Schedule of 50-Foot Deepening Project, January 2004," and from EPA's 1998 Regulatory Impact Analysis (RIA): "EPA Regulatory Impact Analysis: Control of Commercial Marine Vessels." Land-side nonroad equipment load factors are from the documentation for EPA's NONROAD emission estimating model, "Median Life, Annual Activity, and Load Factor Values for Nonroad Engine Emissions Modeling, EPA420-P-04-005, April 2004."

Emission factors have also been sourced from a variety of documents and other sources depending on engine type and pollutant. The  $NO_x$  emission factors for marine engines have been developed primarily from EPA documentation for the Category 1 and 2 standards (RIA, "Control of Emission from Marine Engines, November 1999) and are consistent with emission factors used in documenting emissions from the HDP, while the VOC emission factors for marine engines are from the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey's "2010 Multi-Facility Emissions Inventory" which represent the range of marine engines operating in the New Jersey harbor and coastal region in terms of age and regulatory tier level. Nonroad equipment  $NO_x$  emission factors have been derived from EPA emission standards and documentation, while the nonroad VOC emission factors have been based on EPA's Diesel Emissions Quantifier (DEQ, accessed at: www.epa.gov/cleandiesel/quantifier/), run for moderately old equipment (model year 1995). On-road vehicle emission factors have also been developed from the DEQ, assuming a mixture of Class 8, Class 6, and Class 5 (the smallest covered by the DEQ) on-road trucks.

As noted above, the emission factors have been chosen to be moderately conservative so as not to underestimate project emissions. Actual project emissions will be estimated and tracked during the course of the project and will be based on the characteristics and operating hours of the specific equipment chosen by the contractor to do the work.

The following pages summarize the estimated emissions of pollutants relevant to General Conformity,  $NO_x$  and VOC, in sum for the project and by calendar year based on the schedule information also presented (in terms of operating months per year). Following this summary information are project details including the anticipated equipment and engine information developed by the Philadelphia District, the load factors and emission factors as discussed above, and the estimated emissions for the project by piece of equipment.

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### U.S. Army Corps of Engineers NAP - ABU Sandy-Related Projects General Conformity Related Emission Estimates DRAFT

DRAFT 1-Nov-13

Summary of emissions estimated using NAP-provided equipment and activity data

	Total Emissions					
Project	NOx	VOC				
	(tons)					
Barnegat Inlet to Little Egg Inlet (LBI)	973.7	32.0				

	Estimated In-State Emissions, tons per year							
Project	Cubic yards	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	
NOx	·							
Barnegat Inlet to Little Egg Inlet (LBI)	7,800,000	0.0	454.4	519.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	
VOC								
Barnegat Inlet to Little Egg Inlet (LBI)	7,800,000	0.0	14.9	17.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	

Schedule by month:

		Calendar months of operation					
Project	Total months	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Barnegat Inlet to Little Egg Inlet (LBI)	15		June	Aug			

Months per year:

		Operating months per year						
Project	Total months	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	
Barnegat Inlet to Little Egg Inlet (LBI)	15		7	8				

Months per ozone season (the ozone season is 1 May - 30 Sept each year):

	Total						
Project	O <sub>3</sub> Season	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
	Months						
Barnegat Inlet to Little Egg Inlet (LBI)	8		4	4			

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers NAP - ABU Sandy-Related Projects Conformity Related Emission Estimates Barnegat Inlet to Little Egg Inlet (LBI) DRAFT

1-Nov-13

						Emission factors	s	Emissions				
		# of		Total				In state water	s	Out of state	waters	
Equipment/Engine Category	Type	Engines	HP	Hours	LF	NOx	VOC	NOx	VOC	NOx	VOC	
	• •	· ·				(g/hphr or g/	mi)		(tons)	(assume all mob/c	lemob	
Marine - mob/demob										in state water	:s)	
Hopper Dredge, propulsion	Hopper Dredge, propulsion	2	4,500	273.6	0.80	9.7	0.37	21.1	0.80	0.0	0.0	
Hopper Dredge, auxilary	Hopper Dredge, auxiliary	1	1,000	273.6	0.40	7.5	0.20	0.9	0.02	0.0	0.0	
Hopper Dredge, dredge pumps	Hopper Dredge, pumps	2	1,500	0.0	0.80	7.5	0.20	0.0	0.00	0.0	0.0	
Hopper Dredge, jet pumps	Hopper Dredge, pumps	1	2,100	0.0	0.80	7.5	0.20	0.0	0.00	0.0	0.0	
Tugboat - Propulsion	Ocean tow - propulsion	1	1,000	273.6	0.69	9.7	0.37	2.0	0.08	0.0	0.0	
Tugboat - Secondary	Ocean tow - auxiliary	1	50	273.6	0.40	7.5	0.20	0.0	0.00	0.0	0.0	
Crew/Survey Workboat - Propulsion	Crewboat propulsion	1	100	273.6	0.50	9.7	0.37	0.1	0.01	0.0	0.0	
Crew/Survey Workboat - Secondary	Crewboat auxiliary	1	40	273.6	0.40	7.5	0.20	0.0	0.00	0.0	0.0	
Derrick Barge - Prime Engine	Dredge auxiliary	1	200	273.6	0.40	7.5	0.20	0.2	0.00	0.0	0.0	
Derrick Barge - Auxiliary Engine	Dredge auxiliary	1	40	273.6	0.40	7.5	0.20	0.0	0.00	0.0	0.0	
Floating booster pump, prime engine	Booster pump	1	5,200	0.0	0.43	9.5	0.20	0.0	0.00	0.0	0.0	
Floating booster pump, 2nd engine	Booster pump	1	200	0.0	0.43	9.5	0.20	0.0	0.00	0.0	0.0	
Offshore survey boat - propulsion	Crewboat propulsion	1	500	273.6	0.69	9.7	0.37	1.0	0.04	0.0	0.0	
Offshore survey boat - secondary	Crewboat auxiliary	1	40	273.6	0.43	7.5	0.20	0.0	0.00	0.0	0.0	
Land-side	- · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·											
Land-side, nonroad	Dozer	1	410	0	0.59	9.5	0.19	0.0	0.00	0.0	0.0	
Land-side, onroad	Truck, small			680		10.3	0.54	0.3	0.01	0.0	0.0	
Mob/Demob subtotal	, , , ,							25.8	1.0	0.0	0.0	
Marine												
Hopper Dredge, propulsion	Hopper Dredge, propulsion	2	4,500	8,172	0.80	9.7	0.37	514.3	19.62	114.8	4.4	
Hopper Dredge, auxilary	Hopper Dredge, auxiliary	1	1,000	8,172	0.40	7.5	0.20	21.6	0.58	5.4	0.1	
Hopper Dredge, dredge pumps	Hopper Dredge, pumps	2	1,500	8,172	0.80	7.5	0.20	60.3	1.61	101.9	2.7	
Hopper Dredge, jet pumps	Hopper Dredge, pumps	1	2,100	0	0.80	7.5	0.20	0.0	0.00	0.0	0.0	
Tugboat - Propulsion	Ocean tow - propulsion	1	1,000	8,172	0.69	9.7	0.37	60.3	2.30	0.0	0.0	
Tugboat - Secondary	Ocean tow - auxiliary	1	50	8,172	0.40	7.5	0.20	1.4	0.04	0.0	0.0	
Crew/Survey Workboat - Propulsion	Crewboat propulsion	1	100	8,172	0.50	9.7	0.37	4.4	0.17	0.0	0.0	
Crew/Survey Workboat - Secondary	Crewboat auxiliary	1	40	8,172	0.40	7.5	0.20	1.1	0.03	0.0	0.0	
Derrick Barge - Prime Engine	Dredge auxiliary	2	200	8,172	0.40	7.5	0.20	10.8	0.29	0.0	0.0	
Derrick Barge - Auxiliary Engine	Dredge auxiliary	2	40	8,172	0.40	7.5	0.20	2.2	0.06	0.0	0.0	
Floating booster pump, prime engine	Booster pump	1	5,200	8,172	0.43	9.5	0.20	191.4	4.03	0.0	0.0	
Floating booster pump, 2nd engine	Booster pump	1	200	8,172	0.43	9.5	0.20	7.4	0.15	0.0	0.0	
Offshore survey boat - propulsion	Crewboat propulsion	1	500	8,172	0.69	9.7	0.37	30.1	1.15	0.0	0.0	
Offshore survey boat - secondary	Crewboat auxiliary	1	40	8,172	0.43	7.5	0.20	1.2	0.03	0.0	0.0	
Land-side	- · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·			-,				_				
Land-side, nonroad	Dozer	1	410	12,470	0.59	9.5	0.19	31.6	0.63	0.0	0.0	
Land-side, nonroad	Other diesel engines	1	87	9,390	0.59	9.5	0.19	5.0	0.10	0.0	0.0	
Land-side, onroad	Truck, small	1		12,722		10.3	0.54	5.1	0.26	0.0	0.0	
Beachfill subtotal	··· , ·· ··			- ,	!				31.0	222.1	7.2	
Total project emissions								973.7	32.0	222.1	7.2	
I -,									22.0			

On-road estimates based on hours, assumed average speed listed below, and g/mile emission factors.

Assumed average on-road speed, mph:

35

### **Attachment C**

Public and Agency Comments on Draft Conformity Determination

1. Judith Enck, Regional Administrator, United States Environmental Protection Agency, Region 2 Letter to Lieutenant Colonel John C. Becking, P.E., Commander Philadelphia District, USACE December 13, 2013



#### UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION 2 290 BROADWAY NEW YORK, NY 10007-1866

### DEC 1 3 2013

John C. Becking, P.E. Lieutenant Colonel, District Engineer US Army Corps of Engineers Wanamaker Building 100 Penn Square East Philadelphia, PA 19107-3390

SUBJECT: Comments on draft Statements of Conformity for ABU projects

Dear Mr. Becking:

The US Environmental Protection Agency has reviewed the US Army Corps of Engineers draft Statements of Conformity and associated emissions analyses for the following authorized but unconstructed (ABU) projects:

- Barnegat Inlet to Little Egg Harbor Inlet (Long Beach Island) [WRDA 2000, Title 1, §101a (1)],
- Great Egg Harbor Inlet to Townsends Inlet [WRDA 2007, Title 1, §1001 (30)],
- Brigantine Inlet to Great Egg Harbor Inlet (Absecon Island) [WRDA 1996, Title 1, §101 b-131, and
- Manasquan Inlet to Barnegat Inlet [WRDA 2007, Title 1, §1001 (32)].

These projects are within the Philadelphia-Wilmington-Atlantic City, PA-NJ-MD-DE non-attainment area for the ozone National Ambient Air Quality Standards and all within the state of New Jersey. The conformity process ensures that emissions of air pollutants from planned federal activities would not affect New Jersey's ability to achieve and maintain air quality attainment status.

We note and appreciate the extensive coordination in advance of issuing the draft statements. The four options presented there—emission reductions from project/non-project sources, portion of Joint Base McGuire and Lakehurst SIP budget, Clean Air Interstate Rule NOx allowances, and Surplus NOx Emission Offsets from the Harbor Deepening Project—are valid mechanisms for complying with general conformity. EPA believes emission reductions from project or local non-project sources should be implemented.

The construction activity associated with the ABU projects generates a significant amount of harmful air emissions condensed within a relatively short time frame. These emissions include NOx and VOCs, precursors to ozone, which is linked to airway inflammation and irritation, coughing, wheezing, aggravation of asthma, increased susceptibility to respiratory illnesses like pneumonia and bronchitis, and permanent lung damage with repeated exposures. By directly reducing emissions from project sources or other nearby sources, there is a higher confidence of

1.

avoiding any adverse impacts to local populations. Emissions mitigation projects would 2. contribute to lasting air-quality benefits for residents who have already suffered greatly from Hurricane Sandy storm damage. EPA regulations under 40CFR§93.163 permit an extended timeframe in which to generate offsets under certain circumstances. We believe this flexibility enables the Army Corps of 3. Engineers, in coordination with the Regional Air Team, to investigate and implement emission reduction projects from project and local non-project related sources. Moving forward, we urge the Army Corps of Engineers to give preference to emission reduction 4. projects as offsets in Statements of Conformity. Lastly, we note a vagueness with respect to the start date, which is listed as "after March 2014" or "after April 2014" in the draft statements. We encourage Army Corps of Engineers to be as specific as possible with respect to the schedule, caveating as necessary the potential for changes. Thank you for the opportunity to review the draft Statements of Conformity. EPA remains

committed to continue collaborating with Army Corps on the disaster recovery projects in our joint efforts to ensure adequate protection for human health and safety and the environment.

Sincerely,

Judith Enck Regional Administrator

cc: Bob Martin, Commissioner,

NJ Department of Environmental Protection

USACE RESPONSE (Items 1 - 4): The Philadelphia District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), is generally in agreement with the comments submitted by the Regional Administrator. In implementing the options enumerated in the Statement of Conformity, the Philadelphia District will also initiate a joint evaluation, in conjunction with the New York District, USACE, of potential emissions reduction opportunities. The evaluation of potential opportunities, which will be coordinated with the Regional Air Team, will consider options that are feasible, that are cost effective, and that can be able to be accomplished within our timeframe for project execution.