



Adopted Resolution
Designation of Lead Agency, Adoption of a Positive Declaration and
Conducting EIS Scoping in regard to the proposed Central Pine Barrens
Comprehensive Land Use Plan Amendments

Commission Meeting of April 15, 2015
Brookhaven Town Hall

Present: Peter Scully (New York State), Andrew Freleng (Suffolk County),
Edward Romaine (Brookhaven), Sean Walter (Riverhead),
Kyle Collins (Southampton)

Peter A. Scully
Chair

Steven Bellone
Member

Edward P. Romaine
Member

Anna E. Throne-Holst
Member

Sean M. Walter
Member

Whereas, pursuant to New York State Environmental Conservation Law (ECL) Article 57 Section 57-0121 (13), “Not less than once every five years after the land use plan has become effective, the commission shall review and, if appropriate, make amendments to the land use plan and update the generic impact statement. Within each such period, the commission shall hold a public hearing and shall receive comments on the effectiveness of implementation of the land use plan. Not less than thirty days before voting on an amendment to the land use plan, the commission shall publish notice thereof in a newspaper of general circulation in the Central Pine Barrens area.”

Whereas, pursuant to ECL Article 57 Section 57-0105, the New York State Legislature found “... that the Long Island Pine Barrens, an area encompassing over one hundred thousand acres in the county of Suffolk, is of critical importance to the state because it overlies the largest source of pure groundwater in New York. The Pine Barrens are interconnected to the Peconic Bay system by the Peconic River, the longest groundwater river in New York, and the ecologic and hydrologic integrity of this system should be protected in a comprehensive plan adopted by the state and individual local governments;” and

Whereas, in 2005 the Central Pine Barrens Joint Planning and Policy Commission (the Commission) identified areas of the land use and development chapters Central Pine Barrens Comprehensive Land Use Plan (the CLUP) for which amendments should be considered, and

Whereas, in the course of developing these amendments, the Commission expended significant time and effort in the examination and analysis of the current CLUP and a review and exhaustive study of past practices of the Commission and implementation of the CLUP by the Towns of Brookhaven, Riverhead, and Southampton, and

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Whereas, as a result of this comprehensive study and review, from 2005 to 2010 the Commission drafted and prepared a set of CLUP Amendments to Chapters 4: Review Procedures, Chapter 5: Standards and Guidelines for Land Use, and Chapter 6: Pine Barrens Credit Program (the proposed CLUP Amendments); and

Whereas, during the time period between 2010 and the present the proposed CLUP Amendments were reviewed by Commission Members, Designated Representatives, and the Central Pine Barrens Advisory Committee during 28 worksessions which included an extensive assessment and refinement of these amendments, and

Whereas, the Commission proposes to adopt the proposed CLUP Amendments dated March 18, 2015; and

Whereas, pursuant to Section 617.4(b)(1) of the New York State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA) regulations, the proposed action is classified as a Type I Action; and

Whereas, pursuant to the (SEQRA) regulations, the Commission prepared a Full Environmental Assessment Form (EAF) Part I and coordinated with Involved Agencies, including the Towns of Brookhaven, Riverhead and Southampton and the Villages of Quogue and Westhampton Beach, both for the purpose of seeking designation as Lead Agency and for the purpose of conducting an initial review of the proposed action; and

Whereas, the Commission subsequently prepared Parts 2 and 3 of the Full Environmental Assessment Form; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, pursuant to Section 617.6 of the SEQRA regulations, the Commission assumes Lead Agency for the proposed Type I Action for the Central Pine Barrens Comprehensive Land Use Plan Amendments dated March 18, 2015; and be it further

Resolved, pursuant to subdivision 617.7(b) of the SEQRA regulations, the Commission, as Lead Agency, has considered the action as defined in subdivisions 617.2(b) and 617.3(g) of the SEQRA regulations, has reviewed the EAF, the criteria contained in subdivision 617.7(c) of the SEQRA regulations and any other supporting information to identify the relevant areas of environmental concern, has thoroughly analyzed the identified relevant areas of environmental concern to determine if the action may have a significant adverse impact on the environment and set forth its determination of significance in a written form herein containing a reasoned elaboration and providing reference to any supporting documentation, and be it further

Resolved, pursuant to Section 617.7 of the SEQRA regulations, the Commission adopts a Positive Declaration for the proposed action which will require the preparation of a Supplemental Draft Generic Environmental Impact Statement (SDGEIS); and be it further

Resolved, pursuant to Section 617.8 of the SEQRA regulations, the Commission shall conduct public scoping and shall prepare a draft scoping document for the SDGEIS for review and comment by the public during a public scoping period; and be it further

Resolved, pursuant to Section 617.9 of the SEQRA regulations, the Commission shall prepare an SDGEIS for the proposed CLUP Amendments; and

Record of Motion

Motion by: Mr. Romaine

Seconded by: Mr. Scully

Yea Votes: 5

Nay Votes: 0