

Project :

Date :

**Full Environmental Assessment Form**  
**Part 3 - Evaluation of the Magnitude and Importance of Project Impacts**  
**and**  
**Determination of Significance**

Part 3 provides the reasons in support of the determination of significance. The lead agency must complete Part 3 for every question in Part 2 where the impact has been identified as potentially moderate to large or where there is a need to explain why a particular element of the proposed action will not, or may, result in a significant adverse environmental impact.

Based on the analysis in Part 3, the lead agency must decide whether to require an environmental impact statement to further assess the proposed action or whether available information is sufficient for the lead agency to conclude that the proposed action will not have a significant adverse environmental impact. By completing the certification on the next page, the lead agency can complete its determination of significance.

**Reasons Supporting This Determination:**

To complete this section:

- Identify the impact based on the Part 2 responses and describe its magnitude. Magnitude considers factors such as severity, size or extent of an impact.
- Assess the importance of the impact. Importance relates to the geographic scope, duration, probability of the impact occurring, number of people affected by the impact and any additional environmental consequences if the impact were to occur.
- The assessment should take into consideration any design element or project changes.
- Repeat this process for each Part 2 question where the impact has been identified as potentially moderate to large or where there is a need to explain why a particular element of the proposed action will not, or may, result in a significant adverse environmental impact.
- Provide the reason(s) why the impact may, or will not, result in a significant adverse environmental impact
- For Conditional Negative Declarations identify the specific condition(s) imposed that will modify the proposed action so that no significant adverse environmental impacts will result.
- Attach additional sheets, as needed.

Criteria for determining Significance under NYCRR Part 617.7(c)

(ii) the removal or destruction of large quantities of vegetation or fauna; substantial interference with the movement of any resident or migratory fish or wildlife species; impacts on a significant habitat area; substantial adverse impacts on a threatened or endangered species of animal or plant, or the habitat of such a species; or other significant adverse impacts to natural resources;

The current water withdrawal regime was established by a Department initiated modification to the Facilities SPDES permit in 2006. As part of that review process the Department issued a Negative Declaration of Significance. The Department required measures to ensure the facility operated in accordance with 6 NYCRR Part 704.5 and Section 316(b) of Clean Water Act. These regulations require that a facility minimize impacts from impingement and entrainment on aquatic organisms from the cooling water intake. Further discussion of the measures employed to minimize impacts from the facility's cooling water intake structure is provided below.

First, the facility employs a fish-friendly return system to increase the survivability of fish that become impinged on the intake screen. The current SPDES permit also required the installation of variable speed pumps on each unit. Variable speed pumps allow for the reduction in cooling water used during reduced power demand and colder source water conditions. In addition, the traveling screens on all the units were required to be upgraded. The improvements will allow for the continuous use of the screens and thereby increase the impingement survival. The SPDES permit also requires the scheduling of planned outages to minimize water usage during periods of high fish and egg abundance in the river.

All of the above measures will result in the reduction of impingement mortality by 90% and entrainment mortality by 65% over baseline conditions. These reductions will result in positive environmental benefits to the aquatic resources of the East River. Further, none of the proposed measures require the physical disturbance of either land or the river bed. The proposed measures will also not impact the water column or any benthic habitat. The 2012 SPDES permit renewal requires continued use of the BTA measures, and verification monitoring. If the monitoring results indicate the required reductions in impingement and entrainment are not met, the permittee must propose additional technologies to be implemented at the facility that will allow them to meet the impingement and entrainment reductions.

**Coastal Consistency**

A Coastal Assessment Form (CAF) was completed for this Project. Further review by the Department of State was not indicated. The New York City Local Waterfront Revitalization Plan was reviewed. No conflict with the LWRP was found.

**Determination of Significance - Type 1 and Unlisted Actions**

SEQR Status:

☒ Type 1

☐ Unlisted

Identify portions of EAF completed for this Project: ☒ Part 1

☒ Part 2

☒ Part 3

Upon review of the information recorded on this EAF, as noted, plus this additional support information

and considering both the magnitude and importance of each identified potential impact, it is the conclusion of the  
Department of Environmental Conservation \_\_\_\_\_ as lead agency that:

☒ A. This project will result in no significant adverse impacts on the environment, and, therefore, an environmental impact statement need not be prepared. Accordingly, this negative declaration is issued.

☐ B. Although this project could have a significant adverse impact on the environment, that impact will be avoided or substantially mitigated because of the following conditions which will be required by the lead agency:

There will, therefore, be no significant adverse impacts from the project as conditioned, and, therefore, this conditioned negative declaration is issued. A conditioned negative declaration may be used only for UNLISTED actions (see 6 NYCRR 617.d).

☐ C. This Project may result in one or more significant adverse impacts on the environment, and an environmental impact statement must be prepared to further assess the impact(s) and possible mitigation and to explore alternatives to avoid or reduce those impacts. Accordingly, this positive declaration is issued.

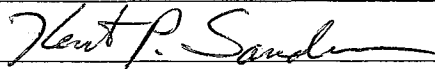
Name of Action: Ravenswood Generation Station Initial Water Withdrawal Permit

Name of Lead Agency: NYSDEC

Name of Responsible Officer in Lead Agency: Kent P. Sanders

Title of Responsible Officer: Environmental Analyst III

Signature of Responsible Officer in Lead Agency:



Date: 9/25/2018

Signature of Preparer (if different from Responsible Officer)

Date:

**For Further Information:**

Contact Person: Kent P. Sanders

Address: NYSDEC, 4th Floor 625 Broadway, Albany, 12233-1750

Telephone Number: 518 402 9178

E-mail: [deppermitting@dec.ny.gov](mailto:deppermitting@dec.ny.gov)

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

Chief Executive Officer of the political subdivision in which the action will be principally located (e.g., Town / City / Village of)

Other involved agencies (if any)

Applicant (if any)

Environmental Notice Bulletin: <http://www.dec.ny.gov/enb/enb.html>