FINAL SUPPLEMENTAL ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT/ FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

CONSTRUCTION OF REMOTE FIXED FACILITY MONTAUK SUFFOLK COUNTY, NEW YORK

Prepared for

U.S. Department of Homeland Security
United States Coast Guard
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U.S. COAST GUARD

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT (FONSI)

FOR

CONSTRUCTION OF REMOTE FIXED FACILITY MONTAUK
SUFFOLK COUNTY, NEW YORK

This project has been thoroughly reviewed by the U. S. Coast Guard (Coast Guard) and it has been determined, by the undersigned, that this project will have no significant effect on the human environment.

This Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) is based on the attached contractor prepared Supplemental Environmental Assessment (SEA), which has been independently evaluated by the Coast Guard and determined to adequately and accurately discuss the environmental issues and impacts of the proposed project and provides sufficient evidence and analysis for determining that a Environmental Impact Statement is not required. The Coast Guard takes full responsibility for the accuracy, scope, and content of the attached SEA.

SEP 0 8 2006		Environmental Program Manager
		USCG Rescue 21 Project
Date	Thomas A. Tansey Environmental Reviewer	Title/Position

I have considered the information contained in the SEA, which is the basis for this FONSI. Based on the information in the SEA and this FONSI document, I agree that the proposed action, as described above and in the SEA, will have no significant impact on the environment.

SEP 0 8 2006		Project Manager
		USCG Rescue 21 Project
Date	CAPT. D.B. Abel Responsible Official	Title/Position

U.S. COAST GUARD

SUPPLEMENTAL ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT (SEA)

FOR

CONSTRUCTION OF REMOTE FIXED FACILITY MONTAUK
SUFFOLK COUNTY, NEW YORK

This U.S. Coast Guard (Coast Guard) Supplemental Environmental Assessment (SEA) was prepared in accordance with Management Directive (MD) 5100.1, Environmental Planning Program, 71 Fed. Reg. 16790-16820 (April 4, 2006) and is in compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969 (P.L. 91-190) and the Council on Environmental Quality Regulations dated 28 November 1978 (40 CFR Parts 1500 through 1508).

This SEA serves as a concise public document to briefly provide sufficient evidence and analysis for determining the need to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement or a Finding of No Significant Impact.

This SEA concisely describes the proposed action, the need for the proposal, the alternatives, and the environmental impacts of the proposal and alternatives. This SEA also contains a comparative analysis of the action and alternatives, a statement of the environmental significance of the preferred alternative, and a list of the agencies and persons consulted during SEA preparation.

SEP 0 8 2006		Environmental Program Manager
		USCG Rescue 21 Project
Date	Thomas A. Tansey Environmental Reviewer	Title/Position

In reaching my decision/recommendation of the Coast Guard's proposed action, I have considered the information contained in this SEA on the potential for environmental impacts.

SEP 0 8 2006		Project Manager
		USCG Rescue 21 Project
Date	CAPT. D.B. Abel Responsible Official	Title/Position

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Appendix A Public Involvement
Appendix B Agency Coordination

ACHP	Advisory Council on Historic Preservation
amsl	Above Mean Sea Level
ANSI	American National Standards Institute
AOR	Area of Responsibility
APE	Area of Potential Effect
AQCR	Air Quality Control Region
ASR	Antenna Structure Registration
BCA	Bird Conservation Area
BMP	Best Management Practice
CAA	Clean Air Act
CB	Citizen Band Radio
CBRA	Coastal Barrier Resources Act
CDP	Census Designated Place
CEQ	Council on Environmental Quality
CERCLA	Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act
CFR	Code of Federal Regulations
CMA	Coastal Management Area
CMP	Coastal Management Program
CO	Carbon Monoxide
COMDTINST	Commandant Instruction
CWA	Clean Water Act
CZMA	Coastal Zone Management Act
dB	Decibel
dBA	A-weighted Sound Level
DF	Direction Finding
DOS	Department of State
EA	Environmental Assessment
EDR	Environmental Data Resources, Inc.
EO	Executive Order
EPA	Environmental Protection Agency
ESA	Endangered Species Act
FAA	Federal Aviation Administration
FCC	Federal Communications Commission
FEMA	Federal Emergency Management Agency
FHBM	Flood Hazard Boundary Map
FIRM	Flood Insurance Rate Map
FONSI	Finding of No Significant Impact
FPPA	Farmland Protection Policy Act
GSA	General Services Administration
HLS	High Level Site
IBA	Important Bird Area
kHz	Kilohertz

kW	Kilowatt
LED	Light-Emitting Diode
L_p	Sound Pressure Level
MBTA	Migratory Bird Treaty Act
MD	Management Directive
MHz	Megahertz
MOU	Memorandum of Understanding
NAAQS	National Ambient Air Quality Standards
NCA	Noise Control Act
NDRS	National Distress and Response System
NDRSMP	National Distress and Response System Modernization Project
NEPA	National Environmental Policy Act
NFIP	National Flood Insurance Program
NHPA	National Historic Preservation Act
NMFS	National Marine Fisheries Service
NOAA	National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NO_X	Nitrogen Oxides
NPDES	National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System
NRHP	National Register of Historic Places
NWI	National Wetlands Inventory
NYSDEC	New York State Department of Environmental Conservation
NYS	New York State
O_3	Ozone
Pb	Lead
PEA	Programmatic Environmental Assessment
PEL	Permissible Exposure Limit
$PM_{2.5}$	Particulate Matter of 2.5 Microns or Less
PM_{10}	Particulate Matter of 10 Microns or Less
RCRA	Resource Conservation and Recovery Act
RF	Radio Frequency
RFF	Remote Fixed Facility
SCFWH	Significant Coastal Fish and Wildlife Habitat
SEA	Supplemental Environmental Assessment
SHPO	State Historic Preservation Office(r)
SIP	State Implementation Plan
SO_X	Sulfur Oxides
SPDES	State Pollutant Discharge Elimination System
SPEA	Supplemental Programmatic Environmental Assessment
SRCS	Short Range Communication System
UHF	Ultra High Frequency
USACE	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
USC	U.S. Code

USCB	U.S. Census Bureau
USDA	U.S. Department of Agriculture
USFWS	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
VHF-FM	Very High Frequency-Frequency Modulation
VOC	Volatile Organic Compound

The U.S. Coast Guard (Coast Guard) has identified the need to modernize and replace its antiquated maritime search and rescue communications system in New York as part of a nationwide mandate. The new equipment will fill existing coverage gaps in very high frequency-frequency modulation (VHF-FM) marine communications used for Coast Guard operational missions, including search and rescue, maritime law enforcement, maritime pollution prevention and response, and homeland security. The new system, known as "Rescue 21," will be the maritime equivalent of a "911" communications system, enhancing maritime safety by helping to minimize the time that search and rescue teams spend looking for people in distress. Rescue 21 represents a quantum leap forward in coastal command and control and distress communications. It will enhance the United States' homeland security capabilities, as well as other safety and security missions, bringing tremendous benefits to the Coast Guard and the American public.

As part of the Rescue 21 program, the Coast Guard is proposing to construct a remote fixed facility (RFF) to help fill the existing communications gap for the Sector Field Office Moriches area of responsibility (AOR). An RFF would be built near the Town of East Hampton's Recycling Center/Montauk Transfer Station in East Hampton, Suffolk County, New York. The Coast Guard proposes to construct a 170-foot-tall, three-sided, self-supported, steel lattice communications tower with a direction finding (DF) antenna mounted on top. The addition of a DF antenna, mounting pole, and lightning rod would increase the total height of the tower and added appurtenances to approximately 181 feet above ground level. The proposed tower would be enclosed by a new 55-foot by 115-foot fenced compound. Associated equipment within the compound would include a prefabricated equipment shelter that would be no more than 15 feet by 24 feet, a 20-kilowatt (kW) emergency generator on a concrete slab, and one 500-gallon above ground propane tank.

This Supplemental Environmental Assessment (SEA) has been prepared to describe the Proposed Action and the No Action Alternative; describe the natural, cultural, and socioeconomic resources located in the project area; and evaluate the potential impacts of the alternatives on natural, cultural, and socioeconomic resources. This SEA has been prepared in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) regulations implementing NEPA (Title 40 Code of Federal Regulations [CFR] Parts 1500 through 1508), and the U.S. Coast Guard's policy guidelines for implementing NEPA, Management Directive (MD) 5100.1, Environmental Planning Program. This SEA supplements a 2005 EA that assessed the environmental consequences of upgrading the communications systems for Coast Guard Stations Shinnecock and Fire Island, New York, both of which are also included in the Sector Field Office Moriches AOR.

A summary of potential impacts is provided as Table ES-1.

Table ES-1. Impact Summary		
Resource Area	**Alternative 1: No Action**	**Alternative 2: Proposed Action**
Noise	No impact.	Temporary increase in noise levels during construction activities. Construction would be limited to business hours to minimize impacts. The emergency generator and communications equipment would create intermittent, minor noise impacts.
Air Quality	No impact.	Temporary increase in air emissions during construction activities. Mitigation measures would be implemented to minimize impacts. Occasional use of the emergency generator would result in a negligible increase in long-term emissions.
Geology and Topography	No impact.	No impact.
Soils	No impact.	Temporary disturbance of soils during construction activities. Best management practices (BMPs) would be used to minimize soil loss.
Prime Farmland	No impact.	No impact.
Water Resources	No impact.	Temporary increase in runoff to local surface waters during construction. BMPs would be used to minimize impacts. Construction would result in a minor increase in impervious surface area at the project location; however, no adverse impacts to water resources are expected.
Utility Availability	No impact.	Short-term utility increases (electricity and/or water) may be required during construction; however, these requirements would be temporary and would be easily accommodated by existing infrastructure.
Solid Waste Management	No impact.	No impact.
Drainage	No impact.	Temporary increase in runoff during construction activities. BMPs would be used to minimize impacts.
Transportation and Site Access	No impact.	Minor, temporary increase in volume of traffic during construction activities.

Table ES-1. Impact Summary		
Resource Area	**Alternative 1: No Action**	**Alternative 2: Proposed Action**
Hazardous Substances	No impact.	Minor amounts of hazardous materials may be generated or used during construction or operation of the tower. No long-term impacts associated with hazardous materials are expected. All hazardous materials/waste would be handled in accordance with applicable Federal, State, and local regulations.
Radio Frequency Radiation	No impact.	Proposed tower would generate radio frequency (RF) radiation; however, the tower would not substantially increase existing RF radiation in the project area and would not exceed permissible exposure limits (PEL). As a result, no human health effects are expected to occur.
Wildlife	No impact.	No significant habitat loss or conversion would result from the Proposed Action. The proposed tower would present a potential collision risk to migratory birds; however, the tower height would be below the threshold generally thought to pose the greatest risk. Additionally, in accordance with a U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), the Coast Guard would implement all reasonable measures to avoid affecting migratory birds.
Vegetation	No impact.	Minimal amounts of herbaceous vegetation would be removed; however, no significant adverse impacts are expected.
Threatened and Endangered Species	No impact.	No impacts to protected species are anticipated. There is a remote possibility that a protected bird could inadvertently fly into the tower; however, the probability of such an event is so small that it is not considered a significant impact.
Wetlands	No impact.	Construction would occur more than 1,500 feet away from a freshwater pond wetland; no impacts to wetlands are expected.
Floodplains	No impact.	Construction would occur outside of the 100-year floodplain and the Proposed Action is not expected to have an effect on upstream or downstream floodplains.

Table ES-1. Impact Summary		
Resource Area	**Alternative 1: No Action**	**Alternative 2: Proposed Action**
Cultural Resources	No impact.	No impact. If unanticipated archaeological resources are discovered, the Coast Guard would consult with the New York State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) regarding appropriate treatment measures.
Recreation	The safety of citizens participating in recreational marine activities could be adversely impacted if the Coast Guard's communication equipment is not upgraded.	The Proposed Action would have a positive impact on marine recreational users by ensuring a more reliable and efficient response by the Coast Guard in emergency situations. The tower would be visible from local parks and beaches; however, no significant adverse impacts are expected.
Visual Resources	No impact.	The proposed tower would be visible to residents and visitors in the vicinity of the project area. Because the tower would be less than 200 feet in height, it would not require lighting. The tower is not expected to be visually obtrusive and will not cause a significant impact to the environment.
Socioeconomic Resources	Public safety, property losses, and possibly human life associated with marine incidents and accidents could be adversely impacted if the Coast Guard's communication equipment is not upgraded.	The proposed tower would increase public safety, reduce property losses associated with marine incidents and accidents, and possibly reduce loss of human life associated with marine accidents.
Coastal Zone	No impact.	No impact. The Proposed Action is consistent to the extent practicable with the enforceable policies of the New York Coastal Management Program.
Coastal Barrier Resources	No impact.	No impact. The project site in not located within the Coastal Barrier Resources System; therefore, the project would be in compliance with the Coastal Barriers Resource Act (CBRA).

Table ES-1. Impact Summary		
Resource Area	**Alternative 1: No Action**	**Alternative 2: Proposed Action**
Environmental Justice	No impact.	No impact.
Cumulative Effects	The communications gap in the Sector Field Office Moriches AOR would not be filled, potentially resulting in property losses and loss of life due to inadequate search and rescue capabilities.	The proposed tower, in combination with existing and future towers on Long Island, could result in cumulative impacts to migratory birds. Although the cumulative effects of towers on migratory birds are not well understood, it is expected that impacts associated with the Proposed Action would not be significant because the tower's height would be below the threshold generally thought to pose the greatest risk. Additional tower design features have been selected to minimize any potential harm to migratory birds.

1.1 SUMMARY OF ENVIRONMENTAL STUDY REQUIREMENTS

The National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA) requires that Federal agencies consider potential environmental consequences of proposed and alternative actions in their decision-making process. NEPA encourages Federal agencies to protect, restore, and enhance the environment through well-informed decisions. The Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) was established under NEPA for the purpose of implementing and overseeing Federal policies as they relate to this process. The CEQ regulations provide the implementation guidelines for NEPA and require Federal agencies to develop agency-specific NEPA guidelines.

This site-specific Supplemental Environmental Assessment (SEA) has been prepared to describe the Proposed Action and a range of reasonable alternatives, including the No Action Alternative. The No Action Alternative provides a baseline for comparing the Proposed Action with existing conditions. This SEA has been prepared in accordance with NEPA, the CEQ regulations implementing NEPA (40 Code of Federal Regulations [CFR] Parts 1500 through 1508), and the U.S. Coast Guard's policy guidelines for implementing NEPA (MD 5100.1, Environmental Planning Program, 71 Federal Register 16790-16820 [April 4, 2006]). This SEA supplements a 2005 EA that assessed the environmental consequences of upgrading the communications systems for Coast Guard Stations Shinnecock and Fire Island, New York, both of which are also included in the Sector Field Office Moriches AOR.

1.2 BACKGROUND

The U.S. Coast Guard (Coast Guard) is required by Federal statutes to carry and maintain communication via very high frequency-frequency modulation (VHF-FM) radio, establishing it as the standard means for maritime communication. Other Federal statutes task the Coast Guard with additional responsibilities, such as operating facilities for the promotion of search and rescue operations, enforcing Federal laws and statutes, and assisting Federal and state agencies in protecting the coastlines.

The National Distress and Response System (NDRS), the Coast Guard's current short-range VHF-FM radio system, forms the backbone of the Coast Guard's Short Range Communication System (SRCS). Established more than 30 years ago, the NDRS is a VHF-FM-based radio communication system that provides two-way voice communication with commercial and recreational traffic in coastal areas and in navigable inland waterways. It consists of approximately 300 remotely controlled VHF-FM transmit/receive high-level sites (HLS) located throughout the continental United States (including the Great Lakes and all major inland bays and waterways), Alaska, Hawaii, the Caribbean, and Guam. The NDRS' primary mission is to provide the Coast Guard with a means to monitor the domestic and international VHF-FM distress frequency and to coordinate search and rescue response operations. Its secondary mission is to provide command and control communications for virtually all Coast Guard missions.

While this system has served the Coast Guard well over the years, it consists of out-of-date and non-standard equipment that has many limitations. The current NDRS does not provide the Coast Guard with a reliable means of meeting its multi-mission requirements, including search and

rescue, maritime law enforcement, maritime pollution prevention and response, and homeland security. Nationwide, NDRS operational deficiencies include:

- Obsolete/non-standard equipment;
- Inadequate transmission security;
- Numerous geographic coverage gaps;
- Imprecise position-locating capability;
- Inadequate channel capacity;
- Limited data capability;
- Inadequate communications with public safety and other emergency response service agencies;
- Poor caller verification assistance and recording capability;
- No digital selective calling capacity; and,
- No interface with the rest of the Coast Guard's telecommunications system.

In July of 1998, the Coast Guard prepared a Programmatic Environmental Assessment (PEA) to evaluate the potential environmental impacts of the proposed National Distress and Response System Modernization Project (NDRSMP), a proposed Federal project subject to the NEPA review process. Four technology modernization alternatives were selected for analysis: 1) No Action; 2) Rehabilitated or Upgraded System; 3) Dual Mode VHF and/or Ultra High Frequency (UHF) Network; and, 4) Multi-Mission Satellite, Cellular, VHF Network. The 1998 PEA evaluated the potential impacts of each alternative on the following environmental resource areas: geology and soils, hydrology and water quality, biological resources, land use, visual resources, hazardous materials and wastes, air quality, cultural resources, noise, transportation and circulation, socioeconomics, and radio waves.

In September of 2002, the Coast Guard prepared a Supplemental PEA (SPEA) because a substantial amount of time had passed since the 1998 PEA was published. In the 2002 SPEA, the Coast Guard considered four alternatives to deploy the NDRSMP: 1) No Action; 2) Deploying New Communications Technology to an Existing Antenna Tower Site that Supports the NDRS; 3) Deploying New Communications Technology to a Leased Commercial Tower Site; and, 4) Deploying New Communications Technology to a New Undeveloped Site. The 2002 SPEA updated the potential effects of the each of the new alternatives on each of the environmental resource areas that were addressed in the 1998 PEA, and assessed the potential effects to environmental resource areas that were not originally assessed in the 1998 PEA. The 2002 SPEA identified, described, and evaluated the potential environmental impacts that could result from implementation of the NDRSMP, and took into consideration cumulative impacts from other actions (USCG, 2002a).

The 1998 PEA and 2002 SPEA are the first level of documents upon which subsequent NEPA analysis and documentation are tiered for individual actions and their site-specific impacts. In November of 2005, the Coast Guard prepared a site-specific Environmental Assessment (EA) that tiered off the 1998 PEA and 2002 SPEA (USCG, 2005). That 2005 EA assessed specific environmental consequences of upgrading the communications systems for Coast Guard Stations Shinnecock and Fire Island, part of Sector Long Island (formally Group Long Island Sound), New York. Subsequent to the finalization of that EA, the Coast Guard underwent a reorganization of its operational units. "Group Moriches" is now known as "Sector Field Office Moriches" and "Group Long Island Sound" is now known as "Sector Long Island."

This site-specific SEA document supplements the 2005 EA for which the Coast Guard issued a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) on November 3, 2005, and tiers off the environmental consequences discussed in that EA, as well as the 1998 PEA and 2002 SPEA. As an SEA, this document incorporates the 2005 EA by reference and will assess only the potential project-specific environmental consequences at the proposed Remote Fixed Facility (RFF) Montauk project site located in East Hampton, New York (Figure 1).

1.3 PURPOSE AND NEED FOR ACTION

As part of a nationwide initiative, the Coast Guard has identified the need to modernize and replace its antiquated maritime distress and response communications system in New York. The coverage gaps that exist in the current VHF-FM marine communications system present limitations to the Coast Guard's effectiveness in monitoring distress calls and other operational missions, including search and rescue, maritime law enforcement, maritime pollution prevention and response, and homeland security. To address the limitations of the current communications system, the Coast Guard has implemented a new technologically advanced communications system that is more robust, more reliable, and more capable, and will revolutionize how the Coast Guard communicates and carries out its various missions.

The new system, known as "Rescue 21," will be the maritime equivalent of a "911" communications system, enhancing maritime safety by helping to minimize the time that search and rescue teams spend looking for people in distress. Rescue 21 represents a quantum leap forward in coastal command and control and distress communications, and will replace a wide range of aging, obsolete VHF-FM radio communications equipment. The U.S. Coast Guard's current NDRS does not provide the Coast Guard with a reliable means of meeting its multi-mission requirements. Rescue 21 will provide the Coast Guard with a state-of-the-art maritime distress and response communications system and will enhance the United States' homeland security capabilities, as well as other safety and security missions, bringing tremendous benefits to the Coast Guard and the American public.

The purpose and need for the proposed project is to provide optimum Radio Frequency (RF) coverage of the Sector Field Office Moriches Area of Responsibility (AOR), which includes 4,000 square miles along the Atlantic coastline of Long Island, New York, from Station Jones Beach northeast to Station Montauk. In conjunction with the construction of RFF Shinnecock and RFF Fire Island, the Proposed Action would serve as a final component to complete communications coverage and fill in several existing communication gaps in the current system's coverage in the Sector Field Office Moriches AOR. In addition, as with the RFF Shinnecock tower, the RFF Montauk tower would also provide significant coverage of the neighboring Sector Long Island AOR to the north. Together, the three towers would provide complete coverage for the Sector Field Office Moriches AOR (Figure 2).

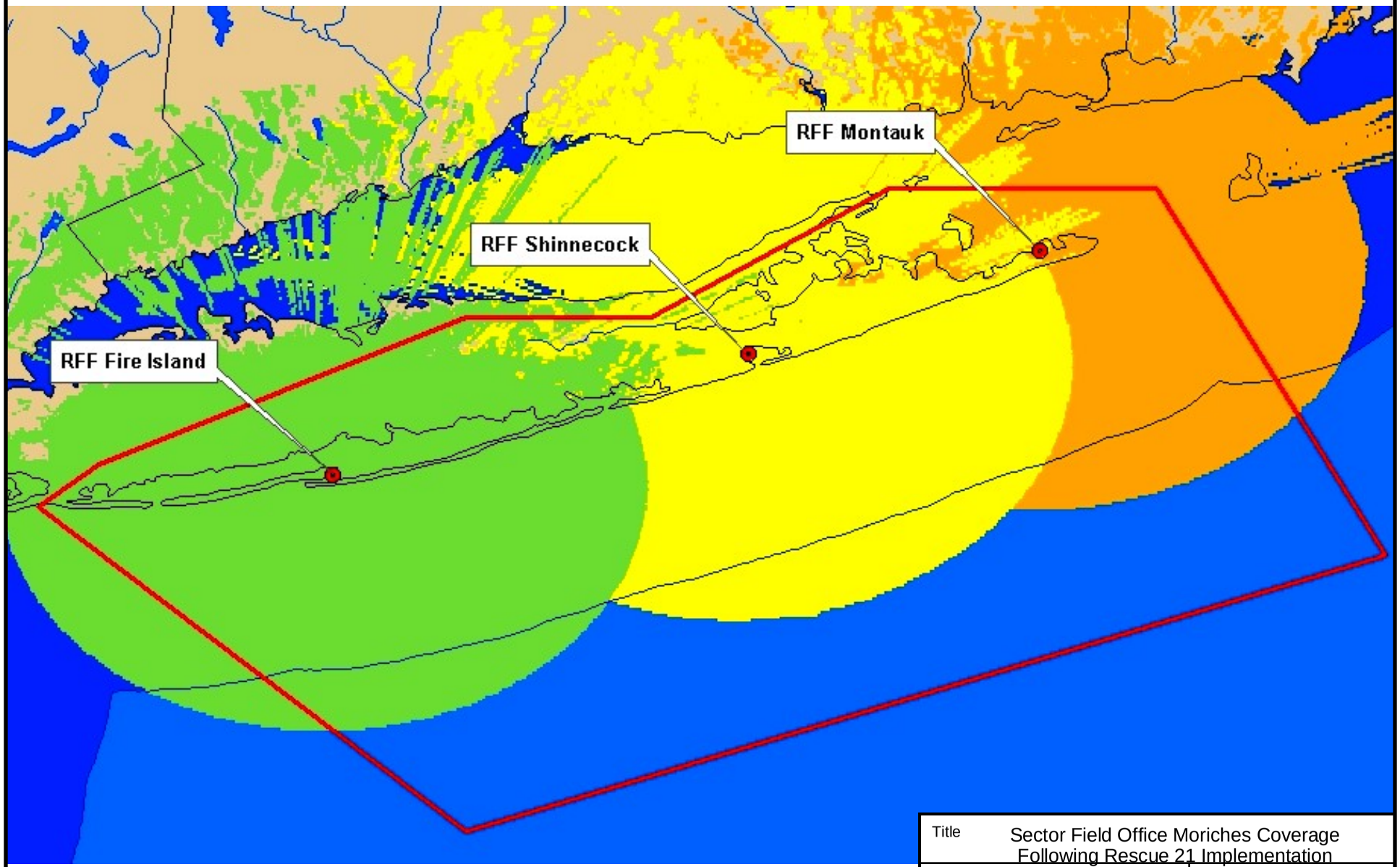
The Proposed Action involves constructing an RFF to fill the existing communications gap for the Sector Field Office Moriches AOR. The RFF would be built near the Town of East Hampton's Recycling Center/Montauk Transfer Station in East Hampton, Suffolk County, New York (Figure 1). The Town of East Hampton is the easternmost town on Long Island, and the Montauk community is one of seven smaller areas traditionally identified as separate communities within the Town.

Source base map:
USGS 7.5 min Quadrangle: Montauk Point N.Y., 1956

NORTH

1,000 0 1,000 2,000 Feet

Title: Location Map	
RESCUE 21	**Proj No:** 15298197
	Figure: 1
Client: U.S. Coast Guard	
Project: RFF Montauk	



Title	Sector Field Office Moriches Coverage Following Rescue 21 Implementation
RESCUE 21	Proj No: 15298197
	Figure: 2
Client:	U.S. Coast Guard
Project:	RFF Montauk

RFF Montauk would consist of a 170-foot self-supported tower and an elevated platform, enclosed by a new 55-foot by 115-foot fenced compound. Associated equipment within the compound would include a prefabricated equipment shelter that would be no more than 15 feet by 24 feet, a 20-kilowatt (kW) emergency generator on a concrete slab, and one 500-gallon above ground propane tank. After concluding coordination with the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), the Coast Guard determined that the tower would be required to be no more than 170 feet tall to meet operational and technical requirements.

Initially, the Coast Guard had requested that the FAA consider the construction of an antenna tower 300 feet above ground level, 475 feet above mean sea level (amsl). The FAA conducted an aeronautical study under the provisions of 49 U.S.C., Section 44718, and Title 14 CFR, Part 77. Initial findings of that study indicated that the 300-foot-tall tower would exceed obstruction standards and/or would have an adverse physical or electromagnetic interference effect upon navigable airspace or air navigation facilities. Therefore, the 300-foot tower was presumed to be a hazard to air navigation; the FAA issued a Notice of Presumed Hazard to the Coast Guard on May 19, 2006 (Appendix B).

In its notice, the FAA noted that if the structure were reduced in height so as not to exceed 185 feet above ground level (360 feet above mean sea level), it would not exceed obstruction standards and a favorable determination could subsequently be issued. Additionally, the FAA noted that any height exceeding 185 feet above ground level (360 feet above mean sea level) would result in a substantial adverse effect, and would warrant a Determination of Hazard to Air Navigation. The Coast Guard reassessed the tower height requirements for RFF Montauk and determined that a 170-foot-tall tower would be sufficient to meet its operational and technical requirements. The FAA issued a Determination of No Hazard to Air Navigation on July 24, 2006 (Appendix B).

The addition of a DF antenna, mounting pole, and lightening rod would increase the total height of the tower and added appurtenances to 181 feet above ground level. The VHF-FM, UHF, and Direction Finding (DF) antennas operate via line-of-sight transmission and reception of radio signals. Due to the curvature of the earth and proposed location of the tower, a 170-foot-tall tower (total height of the tower and appurtenances would be 181 feet above ground level) is the minimum height required to ensure adequate reception and transmission within the Coast Guard's intended operational radio coverage area.

Once the construction contractor begins, it would take approximately 3 to 4 months to build the tower, weather permitting.

1.4 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

As part of the NEPA compliance process for the construction of RFF Montauk, the Coast Guard conducted an extensive public participation program. A public information meeting on the proposed project was held on Wednesday, January 18, 2006, from 5:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at the Montauk Public School in Montauk, New York. The meeting was advertised for two weeks prior in both *The Independent* and *The Easthampton Star* on January 4 and 5, 2006, and again on January 11 and 12, 2006. Additionally, meeting invitations and project fact sheets were mailed to interested parties and individual residents as identified by the Coast Guard. The public was encouraged to submit comment forms to provide input on the proposed project. No comments

forms were submitted at the January 2006 public information meeting. A toll-free hotline number was also available for the public to provide comments on the project.

After publication of the draft SEA, a public comment meeting was held on Wednesday, July 12, 2006, from 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., at the Montauk Public School Gymnasium in Montauk, New York. The meeting was advertised in two local newspapers for two weeks prior to the meeting date; the advertisement was published in combination with the Public Notice that notified the availability of the draft SEA for public review and comment. The combined advertisement was published in *The Independent*, available on Wednesdays, on July 5 and 12, 2006, and in *The Easthampton Star*, available on Thursdays, on June 29 and July 6, 2006. The Public Notice also served as the Coast Guard's notice of compliance with Executive Order (EO) 11988 (Floodplain Management), the Coastal Zone Management Act (CZMA) of 1972, and Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) of 1966.

Additionally, public comment meeting invitations and project fact sheets were mailed to interested parties and individual residents as identified by the Coast Guard and as updated by the January Public Information Meeting attendees. The public was encouraged to submit comment forms to provide input on the proposed project and the draft SEA. No comments forms were submitted at the July 2006 public comment meeting. However, one comment form was submitted during the public comment period. Written comments and Coast Guard responses are included in Appendix A.

In March 2006, the Coast Guard sent initial coordination letters to the nine agencies listed in Chapter 5. To date, the Coast Guard has received responses from four agencies. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service letter concurred with the Coast Guard's determination that the proposed project would not be likely to adversely affect listed species. In its response, the EPA had no scoping comments for the proposed project. The New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation, on behalf of the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO), responded to the Coast Guard with a determination that the Proposed Action would have no effect upon cultural resources listed in or eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP). The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation Division of Fish, Wildlife & Marine Resources replied with its review of the New York Natural Heritage Program database. Agency response letters are included in Appendix B.

To date, the Coast Guard has not received responses from five agencies (U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, U.S. Department of Agriculture Natural Resources Conservation Service, New York Department of State Division of Coastal Resources, New York State Department of Environmental Conservation Regional Office (Region 1), and The Nature Conservancy).

A copy of the draft SEA was provided to all of the nine agencies discussed above, and listed in Chapter 5. Transmittal letters are included in Appendix B. The draft SEA was also distributed to two New York State Senators, one local Congressman, the Suffolk County Executive, and the Town of East Hampton Supervisor (Appendix A).

In preparing the 2002 SPEA, the Coast Guard coordinated with an extensive list of government and local agencies nationwide. These agencies are also listed in Chapter 5.

2.1 ALTERNATIVES

2.1.1 Siting Process

Towers supporting the Rescue 21 project are positioned to provide clear and effective radio communications to serve the Coast Guard's operational missions. For Coast Guard operational regions in coastal areas, the communication coverage area extends seaward at least 20 nautical miles from the territorial sea baseline, as defined in Federal regulations (33 CFR 2.05-10). The circular radio transmission patterns predictably result in radio coverage overlap between adjacent towers. Overlap of coverage areas is required to support reliable radio reception and direction finding of received signals, such as those for search and rescue calls. These requirements and the regional topography dictate the tower's general location and height requirements. Meeting these initial operational requirements is the first step in the siting process.

Once initial operational requirements are determined, the Coast Guard then searches the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) tower database to identify all registered towers that could possibly support the Rescue 21 equipment. First, existing towers are considered as co-location sites to save time and money, and to avoid new environmental consequences. The Coast Guard screens these existing towers for technical flaws, such as not meeting the height requirement or incompatibility of existing frequencies with established Coast Guard frequencies. The Coast Guard visits the existing towers that meet the technical screening process and evaluates them for the following additional requirements:

- Structural integrity and potential for overload if Coast Guard equipment is mounted;
- Frequency interference that cannot be filtered effectively at the height required to mount Coast Guard equipment (each filter reduces the range of the Rescue 21 equipment);
- Space on the existing tower at the height required to mount the Rescue 21 equipment; and
- Willingness of the existing tower owner to lease tower space to the Coast Guard.

If no existing towers are available or suitable for supporting the Rescue 21 equipment, the Coast Guard begins to look for open land within the area where an RFF is required based on operational requirements. The Coast Guard's priority for selecting land for the construction of a new tower is a function of the cost to build and maintain the tower over its lifetime and the difficulty of implementation. The Coast Guard has the following order of priority for new tower construction: 1) Coast Guard builds the tower on Coast Guard-controlled land; 2) Coast Guard builds the tower on land controlled by another Federal agency; 3) Coast Guard leases non-federally owned land and builds the tower; and, 4) Coast Guard acquires new land by purchase and builds the tower.

In the case of RFF Montauk, the Coast Guard will lease non-federally owned land and build a new tower. The combination of the proposed tower location and height will provide continuous coverage for the required 20-nautical mile area, thus meeting the stated purpose and need. Other potential tower locations were considered but dismissed because they did not meet operational requirements or had technical flaws (see Section 2.2 Alternatives Considered and Dismissed).

2.1.2 No Action Alternative

Under the No Action Alternative, a new communications tower would not be constructed at the project site in East Hampton. The communication gaps for Sector Field Office Moriches would not be filled, resulting in an inadequate distress and response system in the Sector Field Office Moriches' AOR.

2.1.3 Proposed Action – Construction of RFF Montauk

The Coast Guard proposes to construct RFF Montauk on a vacant site in East Hampton. RFF Montauk would consist of a 170-foot self-supporting tower, equipment shelter, emergency back-up generator, associated utilities, and H-frame utility rack and would complete the needed RF coverage for the Sector Field Office Moriches AOR.

The project site consists of an open, previously disturbed, dirt and gravel area at the Town of East Hampton's Recycling Center/Montauk Transfer Station in eastern Suffolk County, East Hampton, New York, approximately 0.75 mile west of Montauk, New York. The Town of East Hampton is the easternmost town on Long Island, and the Montauk community is one of seven smaller areas traditionally identified as separate communities within the Town.

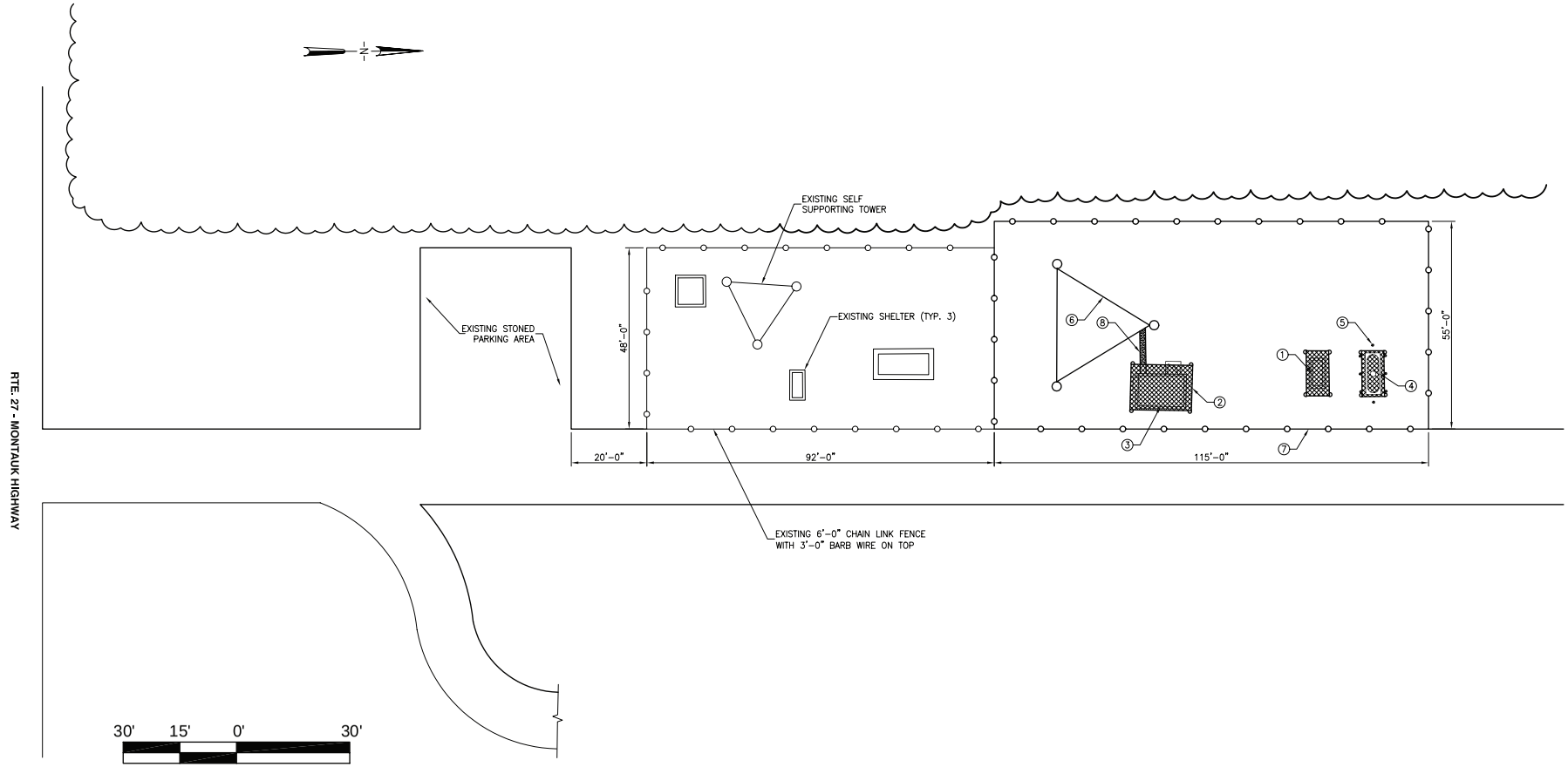
The Coast Guard would lease ground space available for construction of a 55-foot by 115-foot compound adjacent to an existing tower owned by the Town of East Hampton that holds equipment for their local first responders. The project site is bordered by the Montauk Transfer Station to the north, Montauk Highway to the south, Lee Koppelman County Nature Preserve to the west, and private, low-density residential areas to the east. The proposed tower compound would contain the new communications tower, an elevated platform containing an equipment shelter, an emergency back-up generator, and a propane fuel tank (Figure 3). The project site is approximately 186 feet above mean sea level (amsl) in elevation and is located approximately 250 feet north of Montauk Highway. The project site is accessible via an existing, approximately 20-foot wide driveway that is currently used by the Town of East Hampton's Recycling Center/Montauk Transfer Station. Equipment would be staged on existing paved surfaces or sparsely vegetated areas adjacent to the project site.

The Coast Guard proposes to construct a 170-foot-tall, three-sided, self-supported steel lattice communications tower with a DF antenna mounted on top (Figure 4). The addition of a DF antenna, mounting pole, and lightning rod would increase the total height of the tower and added appurtenances to approximately 181 feet above ground level. The tower would be constructed prior to the installation of the Rescue 21 equipment.

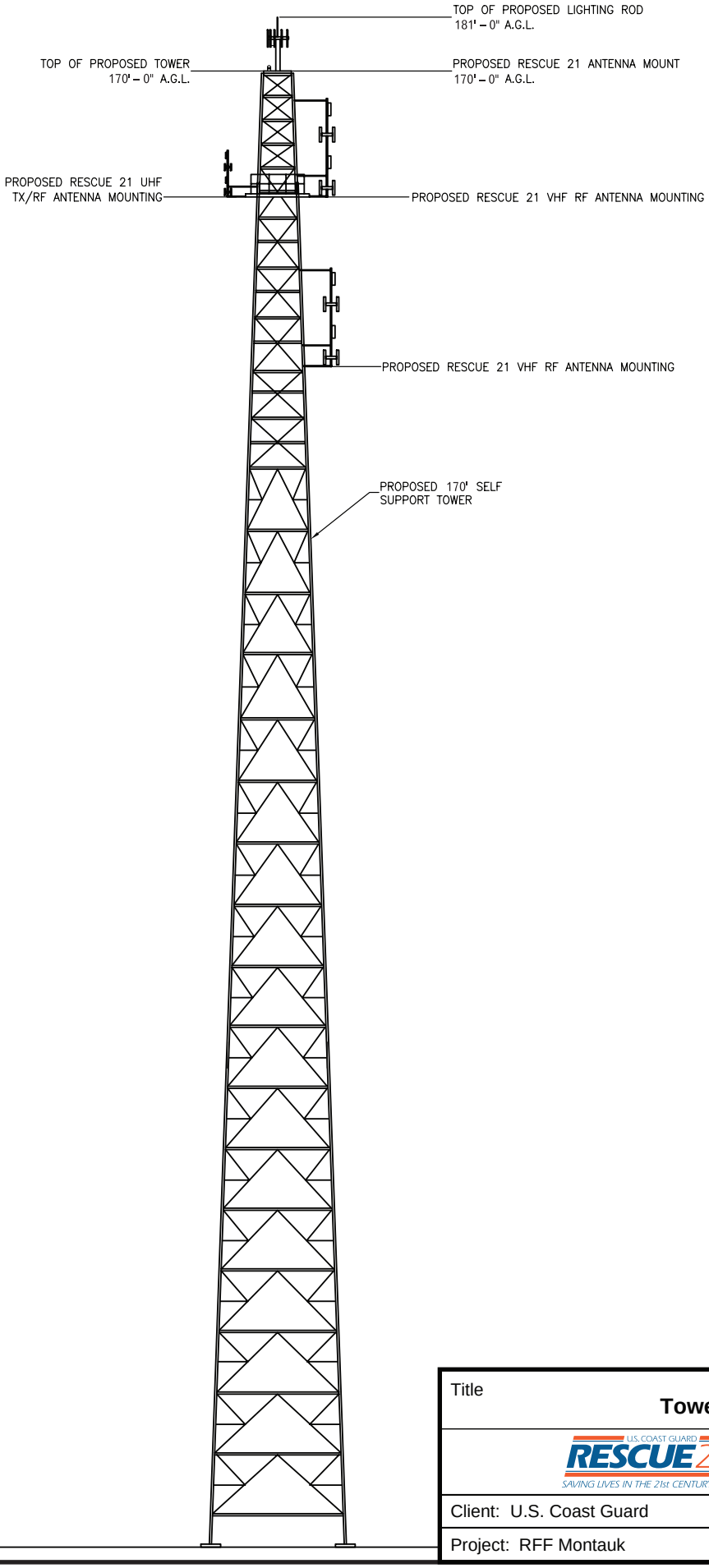
The Coast Guard also proposes to construct an adjoining steel or concrete prefabricated equipment shelter on the site. The equipment shelter would be no more than 15 feet wide by 24 feet long and would either be painted white or would have an exposed aggregate exterior. The equipment shelter is designed to protect against wind, ice, heat, and vandals, and may be elevated on 2- to 3-foot-high concrete pilings to protect it from ground runoff.

An emergency generator with a 500-gallon propane tank would be included in the tower compound. As with the equipment shelter, the emergency generator may be elevated on 2- to 3-foot-high concrete pilings to protect it from ground runoff.

① =PROPOSED GENERATOR ON CONCRETE SLAB
② =PROPOSED ICE SHIELD
③ =PROPOSED 8'x12' RESCUE 21 SHELTER ON CONCRETE SLAB
④ =PROPOSED FUEL TANK ON CONCRETE SLAB
⑤ =PROPOSED BOLLARDS (8 TOTAL)
⑥ =PROPOSED 170' – 0" SELF SUPPORTING TOWER
⑦ =PROPOSED CHAIN LINK FENCE WITH BARB WIRE
⑧ =PROPOSED ICEBRIDGE



Title **Site Plan**	
U.S. COAST GUARD RESCUE 21 SAVING LIVES IN THE 21st CENTURY	Proj No: 15298197
	Figure: **3**
Client: U.S. Coast Guard	
Project: RFF Montauk	



Title **Tower Elevation**	
U.S. COAST GUARD RESCUE 21 SAVING LIVES IN THE 21st CENTURY	Proj No: 15298197
	Figure: **4**
Client: U.S. Coast Guard	
Project: RFF Montauk	

Short electrical and Telco telecommunication trenches would be excavated to connect to existing nearby local utility services. The 55-foot-wide by 115-foot-long compound would be surrounded by a 10-foot-tall chain link fence with barbed wire.

RFF Montauk would complete the coverage of the Atlantic coastline of Long Island, New York from Station Jones Beach northeast to Station Montauk. The Proposed Action would fulfill the purpose and need by providing coverage for the communication gaps in the Sector Field Office Moriches AOR.

2.2 ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED AND DISMISSED

The Coast Guard's site selection methodology utilizes a series of comprehensive analyses of existing RFFs and potential candidate sites. The site selection process is focused on identifying and developing candidate sites that can achieve technical requirements with affordable costs, appropriate schedule, and minimal implementation risk. The following alternatives were considered for Coast Guard Rescue 21 equipment:

Construction of New Tower on Non-Coast Guard Owned Property – The U.S. General Services Administration (GSA) real property policy, which applies to all government agencies, requires that Federal agencies "achieve maximum use of their real property, in terms of economy and efficiency" and satisfy their real property needs by first seeking affordable property held by other entities within the same agency (i.e., other Coast Guard or U.S. Department of Homeland Security entities), and then other Federal agencies, rather than acquiring such property from a non-Federal entity, unless mission requirements dictate otherwise (41 CFR 102-73.10, 102-73.250[a] and 102-75.25[a]). The Sector Field Office Moriches AOR covers the coastline of what can be characterized as expensive real estate, which raises some significant obstacles to implementing a cost-effective solution. It is not expected to be feasible to purchase property for construction of a new tower in this area. Any land that would have to be acquired would be expensive due to the tourism- and resort-based nature of the region. For these reasons, the Coast Guard purchase of property for construction of a new tower alternative was dismissed from consideration.

Co-location on Existing Commercial Tower – Due to the difficulties in constructing new towers on Long Island, existing towers tend to be short and heavily loaded with existing tenants. Therefore, many existing towers have a poor RF environment that would require extensive mitigation to enable placement of the Rescue 21 equipment. It was determined that there were no existing commercial towers that could be used to provide the needed coverage.

The following existing towers were considered but were either not capable of supporting the Rescue 21 equipment or did not meet the stated purpose and need, and were therefore dismissed from consideration. The FCC's Antenna Structure Registration (ASR) Program is the process under which each new and existing antenna structure that requires FAA notification (generally those more 200 feet in height or located near an airport) must be registered with the FCC by its owner. The following sites are referred to by their ASR number:

ASR # 1229148, Global Signal Corporation

This 163-foot tower is located approximately 450 feet northeast of the proposed project site. The existing tower is too short to provide adequate coverage, and does not meet the coverage objectives; therefore, it does not meet the stated purpose and need.

ASR # unknown, Town of East Hampton

This 150-foot tower is located adjacent to the south edge of the proposed project site and currently contains first responder (i.e., police and fire department) equipment for the Town of East Hampton. However, the existing tower is too short to provide adequate coverage and does not meet the coverage objectives; therefore, it does not meet the stated purpose and need.

ASR # 1005991, State of New York

Also known as the Legacy HLS Napeague site, this 319-foot tower is located approximately 4.5 miles southwest of the proposed project site. This tower has severe RF interference issues and does not fully meet the coverage objectives; therefore, it does not meet the stated purpose and need. Additionally, this site is located in a wetland, which could lead to environmental complications or delays for the implementation of this site.

ASR # 1003631, Cablevision East Hampton

This 353-foot tower is located approximately 10.5 miles west of the proposed project site. The owner will not allow Coast Guard collocation and there is no viable space for the Rescue 21 equipment; therefore, it does not meet the stated purpose and need.

3.1 INTRODUCTION

This section presents the existing environment or baseline conditions at the project site for the biophysical resources that would potentially be affected by the No Action Alternative and the Proposed Action. Information for this section was derived from a review of relevant literature and websites, as well as a site visit conducted on December 14, 2005.

This section is organized by individual resource and includes descriptions of both the biological and physical portions of the potentially affected resource. Within this section, environmental consequences are presented for each alternative.

3.2 NOISE

Affected Environment

Noise is generally defined as unwanted sound and can include any sound that is undesirable because it interferes with communication, is intense enough to damage hearing, or is otherwise annoying. Responses to noise by living organisms vary depending on the type and characteristics of the noise, distance between the noise source and receptor, receptor sensitivity, and time of day.

Sound pressure level (L_p) can vary over an extremely large range of amplitudes. The decibel (dB) is the accepted standard unit for measuring the amplitude of sound because it accounts for the large variations in amplitude and reflects the way people perceive changes in sound amplitude. Sound levels are easily measured, but the variability is subjective and physical response to sound complicates the analysis of its impact on people. People judge the relative magnitude of sound sensation by subjective terms such as “loudness” or “noisiness.”

Different sounds have different frequency contents. When describing sound and its effect on a human population, A-weighted sound levels (dBA) are typically used to account for the response of the human ear. The term “A-weighted” refers to a filtering of the noise signal, which emphasizes frequencies in the middle of the audible spectrum and de-emphasizes low and high frequencies in a manner corresponding to the way the human ear perceives sound. The dBA has been found to correlate well with people’s judgments of the noisiness of different sounds and has been used for many years as a measure of community noise.

Noise is federally regulated by the Noise Control Act of 1972 (NCA). Although the NCA gives the EPA authority to prepare guidelines for acceptable ambient noise levels, it only directs those Federal agencies that operate noise-producing facilities or equipment to implement noise standards. EPA guidelines, and those of many other Federal agencies, state that outdoor noise levels in excess of 55 dBA are “normally unacceptable” for noise-sensitive land uses such as residences, schools, or hospitals.

Loud, disturbing, and unnecessary noise at the project site is regulated by the Code of the Town of East Hampton, Chapter 185-3. In commercial/industrial-zoned areas of the Town of East Hampton, including the project site, the noise limit is 70 dBA during the day (from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.), and 55 dBA at night (from 7:00 p.m. to 7:00 a.m.). However, these ordinances

provide an exception for construction activities during normal business hours (from 7:30 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.). The State of New York does not regulate noise.

Environmental Consequences

No Action

Under the No Action Alternative, there would be no new construction or operations, and therefore, no impact on ambient noise levels in the project area.

Proposed Action

Under the Proposed Action, noise would be emitted from mechanical equipment used in the construction of the communication tower. Table 3-1 shows the anticipated noise levels at a distance of about 50 feet from miscellaneous heavy equipment at the project site. The use of heavy equipment would be a short-term, temporary activity only associated with the initial construction phase of the proposed project. The impact of noise would be greatest from 0 to 50 feet of the site. Noise levels decrease with distance, and the impact would therefore be attenuated as distance from the site increased. To minimize noise impacts, construction activities would comply with East Hampton's noise regulation and would be limited to normal business hours.

Table 3-1. Heavy Equipment Noise Levels at 50 Feet

Equipment Type [a]	Number Used [a]	Generated Noise Levels L_p (dBA)[b]
Scraper	1	89
Bulldozer	1	88
Trenching Machine	1	85
Backhoe (rubber tire)	1	80
Front Loader (rubber tire)	1	80
Concrete Finisher	1	80
Dump Truck	1	75
Concrete Truck	1	75
Crane	1	75
Flat-Bed Truck (18 wheel)	1	75

[a] Estimated
[b] Source: CERL, 1978

Other sources of noise associated with the operation of RFF Montauk would be the generator used for emergency back-up power and the continuous, low volume hum of the communications equipment. The generator would run for short periods of time on a regular basis for routine maintenance checks, and would automatically start during power outages. The Coast Guard estimates that the generator would run up to 12 hours per year. Based on the intermittent use of the generator, no significant noise impacts are anticipated. Noise impacts resulting from the long-term operation and maintenance of the communication tower are not expected to be

significant. No adverse impacts to the existing noise levels within the project area are anticipated.

3.3 AIR QUALITY

Affected Environment

Air Pollutants and Regulations

Under the provisions of the Clean Air Act (CAA), as amended, the EPA has established National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) for pollutants considered harmful to public health and the environment. Federal NAAQS are currently established for the following six "criteria" pollutants: carbon monoxide (CO), ozone (O_3), lead (Pb), nitrogen oxides (NO_X), sulfur oxides (SO_X), and particulate matter equal to or less than 10 microns (PM_{10}) and 2.5 microns ($PM_{2.5}$). The CAA established two types of air quality standards. Primary standards establish pollutant limits to protect public health, including the health of sensitive populations such as children, the elderly, and asthmatics. Secondary standards establish pollutant limits to protect public welfare, including protection against decreased visibility and damage to wildlife, crops, vegetation, and buildings.

The EPA classifies the air quality within an air quality control region (AQCR) according to whether the region meets or exceeds Federal primary and secondary NAAQS. Federal projects that occur in regions not meeting primary or secondary standards must be evaluated to determine if a CAA conformity analysis is required in accordance with 40 CFR 93.

Regional Air Quality Considerations

Key factors affecting air quality conditions for a location or region are pollutant emission rates, emission parameters, topographic features, chemical reactions, cumulative effects from other emission sources, and meteorological conditions (e.g., temperature, winds, and precipitation).

An AQCR or portion of an AQCR may be classified as attainment, non-attainment, or unclassified for each of the six criteria pollutants. Attainment describes a condition in which one or more of the six NAAQS are being met in an area. The area is considered to be in attainment only for those criteria pollutants for which the NAAQS are being met. Non-attainment describes a condition in which one or more of the six NAAQS are not being met in an area. Unclassified indicates that air quality in the area cannot be classified and is therefore treated as attainment. An area may have all three classifications for different criteria pollutants.

For non-attainment areas, a state must submit to the EPA a detailed State Implementation Plan (SIP), a federally approved and enforceable plan by which the state identifies how it will attain and/or maintain NAAQS. From time to time a state may choose to revise its SIP or EPA may require a state to revise its SIP. Air emission regulations are more stringent in non-attainment areas.

Suffolk County is part of the three-state region comprising the New York airshed, which includes northern New Jersey, southern New York, and southwestern Connecticut (NYSDEC, 1998). According to 2005 data (the most recent year for which data is available), the county is in a non-attainment area for both 1-hour and 8-hour O_3. There are several potential sources for O_3: motor vehicle exhaust and industrial emissions, gasoline vapors, and chemical solvents, as well

as natural sources that emit NO_X and volatile organic compounds (VOCs), that help to form O_3.The county is in attainment for the other criteria pollutants (EPA, 2006a).

An SIP has been developed for 1-hour O_3 in the New York airshed, and includes documentation of how the affected area will attain the 1-hour O_3 standard. In November 2005, the EPA issued a final outline of the program to implement the 8-hour O_3 NAAQS; local governments will rely upon that program as they develop their own plans showing how they will attain the 8-hour O_3 standard. Compliance with the SIP is expected to substantially reduce local and regional O_3 levels measured in terms of peak 8-hour averages as well as peak 1-hour averages.

Environmental Consequences

No Action

Under the No Action Alternative, no new construction or operations would occur and there would be no increase in long-term or short-term air emissions.

Proposed Action

The Proposed Action would result in short-term air emissions during construction activities, principally from construction activities related to site preparation and the use of construction equipment. The Proposed Action would result in a negligible amount of long-term emissions from occasional use of the emergency generator.

A majority of the emissions from the Proposed Action would occur as a direct result of construction activities. Site clearing and preparation activities are a potential source of fugitive dust emissions that may have a temporary impact on local air quality in the immediate project vicinity. If necessary, the construction contractor would water down disturbed areas of the construction site to reduce the impact of fugitive dust emissions. The effects of fugitive dust would be limited to the immediate project vicinity, would last only as long as the duration of construction, and would not result in long-term impacts.

Emissions from fuel-burning combustion engines (e.g., heavy equipment, earthmoving machinery, and motor vehicles) could temporarily increase the levels of some criteria pollutants, including CO, NO_X, and PM, as well as some non-criteria pollutants such as VOCs. To minimize the potential for these impacts, engines would be properly maintained, and fuel-burning equipment running times would be kept to a minimum. The effects of fuel-burning combustion engines would be limited to the immediate project vicinity, last only as long as the duration of construction, and would not result in long-term impacts.

A final potential source of increased emissions would be the emergency generator that would run during power outages and routine maintenance checks. The Coast Guard estimates the generator would operate for up to 12 hours per year. Potential emissions from the generator within the immediate project vicinity include CO, SO_X, NO_X, PM_{10}, and VOCs. Based on the intermittent usage and fuel type, an air permit from the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) would not be required for the generator. No significant short- or long-term impacts are expected from use of the emergency generator.

In compliance with 40 CFR 93, the Proposed Action has been evaluated to address the potential need for preparation of an air quality conformity analysis. Under the CAA, a general conformity analysis is required if a federally proposed action is to take place in an existing non-attainment area and if the increase in air emissions for each pollutant exceeds the outlined limits. All

emissions for this project would fall well below the outlined limits; therefore, a CAA conformity analysis would not be required for the Proposed Action.

The proposed communication tower would not be classified as a major emission source and the short-term and long-term emissions from construction and operation would not exceed the NAAQS or limits set in the New York airshed SIP. The temporary emission of minor amounts of air pollution would be unavoidable; however, the individual and cumulative impacts during construction would be insignificant. Long-term impacts from criteria pollutant emissions during monthly testing and infrequent use of the emergency generator and from quarterly equipment maintenance visits would be negligible. Impacts to air quality are not expected to be significant.

3.4 EARTH RESOURCES

3.4.1 Geology and Topography

Affected Environment

The project site is located within the Atlantic Coastal Plain physiographic province. Long Island is underlain by bedrock of the Precambrian system or Proterozoic era, composed of crystalline metamorphic and igneous rock. The wedge of unconsolidated sediments ranges in thickness from zero, where the bedrock surfaces near the East River, to 1,100 feet in the southeast part of Queens, to 2,000 feet in south-central Suffolk County.

The topography at the project site is level and the project site is located 186 feet amsl (EDR, 2006).

Environmental Consequences

No Action
Under the No Action Alternative, no physical changes to the project site would occur and there would be no impacts to the geology or topography of the area.

Proposed Action
Under the Proposed Action, no significant adverse impacts to geology or topography at the project site are anticipated. Bedrock is not anticipated to be encountered during construction activities. Grading for the preparation of the tower compound would not have a noticeable effect on the project site's existing level topography. The Proposed Action is anticipated not to have any adverse or long-term impacts to geology and topography.

3.4.2 Soils

Affected Environment

According to the Suffolk County Soil Survey, soils within the project site are mapped within the Bridgehampton silt loam soil unit (USDA/SCS, 1975). The project site is characterized by well-drained to moderately well-drained soils that are gently sloping with a medium to very strongly acidic content. Permeability of the surface and subsurface layers are moderate, and substratum

permeability is rapid or very rapid. Available water capacity is high, and runoff is medium. Soil erosion is potentially high. The soil type is suitable to community development; however, roads need special design and installation to prevent frost heaving (USDA/SCS, 1975).

The Coast Guard sent a letter to the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Natural Resources Conservation Service (USDA NRCS) in March 2006 to obtain information on any regulatory requirements under its jurisdiction for the proposed RFF Montauk construction (Appendix B). To date, the Coast Guard has not received a response from the USDA NRCS.

Environmental Consequences

No Action
Under the No Action Alternative, no physical changes to the project site would occur and there would be no impacts to soils.

Proposed Action
Under the Proposed Action, no significant adverse impacts to soils are anticipated. Temporary disturbance to surficial soils would occur during the construction of the tower compound. To reduce the potential adverse impacts associated with soil disturbance, best management practices (BMPs) such as hay bales and silt fences would be used to prevent the loss of soils from the project site. Grading and excavation of soils within the project site would be minimized to the greatest extent possible.

3.4.3 Prime Farmland

Affected Environment

Prime farmland is defined as land that has the best combination of physical and chemical characteristics for producing food, feed, fiber, forage, oilseed, and other agricultural crops with minimal inputs of fuel, fertilizer, pesticides, and labor, and without intolerable soil erosion. Unique farmland is defined as land other than prime farmland that is used for the production of specific high-value food and fiber crops such as citrus, tree nuts, olives, cranberries, fruits, and vegetables. The Farmland Protection Policy Act (FPPA) and the Coast Guard's MD 5100.1, Environmental Planning Program, require that the Coast Guard examine the impacts of its actions on prime or unique agricultural lands and minimize any potential impacts.

The Bridgehampton silt loam soil unit, the mapped soil unit for the project site, is not classified as prime farmland soil within Suffolk County (USDA/SCS, 1975). In addition, no unique farmland occurs within or adjacent to the project area (USDA/SCS, 1975).

The Coast Guard sent a letter to the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Natural Resources Conservation Service (USDA NRCS) in March 2006 to obtain information on any regulatory requirements under its jurisdiction for the proposed RFF Montauk construction (Appendix B). To date, the Coast Guard has not received a response from the USDA NRCS.

Environmental Consequences

No Action
Under the No Action Alternative, no construction would occur and there would be no adverse impacts to prime or unique farmland soils.

Proposed Action
Under the Proposed Action, no construction would occur within or adjacent to prime or unique farmlands and therefore there would be no adverse impacts to prime or unique farmland soils.

3.5 WATER RESOURCES

Affected Environment

The project site is located on the eastern end of Long Island, which is nearly surrounded by water. The project site is in the Southern Long Island watershed of southeast New York. The project site is located within 0.75 mile of both Fort Pond Bay to the north and the Atlantic Ocean to the south. Both water bodies support recreational activities including boating and fishing.

The Nassau-Suffolk Aquifer System is made up of four distinct formations, three of which occur in Suffolk County – the Upper Glacial, the Magothy, and the Lloyd aquifers. All occur in unconsolidated materials overlying bedrock. The Upper Glacial aquifer has a probable maximum thickness of about 700 feet. It contains large quantities of groundwater in both the outwash plain and the morainal deposits. The deposits underlying the outwash plain are composed largely of stratified, brown, fine-to-coarse sand and gravel. The Magothy aquifer ranges from 0 to 1,100 feet thick and is 0 to 600 feet below the land surface. Fine to medium sand is inter-bedded with clay and sandy clay of moderate permeability and silt and clay of low to very low permeability. The basal 50 to 200 feet commonly contains coarse sand and gravel. The Lloyd aquifer, which lies immediately above solid bedrock, contains fine to coarse sand and gravel with a clayey matrix with some layers of silty or solid clay (EPA, 2003).

On Long Island, fresh groundwater is bounded laterally and underlain locally by salty groundwater hydraulically connected to the sea. The Nassau-Suffolk aquifer is designated as a sole source aquifer by the EPA (EPA, 2003). A sole source aquifer is one that supplies at least 50 percent of the drinking water consumed in the area overlying the aquifer where there is no other drinking water source that could physically, economically, or legally supply all those who depend upon the aquifer for drinking water.

The Clean Water Act (CWA) (33 U.S. Code [USC] 1251) prohibits unauthorized discharges into navigable waters of the United States. In addition, the CWA targets point source discharges, such as municipal wastewater outfalls, and nonpoint source discharges, such as stormwater discharges. Stormwater runoff and other nonpoint source pollution may cause adverse impacts to surface water resources. Stormwater discharges associated with construction activities that disturb a total of 1 or more acres of land must be permitted under the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES). New York has an EPA-approved program for the control of wastewater and stormwater discharges in accordance with the CWA. The program is known as the State Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (SPDES), and it is broader in scope than the CWA in that it regulates point source discharges to groundwater as well as surface water. As part of SPDES General Permit requirements, an erosion and sediment control plan

must be developed for construction activities that disturb more than 1 acre of land. The NYSDEC administers the SPDES permitting program.

The Coast Guard sent a letter to NYSDEC in March 2006 to obtain information on any regulatory requirements under its jurisdiction for the proposed RFF Montauk construction (Appendix B). To date, the Coast Guard has not received a response from the NYSDEC Regional Office (Region 1).

Environmental Consequences

No Action
Under the No Action Alternative, no construction would occur and there would be no impacts to surface water or groundwater resources.

Proposed Action
No significant or long-term impacts to surface or groundwater resources are expected as a result of the Proposed Action. The Proposed Action would not result in any discharges to navigable waters. During construction, ground disturbance at the project site would be limited to approximately 6,235 square feet (0.15 acre).

The Coast Guard would implement appropriate BMPs, such as installing silt fences and revegetating bare soils, to minimize surface water runoff from the site. There are no surface water bodies near the project site that would be directly impacted by construction activity. The construction of impervious surfaces within the project site would be limited to those structures (tower, shelter, and access roads) that require concrete foundations. The remaining portion of the project site would be lined with a pervious gravel bed. The total increase in impervious surface area at the project site would be minor and is not expected to result in any adverse impacts to surface water resources. Although there would be some minor ground disturbance associated with these activities, the proposed construction would not occur in an aquifer recharge zone; therefore, these activities are not expected to impact groundwater resources in the area. Since there will be less than 1 acre of disturbance, neither an SPDES stormwater permit nor a NPDES permit would be required.

3.6 INFRASTRUCTURE AND UTILITIES

3.6.1 Utility Availability

Affected Environment

Utility services are currently available to the project site. Electricity service is provided by the Long Island Power Authority. Telecommunication service is provided by Telco.

Environmental Consequences

No Action
Under the No Action Alternative, no change in existing conditions would occur and no impacts to area utilities would occur.

Proposed Action
Under the Proposed Action, no significant adverse impacts to utility availability would occur. The operation of RFF Montauk would require electric and telecommunication services. At the project site, power utilities are currently provided by a transformer, located approximately 230 feet from the proposed H-frame location. A new power line would be trenched 230 feet from the transformer to the H-frame. A new generator and 500-gallon propane tank would be installed to provide emergency back-up power to the communications tower compound. A 90-foot telecommunications service line would be trenched to the tower compound.

No disruption to utility services is anticipated during construction activities. Short-term utility usage increases (electricity and/or water) may be required during construction activities; however, these temporary needs would be limited in scope and easily accommodated by the existing infrastructure.

3.6.2 Solid Waste Management

Affected Environment

Private contractors provide solid waste collection and disposal services to the businesses and residents of East Hampton.

Environmental Consequences

No Action
Under the No Action Alternative, no change in existing conditions would occur and no impact to solid waste management availability would occur.

Proposed Action
Under the Proposed Action, no significant adverse impacts to solid waste management services are anticipated. Normal operations of RFF Montauk would not require solid waste collection and disposal services. Waste generated during the construction activities would be removed from the project site and taken to an appropriate disposal site. In all situations where wastes requiring disposal are generated, waste manifests would be maintained indicating the quantity and type of wastes generated, the work required, the transportation service used, and the disposal location. The amount of waste generated would not cause a significant impact to local or regional solid waste management resources.

3.6.3 Drainage

Affected Environment

Stormwater at the project site flows north toward Fort Pond Bay and south toward the Atlantic Ocean (EDR, 2006). Both water bodies are located within 0.75 mile of the project site.

Environmental Consequences

No Action
Under the No Action Alternative, no activity would be performed and no impacts to drainage would occur. Stormwater at the project site would continue to flow toward Fort Pond Bay and the Atlantic Ocean.

Proposed Action
Under the Proposed Action, no significant adverse impacts to drainage are anticipated. Construction activities would have the potential to result in increased sediment transport to Fort Pond Bay. To reduce the potential adverse impacts associated with soil erosion, BMPs would be used to prevent erosion of soils from the project site. Grading and excavation of soils at the project site would be minimized to the greatest extent possible.

3.6.4 Transportation and Site Access

Affected Environment

The project site is located off Montauk Highway in a mostly previously disturbed area near the Town of East Hampton's Recycling Center/Montauk Transfer Station and adjacent to a parkland/conservation area, on the far eastern end of Long Island. The main road through this area is Montauk Highway (New York Route 27). The project site contains one paved road and a small gravel parking lot. The project site shares a driveway with the Town of East Hampton's Recycling Center/Montauk Transfer Station.

Environmental Consequences

No Action
Under the No Action Alternative, no construction would occur and no impacts to transportation or site access would occur.

Proposed Action
Under the Proposed Action, no significant adverse impacts to transportation or site access are anticipated. There would be a minor temporary increase in the volume of construction traffic on roads in the immediate vicinity of the project site that could potentially result in a slower traffic flow for the duration of the construction phase. To mitigate potential delays, construction vehicles and equipment would be stored on site during project construction and appropriate signage would be posted on affected roadways. No road closures are anticipated. Operation and maintenance of the tower compound would require monthly visits by workers. No access roads would be constructed; the Town of East Hampton would continue to maintain the existing driveway, which would provide access to RFF Montauk for maintenance. Long-term impacts to transportation and circulation are not expected to be significant.

3.7 HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCES

Affected Environment

Hazardous substances are defined as any solid, liquid, contained gaseous or semisolid waste, or any combination of wastes that pose a substantial present or potential hazard to human health and the environment. Improper management and disposal of hazardous substances can lead to pollution of groundwater or other drinking water supplies, and the contamination of surface water and soil. The primary Federal regulations for the management and disposal of hazardous substances are the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA) and the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA).

No recognizable hazardous materials or wastes were observed at the project site during the December 14, 2005, site visit. Although the Town of East Hampton's Recycling Center/Montauk Transfer Station is located approximately 0.25 mile north of the project site, the landfill is currently closed; landfilling activities ceased in 1993 (East Hampton Star, 1998).

According to the 2006 Environmental Data Resources (EDR) report, the Montauk Transfer Station does not accept or store hazardous materials (e.g., pesticides, antifreeze, oil-based paints, lacquer thinners, stains, urethane, and gasoline) on site. The Town of East Hampton limits the Montauk Transfer Station to residential use only; in addition to prohibiting hazardous waste materials, the Montauk Transfer Station does not accept construction or commercial debris. Items acceptable for recycling at the East Hampton Recycling Center include tin cans and aluminum, plastic bottles, glass bottles and jars, corrugated cardboard, newspaper, mixed paper, batteries, and clothing.

No known hazardous waste handlers or facilities, including leaking underground storage tanks, or brownfield sites were identified within a 1-mile radius of the project site (EDR, 2006). In addition, no facilities within a 1-mile radius of the project site have reported a toxic released to EPA (EPA, 2006b). Therefore, it is not anticipated that hazardous wastes would be encountered during excavation and construction at the project site.

Environmental Consequences

<u>No Action</u>
Under the No Action Alternative, the Coast Guard would not construct the communication tower; therefore, there would be no additional generation of hazardous wastes at the project site.

<u>Proposed Action</u>
It is anticipated that the Proposed Action would not generate a substantial amount of hazardous wastes as a result of construction and operation of the communication tower. Hazardous substances specific to the construction and operation of RFF Montauk may include batteries, waste fuel and oil, and obsolete or broken system components (e.g., computer parts and solar panels). These hazardous substances would be generated during construction, maintenance, or decommissioning of the tower and its components. At the project site, the only potential baseline hazardous substance would be the propane used to fuel the emergency generator. The Coast Guard would handle (i.e., contain, store, transport, and dispose) all hazardous materials and wastes generated or discovered in accordance with applicable State and Federal regulations.

The process of performing routine maintenance and upkeep on a site (i.e., repairing and replacing system components) so that operational and mission requirements are met is defined as the life cycle of the site. Routine maintenance would normally include servicing, cleaning, or repairing the electronic equipment contained in the site compound or mounted on the tower. Materials and chemicals commercially available for use in electronic maintenance would be used, stored, and disposed of in accordance with applicable Federal, State, and local regulations. Routine maintenance on the backup generator (changing the engine oil, etc.) would generate regulated waste that would be properly managed. Additionally, any maintenance to the tower structure or site compound (painting, etc.) could involve regulated materials that would be properly managed.

3.8 RADIO FREQUENCY RADIATION

Radio frequency (RF) radiation (i.e., radio waves) can be defined as electromagnetic waves generated by the oscillation of a charged particle with a wave frequency (the number of sound waves per unit of time) in the RF range, which is usually between 10 kilohertz (kHz) and 300,000 megahertz (MHz) (Morris, 1992). Radio waves are radiated by antennas used for several applications, including cellular communications, radio broadcasts, and two-way radio communications. For comparison purposes, a handheld cellular phone broadcasts at a frequency of 824 to 849 MHz; a citizen band radio (CB) broadcasts at frequencies from 26.96 to 27.41 MHz; and a large urban FM radio station may broadcast at frequencies ranging from 88 to 108 MHz (Brain, 2002). Although RF radiation does not present as great a health hazard as "ionizing" radiation sources (which can cause molecular changes that may result in significant genetic damage) such as X-rays and gamma rays, high intensities of RF radiation can be harmful. Similar to microwaves, RF radiation can heat biological tissue rapidly, resulting in tissue damage, which is known as a "thermal" effect. The extent of this heating depends on several factors, including radiation frequency. Other factors include the size, shape, and orientation of the exposed object; duration of exposure; environmental conditions; and efficiency of heat dissipation (FCC, 1999).

Due to the surrounding populations and the existing communication sources in the surrounding area (radio stations, cellular telephones and associated towers, citizen band radios, etc.), radio waves currently exist within the project area.

At relatively low levels of exposure to RF radiation, the evidence for resulting harmful biological effects is unproven (FCC, 1999). However, there are multiple sources of information that list maximum permissible exposure, also known as permissible exposure limits (PEL), for RF radiation. The FCC adopted guidelines for RF radiation in 1996, which were developed by the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) and the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers, Inc. in 1992. These exposure criteria identify the threshold level at which harmful biological effects may occur based on electric and magnetic field strength and power density. FCC guidelines are most stringent for the frequency range from 30 to 300 MHz, the range in which the human body absorbs RF radiation most efficiently. PELs are placed in two categories. The first category, which affects the occupational population, applies to human exposure to RF fields when people are exposed due to their employment, have been made fully aware of the potential for exposure, and can exercise control over their exposure (USCG, 2002b). The second category, which affects the general population, applies to human exposure to RF fields when the

general public may be exposed or when personnel exposed because of their employment may not be aware of exposure or cannot exercise control over the exposure (USCG, 2002b). A significant impact would occur if exposure limits to the occupational or general population exceeded the maximum PEL.

Operating power is a major factor in determining exposure limits. Commercial radio and television stations operate in a range from a few hundred watts up to millions of watts. The FCC only requires that tower-mounted installation be evaluated if antennas are mounted lower than 10 meters (32.8 feet) above the ground and the total power of all channels being used is more than 1,000 watts of effective radiated power.

Environmental Consequences

No Action

Under the No Action Alternative, the Coast Guard would not construct RFF Montauk; therefore, there would be no additional generation of radio frequency radiation at the project site. Current radio frequency radiation would remain at the existing level.

Proposed Action

Under the Proposed Action, RFF Montauk would be constructed near existing communication towers, which already transmit radio waves. The proposed operating power of the radio transmitter for RFF Montauk would be a maximum of 50 watts, with frequencies ranging from approximately 156 to 414 MHz. Based on this operating power, it is reasonable to assume that the potential for harmful exposure to RF radiation would be extremely low.

Additionally, the change in broadcast frequencies resulting from the technology upgrades would not significantly affect the safety factor. At the tower, only two of the four antennas would transmit signals; the other two antennas would receive signals, and receiving signals pose no exposure risk. The transmitters would not operate continuously; they would only generate radio waves while being used to communicate with distressed boaters or Coast Guard vessels.

The risk of exposure is further minimized by the fact that the tower would be 170 feet tall. The distance between the antennas (on top of the tower) and human populations would be too great to present a significant exposure risk.

There is currently no research that proves that harmful biological effects can result from exposure to low-level RF radiation. A significant impact would occur if exposure limits to the occupational or general population exceeded the maximum PELs; however, the Coast Guard has designed the tower and would implement safety measures to assure that exposure limits are not exceeded.

Additionally, the proposed communication tower would meet guidelines set forth in Coast Guard COMDTINST M10550.25A, *Electronics Manual* (USCG, 2002b). It is anticipated that RFF Montauk would not substantially increase RF radiation in the project area.

3.9 BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES

3.9.1 Review of Regulatory Programs Affecting Biological Resources

Biological resources include wildlife, vegetation, threatened and endangered species, wetlands, and floodplains. These biological resources are protected by several EOs, including EO 13186 (Protection of Migratory Birds), EO 13112 (Invasive Species), EO 11990 (Protection of Wetlands), and EO 11988 (Floodplain Management), as well as several Federal laws, including the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA), the Endangered Species Act (ESA), and the CWA. A discussion of these policies is provided within the following subsections.

3.9.2 Wildlife

Affected Environment

The project site contains little wildlife habitat because it consists primarily of a disturbed dirt and gravel area, with scattered trees, shrubs, and herbaceous vegetation (Figure 5). Common terrestrial species found in the vicinity of the project site include white-tailed deer, cottontail rabbit, gray squirrel, red fox, and black racer snake. No aquatic habitat exists on the project sit The project site occurs near a Significant Coastal Fish and Wildlife Habitat (SCFWH), as designated and mapped by the New York State Department of State (NYS DOS) in conjunction with the NYSDEC. Actions subject to consistency review under the New York Coastal Management Program must be evaluated for potential impacts to SCFWH areas. The project site is located on the eastern edge of the Hither Hills Uplands habitat area. This SCFWH contains one of the largest undeveloped tracts of coastal uplands on Long Island and maritime interdunal swales of regional importance. In addition to the terrestrial wildlife listed above, species found in the Hither Hills Upland area include striped skunk, raccoon, ruffed grouse, great-horned owl, American woodcock, red-shouldered hawk, eastern hognose snake, eastern box turtle, spotted turtle, and Fowler's toad. A 1993-1994 breeding bird survey of the area found high nest densities of black-and-white warbler, prairie warbler, blue-winged warbler, rufous-sided towhee, and whip-poor-will (NYS DOS, 2002).

The Coast Guard has evaluated the potential impacts of the Proposed Action on SCFWH in Section 3.14.1 (Coastal Zone).

The New York State Breeding Bird Atlas, which is a NYSDEC database of bird populations identified for specific 5-kilometer (3.1-mile) blocks, was accessed to determine the most recent documented bird species and their protective status for the project site. Population data were gathered for the years 1980 through 1985 and again for 2000 through 2005. By using data from two time periods, it is possible to determine typical population changes under current conditions (before the proposed tower is constructed) so that a baseline of variation can be determined. Because of the size of each block, the Atlas database findings likely represent a greater bird population (in number and diversity) than actually exists at the project site. Table 3-2 below summarizes avian resources at the project site for the time frames 1980 to 1985 and 2000 to 2005.

Photograph 1.
View looking south toward the proposed project site. (Photograph taken December 14, 2005.)

Photograph 2.
View looking north toward the proposed project site. (Photograph taken January 9, 2006.)

Title: **Site Photographs**	
U.S. COAST GUARD RESCUE 21 SAVING LIVES IN THE 21st CENTURY	Proj No: 15298197
	Figure: 5
Client: U.S. Coast Guard	
Project: RFF Montauk	

Table 3-2. Proposed Project Site Summary of Avian Resources

Time Period	Total Number Avian Species	Migratory/ Permanent	Protected (Endangered, Threatened, Special Concern, or Protected Wild/Game)	Federal T/E Species, or NY Special Concern Species (Note: all species listed below are migratory)	Game Species/ Unprotected Species	Population Change
1980 -1985 (Atlas Block 7454B)	57	53/4	54	Osprey (SC); Whip-poor-will (SC)	4/3	8 species present during 1980-1985 that were not present during 2000-2005
2000-2005 (Atlas Block 7454B)	58	54/4	55	Osprey (SC); Whip-poor-will (SC)	3/3	9 species present during 2000-2005 that were not present during 1980-1985

Source: NYSDEC, 2005.

Two important bird areas (IBAs), designated by The Audubon Society, are located near the project site: IBA #133 (Napeague Harbor and Beach) and IBA #136 (Montauk Point) (Audubon Society, 2004). Additionally, the project site is located near the NYSDEC-designated David A. Sarnoff Pine Barrens Preserve Bird Conservation Area (BCA). This BCA contains one of the largest undisturbed pine barren communities on Long Island and is home to numerous bird species, including common nighthawk, whip-poor-will, brown thrasher, blue-winged warbler, and pine warbler (NYSDEC, 2006).

The project site is located within the coastal route of the Atlantic Flyway, which is a regular avenue of travel for migrating land and water birds. A migratory bird is any species that lives, reproduces, or migrates within or across international borders at some point during its annual life cycle. The MBTA was enacted to ensure the protection of shared migratory bird resources and prohibits the take and possession of any migratory bird, their eggs, or nests, except as authorized by a valid permit or license. In addition, EO 13186 (Responsibilities of Federal Agencies to Protect Migratory Birds), directs Federal agencies whose activities have or are likely to have a measurable, negative effect on migratory bird populations to develop and implement a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the USFWS to promote the populations of migratory bird species.

In compliance with EO 13186, the Coast Guard has negotiated an MOU with the USFWS for new antenna tower sites constructed on Coast Guard property to support the Rescue 21 program. In accordance with that MOU, the Coast Guard sent a letter in March 2006 to the USFWS requesting concurrence with the Coast Guard's determination that the Proposed Action would not be a major construction activity as defined in 50 CFR 402.02, would not be likely to adversely affect or jeopardize the continued existence of any endangered or threatened species or critical habitat, and that all reasonable measures to avoid affecting migratory birds have been undertaken (Appendix B). In a letter dated April 19, 2006, the USFWS concurred with the Coast Guard's determination (Appendix B).

The Coast Guard, in cooperation with the USFWS, is funding an avian research project on the effects of communication towers on migratory birds. As part of this research, permission would be obtained from the FAA to temporarily change lighting characteristics such as color, frequency of flash, duration of flash, or intensity of flash on east coast Rescue 21 towers to study the potential effects on migratory birds. There are no plans at this time to include the proposed RFF Montauk tower as part of this research study.

The Coast Guard sent a letter to The Nature Conservancy in March 2006 to obtain information on any requirements under its jurisdiction for the proposed RFF Montauk construction (Appendix B). To date, the Coast Guard has not received a response from The Nature Conservancy.

Environmental Consequences

No Action

Under the No Action Alternative, no construction would occur and there would be no impacts to wildlife.

Proposed Action

Under the Proposed Action, no significant adverse impacts to wildlife are anticipated. The Proposed Action would not be considered a major construction activity and would not result in the destruction or alteration of any significant terrestrial or aquatic habitat. Construction of the proposed tower would occur on a previously disturbed, dirt and gravel area. Construction of the tower and associated equipment would minimally impact common wildlife species that are present within the project site by removing some vegetation. No significant habitat loss or conversion would result from the Proposed Action.

Communication towers present a potential risk for collisions to migratory birds. Through their MOU with USFWS, the Coast Guard has considered the USFWS *Interim Guidelines for Recommendations on Communications Tower Siting, Construction, Operation, and Decommissioning* (USFWS, 2000) to the maximum extent practicable. In designing the tower, all reasonable measures to avoid affecting migratory birds have been undertaken. Specifically, the Coast Guard proposed to construct a self-supported lattice tower, which is believed to cause far less avian mortality than towers supported by multiple guy wire cables. Additionally, in accordance with FAA Advisory Circular AC 70/7460-1K, *Obstruction Marking and Lighting*, the proposed tower would not require lighting, since the proposed tower would be below the 200-foot lighting requirement threshold (FAA, 2000). The unlit tower would not attract migratory birds to the tower at night or during conditions of poor visibility, as a lighted tower could. Furthermore, the proposed tower would be 181 feet tall (including the antennas), which is below the threshold (500 feet) generally thought to pose the greatest risk to migrating birds (Woodlot, 2003).

The IBA and BCA programs are typically focused on conserving ecologically critical habitats to preserve avian resources. The potential threats to these areas are development, pollution, and recreational and development overuse. The new Coast Guard tower would be located outside of these designated areas, and BMPs would be applied to construction activities; therefore, construction and tower use would not result in significant adverse impacts to designated IBAs or BCAs in the vicinity of the project site.

3.9.3 Vegetation

Affected Environment

The project site consists of a previously disturbed area containing dirt and gravel, with some white oak trees, rambler rose, and herbaceous vegetation (Figure 5).

The Lee Koppelman County Nature Preserve and the Hither Hills Uplands SCFWH lie west of the project site. These areas make up one of the largest tracts of undeveloped coastal uplands on Long Island. Vegetative communities in this area include second-growth and mature hardwood forest (oak-hickory), maritime moorlands, dunelands, freshwater wetlands, shrublands, and native grasslands (NYS DOS, 2002). Globally rare oak-holly maritime forest is also found in the preserve (NYS DOS, 2002). EO 13112 (Invasive Species) directs all Federal agencies to review projects to ensure no increase in the spread of invasive species.

Environmental Consequences

No Action
Under the No Action Alternative, no ground disturbance would occur and there would be no impacts to vegetation.

Proposed Action
Under the Proposed Action, no significant adverse impacts to vegetation are anticipated. Construction would occur in a previously disturbed area containing mostly dirt and gravel. A minimal amount of herbaceous vegetation may be disturbed during equipment staging. No impacts to vegetation would occur at the Lee Koppelman County Nature Preserve or the Hither Hills Uplands SCFWH.

The Coast Guard would use routine vegetative maintenance to discourage the establishment of invasive plant species after construction.

3.9.4 Threatened and Endangered Species

Affected Environment

Under Section 7 of the ESA, as amended, Federal agencies, in consultation with the USFWS, or the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's (NOAA) National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) for marine mammals and fish, are required to evaluate the effects of their actions on special status species of fish, wildlife, and plants, and their habitats, and to take steps to conserve and protect these species. Special status species are defined by the USFWS as plants or animals that are candidates for, proposed as, or listed as sensitive, threatened, or endangered.

In accordance with Section 7(a)(2) of the ESA, the Coast Guard sent a coordination letter in March 2006 to the USFWS and the NYSDEC, Division of Fish, Wildlife, and Marine Resources, requesting concurrence in their determination that the Proposed Action would not be likely to adversely affect or jeopardize the continued existence of any endangered or threatened species or critical habitat (Appendix B). In a letter dated April 19, 2006, the USFWS concurred with the Coast Guard's determination (Appendix B). In its letter of April 21, 2006, the NYSDEC indicated that no federally protected species are known to occur on or within the vicinity of the

project site (Appendix B). The NYSDEC letter noted that, in the 1920s, two sensitive state species were recorded as occurring in the vicinity of the project site. However, because the project site has been significantly disturbed, it is unlikely that any special status species or their habitats occur within the project site (Figure 5).

Environmental Consequences

No Action

Under the No Action Alternative, there would be no physical changes to the project site and no adverse impacts to threatened or endangered species or their habitats.

Proposed Action

Under the Proposed Action, no significant adverse impacts to threatened or endangered species or critical habitats are anticipated. Construction of RFF Montauk would occur in a previously disturbed area and would result in only a minimal disturbance to herbaceous vegetation for equipment staging on the project site. There is a remote possibility that a protected bird could inadvertently fly into the tower; however, the probability of such an event is so small that it would not be considered a significant impact.

3.9.5 Wetlands

Affected Environment

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) and EPA jointly define wetlands as those areas that are inundated or saturated by surface water or groundwater at a frequency and duration sufficient to support, and under normal circumstances do support, a prevalence of vegetation typically adapted for life in saturated soil conditions. Jurisdictional waters of the United States, including wetlands, are protected under Section 404 of the CWA. In addition, EO 11990 (Protection of Wetlands) requires Federal agencies to minimize the loss of wetlands. The NEPA compliance process requires Federal agencies to consider direct and indirect impacts on wetlands that may result from federally funded actions.

According to the National Wetlands Inventory (NWI), there are 25 wetlands within a 1-mile radius of the project site (USFWS, 2006). However, no wetlands occur on the project site or within a 0.25-mile radius (Figure 6). The absence of wetlands within the project site was confirmed during a visual inspection during the December 14, 2005 site visit.

The nearest mapped wetland to the project site is a freshwater pond wetland, approximately 0.09 acre in size, and located approximately 1,690 feet east of the project site. Although not specifically surveyed during the December 14, 2005 site visit, freshwater pond wetlands in this area are typically bogs or swamps consisting of woody vegetation that occur on poorly drained lowlands such as valleys or valley-side depressions. They are associated with drainage systems and periodically contain standing water (EPA, 1996).

In accordance with the CWA, the Coast Guard submitted a letter to the USACE in March regarding requirements for a Department of the Army permit for the Proposed Action (Appendix B). To date, the Coast Guard has not received a response from the USACE.

Source base map:
USGS 7.5 min Quadrangle: Montauk Point N.Y., 1956

NORTH

1,000 0 1,000 2,000 Feet

Title: **Wetlands Overview Map**	
U.S. COAST GUARD RESCUE 21 SAVING LIVES IN THE 21st CENTURY	Proj No: 15298197
	Figure: 6
Client: U.S. Coast Guard	
Project: RFF Montauk	

Environmental Consequences

No Action
Under the No Action Alternative, there would be no physical changes to the site and no adverse impacts to wetlands.

Proposed Action
Under the Proposed Action, no adverse impacts to wetlands would occur. No construction would occur within wetlands or areas immediately adjacent to wetlands. To reduce the potential adverse impacts to downstream waters and wetlands associated with soil erosion, BMPs would be used to prevent erosion of soil from the project site.

3.9.6 Floodplains

Affected Environment

Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRMs) and/or Flood Hazard Boundary Maps (FHBMs) outline flooding risks and define the 100-year floodplain for communities that are members of the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). The 100-year floodplain designates the area inundated during a storm having a 1.0 percent chance of occurring in any given year. These maps, prepared by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), also identify the 500-year floodplain, which designates the area inundated during a storm having a 0.2 percent chance of occurring in any given year. EO 11988 (Floodplain Management) requires Federal agencies to minimize occupancy of and modification to floodplains. Specifically, the EO prohibits Federal agencies from funding construction in the 100-year floodplain unless there are no practicable alternatives.

According to the FIRM for Montauk, New York (panel number 36103C0263G), the project site is located in Flood Zone X, which designates an area outside of the 100- and 500-year floodplains (FEMA, 1998).

Environmental Consequences

No Action
Under the No Action Alternative, there would be no physical changes to the project site and no adverse impacts to floodplains.

Proposed Action
Under the Proposed Action, construction would occur outside of the 100-year floodplain. Therefore, no encroachments to the floodplain would occur. No adverse impacts to floodplains are expected as a result of the Proposed Action.

3.10 CULTURAL RESOURCES

Affected Environment

Cultural resources include archaeological and historical objects, sites, and districts; historic buildings and structures; cultural landscapes; and sites and resources of concern to local Native Americans and other ethnic groups. The National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA), as amended, outlines Federal policy to protect historic sites in cooperation with Tribes, States, and local governments. Subsequent amendments designated the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) as the individual responsible for administering state-level programs. The NHPA also created the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP), the Federal agency responsible for providing commentary on Federal activities, programs, and policies that impact historic resources.

Section 106 of the NHPA and its implementing regulations (36 CFR 800) outline the procedures to be followed in the documentation, evaluation, and mitigation of impacts for cultural resources. The Section 106 process applies to any Federal undertaking that has the potential to affect cultural resources. The Section 106 process requires identification of significant historic properties and districts that may be affected by an undertaking and mitigation of adverse effects to properties listed or eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) (30 CFR 60.4). Section 110 of the NHPA outlines the obligations Federal agencies have in regard to historic resources under their ownership.

In January 2006, a senior architectural historian conducted background research and a windshield survey of the areas surrounding the project site to determine the number of structures and other cultural resources 50 years or older within the Area of Potential Effect (APE) of the project site. Any architectural resources within that APE that are listed in the NRHP or those that require further study and evaluation were also identified. For planning purposes, the date range was expanded to include all pre-1957 resources. The APE for architectural resources has been identified by the Coast Guard as the area within a 1-mile radius of the proposed tower location. For archaeological resources, the APE is defined by the footprint of the tower compound, as well as any area surrounding the tower that would be potentially disturbed during its construction or installation.

Research at the New York SHPO determined that there are no previously identified archaeological resources located within or near the proposed tower compound footprint, nor is the project site within an area of archaeological sensitivity.

No previously surveyed structures within the APE were identified as part of background research. The Montauk Manor and the Montauk Manor Tennis Auditorium (now known as the Montauk Playhouse), both of which are listed in the NRHP, are located approximately 2.5 miles to the northeast of the project site, outside of the APE. The Fisher Tower, also located outside of the APE, is approximately 2 miles to the east of the project site, and has been deemed eligible for the NRHP by the NY SHPO.

A windshield survey was also conducted for the area within the 1-mile APE of the project site. Unless written documentation was found, building age determinations were made based on visual analysis. There are approximately 60 buildings that pre-date 1957 within 1 mile of the

project site. Several motel buildings are among those structures identified as 50 years or older; the remaining structures are residences.

Most residences found within the 1-mile APE are modest, one- or two-story houses that appear to be have been constructed from the late 1940s through the present. Most have been altered by additions and the removal/replacement of original building materials and no longer possess historic integrity of design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, or association. The structures constructed prior to 1957 are intermingled with other buildings constructed between 1957 and the present. No structures within the 1-mile APE were considered to be eligible for the NRHP, as none meet the criteria required for NHRP listing: they are not associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history; are not associated with the lives of persons significant in our past; do not embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction; do not represent the work of a master, possess high artistic values, or represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction; nor has the area yielded, or is it likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history. Additionally, there is not a significant concentration, linkage, or continuity of sites, buildings, structures, or objects united historically or aesthetically by plan or physical development to establish one or more historic districts within the APE. A copy of the report *Cultural Resources Windshield Survey Report of RFF Montauk* (USCG, 2006) was sent by the Coast Guard to the New York SHPO in March 2006. In a letter dated March 31, 2006, the SHPO stated that the project will have no effect on cultural resources in, or eligible for inclusion in the NRHP (Appendix B).

Environmental Consequences

No Action

Under the No Action Alternative, no construction would occur and no cultural resources would be impacted.

Proposed Action

The project site is in an area of highly disturbed ground and is unlikely to yield archaeological resources. If, during the course of construction, unanticipated archaeological resources are uncovered, the Coast Guard would consult with the SHPO regarding appropriate treatment measures.

The proposed tower would be visible from the Montauk Manor and the Montauk Tennis Auditorium, now known as the Montauk Playhouse, both of which are listed in the NRHP and located outside of the APE. The proposed tower would also be visible from the upper stories of the Fisher Tower, a building that has been determined eligible for the NRHP and is located outside of the APE, located within the commercial area of Montauk. However, the Town of East Hampton's existing 150-foot tower adjacent to the project site and the cluster of communication towers located to the northeast of the project site are also currently visible from these resources. Therefore, there will be no effect to the historic viewsheds of the Montauk Manor, Montauk Playhouse, and the Fisher Tower. Additionally, the Proposed Action will not result in any significant impacts to any historic resources. In correspondence dated March 31, 2006, the SHPO concurred with the Coast Guard determination that the proposed project would have no effect upon cultural resources in or eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places (Appendix B).

3.11 RECREATION

Affected Environment

Though the project site is located on the eastern end of Long Island, which is a prime location for marine recreational activities such as boating, fishing, swimming, and surfing, the project site is located inland, on town property that is not available to the public for recreational activities.

Marinas outline the coast around Fort Pond Bay and Montauk Harbor. The closest marina to the project area is the Montauk Sport Fishing, located on Fort Pond Bay, which is about 1.3 miles northeast of the project site. Charter day fishing is provided by various companies along the coast and provides access for the public to a variety of recreational opportunities. Overlook Park, Montauk Point State Park, Montauk Downs State Park, Napeague State Park, and Hither Hills State Park are all located within 5 miles of the project site, and are available for a variety of outdoor activities such as camping, hunting, beach access, sport fishing, bird watching, hiking, mountain biking, surfing, and cross-country skiing.

Environmental Consequences

No Action

The No Action Alternative would not result in any direct impact to recreational resources because no action would be taken. However, if RFF Montauk is not constructed, there could be an indirect effect on the safety of citizens participating in recreational marine activities in the adjacent recreational water areas because the numerous deficiencies in the current Coast Guard communications system would not be corrected. Equipment non-availability, existing coverage gaps, and inadequate channel capacity would continue to contribute to degraded command and control and could result in delayed or unanswered calls for assistance from commercial and recreational boaters. The current system's inability to determine the location of distressed vessels or hoax callers could result in wasted resources and lost lives.

Proposed Action

The Proposed Action would benefit marine commercial and recreational users in the vicinity of the project site by ensuring a more reliable and efficient response by the Coast Guard in emergency situations.

Since the Proposed Action would occur on Coast Guard-leased property that is not available to the public for recreation, there would be no reduction in the amount of space available for recreational activities. The tower would be visible from local parks and beaches, but it is not anticipated that the Proposed Action would result in any negative impacts to recreational resources.

3.12 VISUAL RESOURCES

Affected Environment

Visual resources refer to the landscape character (i.e., what is seen), visual sensitivity (i.e., human preferences and values regarding what is seen), scenic integrity (i.e., degree of intactness and wholeness in landscape character), and landscape visibility (i.e., relative distances of seen

areas) of a geographically defined viewshed. The APE for visual resources is within 1 mile of the proposed tower location.

The project site for RFF Montauk is a mostly level area on the north side of Montauk Highway (New York Route 27), along the western side of an access road that leads to the Town of East Hampton's Recycling Center/Montauk Transfer Station located to the north. The project site is generally open with shrubby edges and is located approximately 186 feet amsl, near the crest of a large hill that slopes down in all directions toward Fort Pond Bay to the north, Fort Pond to the east, the Atlantic Ocean to the south, and Hither Hills State Park to the west. The project site is adjacent to an existing 150-foot steel lattice tower immediately to the south. This tower is owned by the Town of East Hampton and contains several antennae and other equipment owned by commercial cellular telephone companies that lease space on the tower from the Town. A cluster of four other communication towers, each of which is approximately 100 to 150 feet tall, is located northeast of the project site.

Environmental Consequences

No Action

Under the No Action Alternative, no new construction or operations would occur and there would be no impacts to visual resources.

Proposed Action

RFF Montauk would be visible to residents and visitors in the vicinity of the project site during the daytime. No lighting would be installed on the antenna tower.

The construction of a 170-foot-tall tower may result in visual resource impacts to the local communities surrounding the project site. The Coast Guard has made an effort to inform the public about the proposed tower; a public information meeting was held in January 2006, a public comment meeting was held in July 2006, and input from the public was solicited at both meetings.

Several residents in the Montauk area have expressed concern about the visual impact of the tower at the project site. The Coast Guard recognizes that the proposed tower may have an adverse visual impact for those with an unobstructed view of the project site. However, the existing viewshed of the site includes an array of communication towers adjacent or near to the project site, which includes one 150-foot-tall tower and four other towers ranging in height from approximately 100 to 150 feet tall. Additionally, most of the residences and businesses within the 1-mile APE are oriented toward the ocean, away from the project site, which will help to minimize visual impacts to those properties. The vegetation and topography of the area will also help to block the view of the tower from many of the properties within the APE. Although the height of the new tower will have an adverse visual impact, the viewshed in the area of the proposed tower is not part of a legally protected resource area, such as a park. The Coast Guard conducted a diligent search for alternative tower sites and has determined that they cannot fulfill their purpose under the Rescue 21 program without construction of RFF Montauk on the project site. The Coast Guard has determined that this adverse visual impact does not result in a significant impact to human health or the environment.

3.13 SOCIOECONOMIC RESOURCES

Affected Environment

Social and economic resources include elements unique to the human environment, such as population, culture, employment, business activities, tax base, housing characteristics, and education. These indicators can be used to measure the influence of new investments in the local economy. The investments can be temporary, such as those related to construction, or they can be more permanent, such as those related to the operation and maintenance of facilities. A "ripple effect" is often observed, as indirect economic activities such as demand for goods and services respond to the initial direct economic stimulus. The indicators can be evaluated to determine the potential for a proposed project to cause temporary or long-term social and economic effects. Beneficial social and economic effects would be considered significant if they resulted in a measurable increase in annualized rates of employment, personal income, or business activity either nationally or within the local economy of the project area. Adverse effects result from boom/bust economic cycles and temporary increased demand for goods and services beyond existing capacity. In addition, adverse effects to property values could result if the project reduces the desirability of the property.

The Town of East Hampton is the easternmost town on Long Island, and the Montauk community is one of seven smaller areas traditionally identified as separate communities within the Town. For the purposes of this discussion, the Montauk Census Designated Place (CDP) will refer to the easternmost 12.5 miles of Long Island.

The U.S. Census 2000 indicated that the population of Montauk CDP, New York, was 3,851; an increase of 28.3 percent from a 1990 population of 3,001. The total work force was 1,944 people, consisting of 61.5 percent of the total population. The primary industries were: 1) arts, entertainment, recreation, accommodation and food services; 2) agriculture, forestry, fishing, hunting, and mining; and, 3) retail trade. Montauk CDP is the largest commercial fishing port in New York State in terms of landed value and number of vessels (Town of East Hampton, 2005). Median household income in 1999 was $42,329 (USCB, 2000).

The U.S. Census 2000 indicates that the population of Suffolk County, New York, was 1,419,369. The total work force was 711,625 people, consisting of 65.5 percent of the total population. The primary industries were: 1) educational, health and social services; 2) retail trade; and, 3) professional, scientific, management, administrative, and waste management services. Median household income in 1999 was $65,288 (USCB, 2000).

The U.S. Census 2000 indicates that the population of the State of New York was 18,976,457. The total work force was 9,046,805 people, consisting of 61.1 percent of the total population. The primary industries were: 1) educational, health and social services; 2) retail trade; and, 3) professional, scientific, management, administrative, and manufacturing. Median household income in 1999 was $43,393 (USCB, 2000).

Montauk's available natural beauty and access to outdoor recreational activities attract many vacationers and seasonal residents during peak summer months. According to estimates by the Suffolk County Planning Department, Montauk's seasonal residents are estimated at 26,995. Therefore, population in Montauk during the peak season is estimated to be 30,846, which is more than eight times the year-round population. Montauk has the largest number and

concentration of hotel/motel rooms of any community on Long Island. Occupants of motels account for 9,704 (about 36 percent) of Montauk's seasonal population (Town of East Hampton, 2005).

Environmental Consequences

No Action
Under the No Action Alternative, no construction would occur and there would be no change to social and economic resources when compared to existing conditions.

Proposed Action
Under the Proposed Action, no adverse impacts to social and economic resources are anticipated. The most tangible beneficial effects of the Proposed Action would be better Coast Guard communications and improved effectiveness of search and rescue operations. This would result in increased public safety and possibly reduced loss of human life, as well as reduced property losses.

Local equipment would be purchased and local labor would be used to the greatest extent practicable to construct RFF Montauk. This would result in both direct and indirect spending in the local community. The amount of funds introduced into the local economy during the construction phase would be limited in amount and duration. Ongoing expenses for the operation and maintenance of RFF Montauk would be minor. The beneficial local economic effects would therefore not be significant.

Adverse social and economic effects would not be expected due to the small number of workers required to construct the tower and associated equipment. Since a communication tower already exists adjacent to the project site, the construction of RFF Montauk is not expected to cause a depreciation of property values adjacent to or in the vicinity of the project site relative to the real estate values in the general area.

3.14 LAND USE

3.14.1 Coastal Zone

Affected Environment

The NYS DOS is the lead agency for the New York Coastal Management Program (CMP), which is authorized by NOAA to administer the Coastal Zone Management Act (CZMA). Any Federal or federally funded projects in New York's Coastal Management Area (CMA) must be consistent with the enforceable policies of New York's CMP. Because construction of RFF Montauk would be a Federal project located within New York's CMA, the Coast Guard is required to evaluate the Proposed Action relative to the New York CMP and submit either a consistency determination or a negative determination to the NYS DOS.

The Coast Guard sent an initial coordination letter to the NYS DOS, Division of Coastal Resources in March 2006 (Appendix B). To date, the Coast Guard has not received a response from the NYS DOS, Division of Coastal Resources.

Environmental Consequences

No Action
Under the No Action Alternative, no construction would occur and there would be no impacts to the coastal zone.

Proposed Action
Under the Proposed Action, a communication tower would be constructed on Long Island in New York's CMA. The Coast Guard has reviewed the 44 enforceable policies of the New York CMP and determined that the Proposed Action would not result in any coastal spillover effects. This SEA serves as the Coast Guard's consistency determination; the Draft SEA has been provided to the NYS DOS, Division of Coastal Resources, for review. To date, the Coast Guard has not received a response from the NYS DOS, Division of Coastal Resources. A complete evaluation of New York State coastal policies as they relate to the Proposed Action is provided as Table 3-3.

3.14.2 Coastal Barrier Resources

Affected Environment

The Coastal Barrier Resources Act (CBRA), enacted in 1982, designated various undeveloped coastal barrier islands as units in the Coastal Barrier Resources System. Designated units are ineligible for direct and indirect Federal financial assistance programs that could support development on coastal barrier islands; exceptions are made for certain emergency and research activities. The project site is not included in the Coastal Barrier Resources System.

Environmental Consequences

No Action
Under the No Action Alternative, no activity would occur on units in the Coastal Barrier Resource System.

Proposed Action
The project site in not located within the Coastal Barrier Resources System; therefore, the project would be in compliance with the CBRA.

Table 3-3. New York Coastal Management Program Consistency Evaluation

New York State Coastal Policies	Is the Proposed Action Consistent?	Evaluation of Consistency
POLICY 1: Restore, revitalize, and redevelop deteriorated and underutilized waterfront areas for commercial, industrial, cultural, recreational, and other compatible uses.	Consistent	RFF Montauk would not be sited in a deteriorated or underutilized waterfront area and would not cause further deterioration to an underutilized waterfront area. The siting of the tower is dictated by Coast Guard operational needs and GSA policy (41 CFR 102-73.10, 102-73.250[a] and 102-75.25[a]), which requires Federal agencies to "achieve maximum use of their real property."
POLICY 2: Facilitate the siting of water-dependent uses and facilities on or adjacent to coastal waters.	Consistent	RFF Montauk would not be sited on or adjacent to coastal waters.
POLICY 3: Further develop the State's major ports of Albany, Buffalo, New York, Ogdensburg, and Oswego as centers of commerce and industry, and encourage the siting, in these port areas, including those under the jurisdiction of State public authorities, of land use and development which is essential to, or in support of, the waterborne transportation of cargo and people.	Not applicable	RFF Montauk would not be sited within or abutting a major port, and would not have a direct impact on any of the ports covered by Policy 3. Indirectly, the communication tower would provide a benefit to any ships transporting goods to or from the ports of New York by enhancing the Coast Guard's ability to respond quickly to maritime incidents, protect property, promote safety on the water, and minimize impacts from oil spills.
POLICY 4: Strengthen the economic base of smaller harbor areas by encouraging the development and enhancement of those traditional uses and activities, which have provided such areas with their unique maritime identity.	Consistent	The Proposed Action would strengthen smaller harbor areas by providing improved Coast Guard services to traditional harbor uses and activities, such as commercial and recreational boating/fishing, ferry services, and marinas. An enhanced Coast Guard communications system would result in improved maritime safety, reduced loss of life, and reduced property damages, which would yield economic benefits for small harbor areas.
POLICY 5: Encourage the location of development in areas where public services and facilities essential to such development are adequate.	Consistent	The Proposed Action would not be considered a major development activity because it would not require extensive public services or facilities. The existing infrastructure at the project site is sufficient to support the proposed development.
POLICY 6: Expedite permit procedures in order to facilitate the siting of development activities at suitable locations.	Not applicable	The Coast Guard would obtain all applicable permits for construction of the proposed tower. An expedited permit process would not be necessary for this project.
POLICY 7: Significant Coastal Fish and Wildlife Habitats will be protected, preserved, and where practical, restored so as to maintain their viability as habitats.	Consistent	The Proposed Action is not expected to negatively impact SCFWHs. The project site is located near the Hither Hills Upland SCFWH; however, construction impacts would be limited to the project site and no Hither Hills Upland habitat would be disturbed or destroyed.

Table 3-3. New York Coastal Management Program Consistency Evaluation

New York State Coastal Policies	Is the Proposed Action Consistent?	Evaluation of Consistency
POLICY 8: Protect fish and wildlife resources in the coastal area from the introduction of hazardous wastes and other pollutants which bio-accumulate in the food chain or which cause significant sublethal or lethal effects on those resources.	Consistent	The Proposed Action would not introduce hazardous wastes or other pollutants into the food chain. The construction of RFF Montauk would enhance the Coast Guard's ability to respond to oil spills and other maritime accidents that could release pollutants into the water. This would result in a strong positive benefit to fish, shore birds, and other littoral species.
POLICY 9: Expand recreational use of fish and wildlife resources in coastal areas by increasing access to existing resources, supplementing existing stocks, and developing new resources.	Consistent	The Proposed Action would not impact existing fish and wildlife stocks or develop new resources. However, the proposed tower would support and potentially expand recreational use of fish and wildlife resources by improving maritime communications for recreational anglers.
POLICY 10: Further develop commercial finfish, shellfish, and crustacean resources in the coastal area by encouraging the construction of new, or improvement of existing, on-shore commercial fishing facilities, increasing marketing of the State's seafood products, maintaining adequate stocks, and expanding aquaculture facilities.	Not applicable	The Proposed Action does not involve or affect any commercial fishery development activities.
POLICY 11: Buildings and other structures will be sited in the coastal area so as to minimize damage to property and the endangering of human lives caused by flooding and erosion.	Consistent	RFF Montauk has been sited to minimize potential damage from erosion and flooding. The equipment shelter, generator, propane tank, and H-frame would be elevated to prevent damage associated with coastal flooding.
POLICY 12: Activities or development in the coastal area will be undertaken so as to minimize damage to natural resources and property from flooding and erosion by protecting natural protective features including beaches, dunes, barrier islands, and bluffs.	Consistent	RFF Montauk has been sited to avoid encroaching upon natural protective features such as beaches and dunes. No impacts to beaches and dunes in the vicinity of the project site are expected. Construction would occur on a previously disturbed area of the East Hampton Recycling Center/Montauk Transfer Station that contains dirt and gravel.
POLICY 13: The construction or reconstruction of erosion protection structures shall be undertaken only if they have a reasonable probability of controlling erosion for at least 30 years as demonstrated in design and construction standards and/or assured maintenance or replacement programs.	Not applicable	The Proposed Action does not involve the construction or reconstruction of an erosion protection structure.

Table 3-3. New York Coastal Management Program Consistency Evaluation

New York State Coastal Policies	Is the Proposed Action Consistent?	Evaluation of Consistency
POLICY 14: Activities and development, including the construction or reconstruction of erosion protection structures, shall be undertaken so that there will be no measurable increase from erosion or flooding at the site of activities or development, or at other locations.	Consistent	The Proposed Action would not result in increased flooding at the project site or at any upstream or downstream locations. BMPs would be used during construction to minimize erosion and prevent runoff to coastal waters. No measurable increase from erosion or flooding is anticipated at the project site.
POLICY 15: Mining, excavation, or dredging in coastal waters shall not significantly interfere with the natural coastal processes which supply beach materials to land adjacent to such waters and shall be undertaken in a manner which will not cause an increase in erosion of such land.	Not applicable	The Proposed Action does not involve mining, excavation, or dredging in coastal waters.
POLICY 16: Public funds shall only be used for erosion protective structures where necessary to protect human life, new development which requires a location within or adjacent to an erosion hazard area to be able to function, or existing development; and only where the public benefits outweigh the long-term monetary and other costs, including the potential for increasing erosion and adverse effects on natural protective features.	Not applicable	The Proposed Action is not an erosion protection structure.
POLICY 17: Non-structural measures to minimize damage to natural resources and property from flooding and erosion shall be used whenever possible.	Consistent	Ancillary equipment (i.e., equipment shelter, generator, propane tank, and H-frame) at the project site would be elevated to minimize the risk of damage from flooding. Non-structural measures such as silt fencing would be used during construction to minimize runoff to local surface waters.
POLICY 18: To safeguard the vital economic, social, and environmental interests of the State and of its citizens, proposed major actions in the coastal area must give full consideration to those interests, and to the safeguards which the State has established to protect valuable coastal resource areas.	Consistent	The Coast Guard has designed and sited RFF Montauk in a manner that meets the operational needs of the Rescue 21 program and protects and maintains the social, cultural, economic, and environmental interests of the State. All relevant Federal, State, and local laws have been considered in this SEA, and all necessary environmental and historic preservation permits and approvals would be obtained prior to construction.

Table 3-3. New York Coastal Management Program Consistency Evaluation

New York State Coastal Policies	Is the Proposed Action Consistent?	Evaluation of Consistency
POLICY 19: Protect, maintain, and increase the level and types of access to public water-related recreation resources and facilities.	Consistent	The Proposed Action does not limit public access to water-related recreation and facilities.
POLICY 20: Access to publicly owned foreshore and to lands immediately adjacent to the foreshore or the water's edge that are publicly owned shall be provided in a manner compatible with adjoining uses.	Not applicable	The Proposed Action does not involve public access to the foreshore area and lands immediately adjacent.
POLICY 21: Water-dependent and water-enhanced recreation will be encouraged and facilitated, and will be given priority over non-water-related uses along the coast.	Consistent	Although the construction of RFF Montauk does not directly provide recreational opportunities, the Proposed Action does enhance water-dependent recreation by improving the Coast Guard's search and rescue capabilities and public safety on the water.
POLICY 22: Development, when located adjacent to the shore, will provide for water-related recreation, whenever such use is compatible with reasonably anticipated demand for such activities, and is compatible with the primary purpose of the development.	Not applicable	The Proposed Action does not include development adjacent to the shore.
POLICY 23: Protect, enhance, and restore structures, districts, areas, or sites that are of significance in the history, architecture, archaeology, or culture of the State, its communities, or the Nation.	Consistent	In a letter dated March 31, 2006, the New York SHPO determined that the Proposed Action will have no effect upon cultural resources in or eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places (Appendix B).
POLICY 24: Prevent impairment of scenic resources of statewide significance.	Not applicable	The project site is not located in or near a scenic area of statewide significance (NYS DOS, 2004).
POLICY 25: Protect, restore, or enhance natural and man-made resources which are not identified as being of statewide significance, but which contribute to the overall scenic quality of the coastal area.	Consistent	The Proposed Action would not remove existing natural or man-made resources that contribute to the overall scenic quality of the Long Island coast. The construction of RFF Montauk would change the visual landscape, but the change is not expected to be significant because the communication tower is compatible with the historical use of these coastal areas as a part of Coast Guard activities. Additionally, one communication tower already exists adjacent to the project site, and four more towers are located nearby.

Table 3-3. New York Coastal Management Program Consistency Evaluation

New York State Coastal Policies	Is the Proposed Action Consistent?	Evaluation of Consistency
POLICY 26: Conserve and protect agricultural lands in the State's coastal areas.	Not applicable	The Proposed Action would not occur on agricultural land.
POLICY 27: Decisions on the siting and construction of major energy facilities in the coastal area will be based on public energy needs, compatibility of such facilities with the environment, and the facility's need for a shorefront location.	Not applicable	The Proposed Action would not involve the siting or construction of a major energy facility.
POLICY 28: Ice management practices shall not interfere with the production of hydroelectric power, damage significant fish and wildlife and their habitats, or increase shoreline erosion or flooding.	Not applicable	The Proposed Action would not involve implementation of ice management practices.
POLICY 29: Encourage the development of energy resources on the outer continental shelf, in Lake Erie, and in other water bodies, and ensure the environmental safety of such activities.	Not applicable	The Proposed Action would not involve development of energy resources.
POLICY 30: Municipal, industrial, and commercial discharge of pollutants, including but not limited to, toxic and hazardous substances, into coastal waters will conform to State and national water quality standards.	Not applicable	The Proposed Action would not result in municipal, industrial, or commercial discharge of pollutants.
POLICY 31: State coastal area policies and management objectives of approved local waterfront revitalization programs will be considered while reviewing coastal water classifications and while modifying water quality standards; however, those waters already overburdened with contaminants will be recognized as being a development constraint.	Not applicable	The Proposed Action does not involve review of or modification to coastal water classifications or water quality standards.
POLICY 32: Encourage the use of alternative or innovative sanitary systems in small communities where the costs of conventional facilities are unreasonably high, given the size of the existing tax base of these communities.	Not applicable	The Proposed Action would not involve construction of any new sanitary waste systems.

Table 3-3. New York Coastal Management Program Consistency Evaluation

New York State Coastal Policies	Is the Proposed Action Consistent?	Evaluation of Consistency
POLICY 33: BMPs will be used to ensure the control of stormwater runoff and combined sewer overflows draining into coastal waters.	Consistent	The Coast Guard would use BMPs such as silt fencing and revegetating bare soils to control stormwater runoff during construction of the proposed tower. Combined sewer overflows would not be an issue at the project site because they do not currently exist on the site and would not be constructed as part of the Proposed Action.
POLICY 34: Discharge of waste materials into coastal waters from vessels subject to State jurisdiction will be limited so as to protect significant fish and wildlife habitats, recreational areas, and water supply areas.	Not applicable	The Proposed Action would not involve the discharge of waste materials from a vessel.
POLICY 35: Dredging and filling in coastal waters and disposal of dredged material will be undertaken in a manner that protects significant fish and wildlife habitats, scenic resources, natural protective features, important agricultural lands, and wetlands.	Not applicable	The Proposed Action would not involve dredging, filling, or disposal of dredged materials.
POLICY 36: Activities related to the shipment and storage of petroleum and other hazardous materials will be conducted in a manner that will prevent or at least minimize spills into coastal waters; all practicable efforts will be undertaken to expedite the cleanup of such discharges; and restitution for damages will be required when these spills occur.	Not applicable	The Proposed Action would not directly involve activities related to the shipment or storage of petroleum or other hazardous materials. However, construction of the proposed tower would enhance the Coast Guard's ability to respond to maritime accidents involving the release of petroleum or hazardous substances, resulting in decreased risk of environmental contamination and property damage.
POLICY 37: BMPs will be utilized to minimize the non-point discharge of excess nutrients, organics, and eroded soils into coastal waters.	Consistent	Soil erosion control practices, such as the installation of silt fences and revegetation of bare soils, would be used during construction of the proposed tower to minimize the runoff of soils and other materials into coastal waters.
POLICY 38: The quality and quantity of surface water and groundwater supplies will be conserved and protected, particularly where such waters constitute the primary or sole source of water supply.	Consistent	No impacts to the quantity or quality of surface or groundwater resources are anticipated (see Section 3.5).

Table 3-3. New York Coastal Management Program Consistency Evaluation

New York State Coastal Policies	Is the Proposed Action Consistent?	Evaluation of Consistency
POLICY 39: The transport, storage, treatment, and disposal of solid wastes, particularly hazardous wastes, within coastal areas will be conducted in such a manner so as to protect groundwater and surface water supplies, significant fish and wildlife habitats, recreation areas, important agricultural land, and scenic resources.	Consistent	Any solid or hazardous waste generated during the construction or maintenance of the proposed tower would be handled in accordance with all applicable Federal, State, and local laws and regulations. Any solid/hazardous wastes generated or discovered during project implementation would be properly disposed of in a permitted disposal facility and would not impact groundwater and surface water supplies, significant fish and wildlife habitats, recreation areas, important agricultural land, or scenic resources.
POLICY 40: Effluent discharged from major steam electric generating and industrial facilities into coastal waters will not be unduly injurious to fish and wildlife and shall conform to State water quality standards.	Not applicable	The Proposed Action would not involve the discharge of effluent from a steam electric generating or industrial facility.
POLICY 41: Land use or development in the coastal area will not cause national or State air quality standards to be violated.	Consistent	The Proposed Action would not result in violations of Federal or State air quality standards (see Section 3.3). Construction of the proposed tower would result in short-term emissions from site clearing/preparation activities and use of heavy equipment. The Coast Guard would implement appropriate mitigation measures, such as watering down disturbed areas and minimizing fuel-burning equipment running time, to minimize impacts to air quality.
POLICY 42: Coastal management policies will be considered if the State reclassifies land areas pursuant to the prevention of significant deterioration regulations of the Federal Clean Air Act.	Not applicable	The Proposed Action would not involve the reclassification of land pursuant to the prevention of significant deterioration regulations.
POLICY 43: Land use or development in the coastal area must not cause the generation of significant amounts of acid rain precursors (nitrates and sulfates).	Consistent	The Proposed Action would not generate significant amounts of nitrates or sulfates (see Section 3.5).
POLICY 44: Preserve and protect tidal and freshwater wetlands and preserve the benefits derived from these areas.	Consistent	The proposed tower has been sited outside of tidal and freshwater wetland areas. No wetland impacts are expected.

3.15 ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE

Affected Environment

EO 12898 (Federal Actions to Address Environmental Justice in Minority Populations and Low-Income Populations) requires Federal agencies to make achieving environmental justice part of their mission. Agencies are required to identify and correct programs, policies, and activities that have disproportionately high and adverse human health or environmental effects on minority and low-income populations. EO 12898 also tasks Federal agencies with ensuring that public notifications regarding environmental issues are concise, understandable, and readily accessible. Socioeconomic and demographic data for the project area was analyzed to determine if a disproportionate number (greater than 50 percent) of minority or low-income persons have the potential to be adversely affected by the proposed project.

According to the U.S. Census 2000, in 1999 the median household income reported in Suffolk County was $65,288, with 6.0 percent of the population living below the poverty level. In Montauk CDP, the median household income reported was $42,329 with 10.6 percent of the population living below the poverty level. In addition, minorities represented 15.4 percent of the population of Suffolk County, and 13.0 percent of the Montauk CDP population, respectively (USCB, 2000). Table 3-4 summarizes and compares the population, income, and minority demographics of the project area.

Table 3-4. Population, Income, and Minority Demographics

	New York State	Suffolk County	Montauk CDP
Total population (1999)	18,976,457	1,419,369	3,851
Median household income ($/yr)	43,393	65,288	42,329
Individuals below poverty level (%)	14.6	6.0	10.6
% minority population	29.9	15.4	13.0

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000.

Environmental Consequences

No Action

Under the No Action Alternative, no activity would be performed and no disproportionately high or adverse impact on minority or low-income populations would occur.

Proposed Action

Under the Proposed Action, no disproportionately high or adverse impacts to minority or low-income populations are anticipated. According to the U.S. Census 2000 data, no high concentrations of minority or low-income populations exist in the vicinity of the project site. The Proposed Action would provide improved marine safety to all persons in the project area regardless of their income or minority status. No minority or low-income populations would be displaced or affected by the Proposed Action.

3.16 CUMULATIVE EFFECTS

In accordance with NEPA, this SEA considers the overall cumulative impact of the Proposed Action and other actions that are related in terms of time or proximity. According to CEQ regulations, cumulative impacts represent the "impact on the environment which results from the incremental impact of the action when added to other past, present, and reasonably foreseeable future actions, regardless of what agency (Federal or non-Federal) or person undertakes such other actions. Cumulative impacts can result from individually minor but collectively significant actions taking place over a period of time" (40 CFR 1508.7).

To address cumulative impacts, this section examines Coast Guard actions as well as non-Coast Guard actions occurring or proposed in the vicinity of the project area. The combined effects of these actions are evaluated to determine if they could result in any cumulative impacts. It is expected that implementation of the Proposed Action would have an overall positive impact on human health and the environment as compared with the No Action alternative.

The Coast Guard is not proposing any major site work that, when combined with the Proposed Action, would have a cumulative effect on the human or natural environment. No major actions are anticipated in the vicinity of the project site since the project would occur within a previously disturbed industrial/commercial area. Areas surrounding the project site include a closed landfill, a major highway, existing residential development, a protected nature preserve; all of which have with little to no room for additional development.

The construction of RFF Montauk, in combination with existing and potential future towers on Long Island, could result in cumulative impacts to migratory birds. At this time, it is unknown how many new towers may be constructed, but it is expected that future tower construction will be constrained by local opposition to new towers and the limited availability of land. The cumulative impacts of communication towers on migratory birds are not well understood. The Coast Guard, in cooperation with the USFWS, is funding an avian research project to help better understand these effects. Based on existing available data, it is believed that towers less than 500 feet tall pose minimal threat to migrating birds (Woodlot, 2003). Since RFF Montauk would be below the 500-foot threshold, it is expected that cumulative impacts to migratory birds associated with the Proposed Action would not be significant.

The enforceable policies of the New York Coastal Management Program were reviewed to determine if the Proposed Action would result in any direct, indirect, or cumulative impacts. The Coast Guard has determined that the Proposed Action would not result in any cumulative impacts and has provided a negative determination to the NYS DOS.

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Long Island Field Office
500 St. Mark's Lane
Islip, New York 11751

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
New York District Office
Attn: Colonel Richard J. Polo, Jr., Commander and District Engineer
26 Federal Plaza, Room 2109
New York, New York 10278-0090

Environmental Protection Agency, Region 2
Attn: Mr. Alan J. Steinberg, Regional Administrator
290 Broadway
New York, New York 10007-1866

U.S. Department of Agriculture
Natural Resources Conservation Service
Attn: Mr. Allan Connell, District Conservationist
Riverhead Service Center Office
423 Griffing Avenue, Suite 110
Riverhead, New York 11901-3011

STATE AGENCIES

New York Department of State
Division of Coastal Resources
Attn: Mr. George Stafford, Director
41 State Street
Albany, New York 12231

New York State Department of Environmental Conservation
New York Natural Heritage Program
Attn: Mr. David VanLuven, Program Director
Information Services
625 Broadway, 5th Floor
Albany, New York 12233-4757

New York State Department of Environmental Conservation
Region 1 Office
Attn: Mr. Peter A. Scully, Regional Director
Building 40, SUNY
Stony Brook, New York 11794

New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation
Long Island State Park Region
Headquarters, Belmont Lake State Park
Attn: Mr. John Norbeck, Regional Director
P.O. Box 247
Babylon, New York 11702

OTHER AGENCIES

The Nature Conservancy
Long Island Chapter Office
250 Lawrence Hill Road
Cold Spring Harbor, New York 11724

PERSONS AND AGENCIES CONTACTED DURING PREPARATION OF THE 2002 SPEA:

FEDERAL AGENCIES:

Advisory Council on Historic Preservation
Washington, D.C.

Environmental Protection Agency
Washington, D.C.
Region 1
Region 2
Region 3
Region 4
Region 5
Region 6
Region 7
Region 8
Region 9
Region 10

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS)
Assistant Administrator for Fisheries (Silver Spring, MD)
Alaska Regional Office
Northeast Region
Northwest Region
Southeast Region
Southwest Region

Under Secretary of Commerce for Oceans and Atmosphere and NOAA Administrator

U.S. Coast Guard
Washington D.C.
11th CG District
Maintenance and Logistics Command, Pacific

U.S. Department of Agriculture
Washington, D.C.
Pacific Southwest Region
Pacific Northwest Region
Southern Region
Eastern Region
Alaska Region

U.S. Department of Agriculture, Natural Resource Conservation Service
Washington, D.C.

U.S. Department of Interior, Bureau of Land Management (BLM)
NEPA Environmental Coordinator (Arlington, VA)

U.S. Department of Interior, Fish and Wildlife Service
Region 1
Region 2
Region 3
Region 4
Region 5
Region 7

Department of Interior, Minerals Management Service
Washington, D.C.

Federal Aviation Administration, Airport Engineering and Design
Washington, D.C.

Federal Emergency Management Agency
Washington, D.C.
Region I
Region II
Region IV
Region V
Region VI
Region IX
Region X

National Park Service
Washington, D.C.
National Capital Region
Northeast Area Region
Midwest Region
Pacific West Region
Southeast Region
Intermountain Region
Alaska Area Region

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Washington, D.C.
North Atlantic Division
Atlantic Division
Mississippi Valley Division
Great Lakes and Ohio River Division
Southwestern Division
Northwestern Division
South Pacific Division
Pacific Ocean Division

STATE AGENCIES

Alabama Historical Commission

California State Clearing House
Office of Planning and Research

District of Columbia
Office of Partnerships and Grants Development

Florida State Clearinghouse
Department of Community Affairs

Georgia State Clearinghouse

Iowa Department of Economic Development
Division of Rural and Community Development

Maine State Planning Office

Maryland Office of Planning

Mississippi Department of Finance and Administration
Clearinghouse Officer

Missouri Office of Administration
Federal Assistance Clearinghouse

New Hampshire Office of State Planning

North Carolina Department of Administration

Rhode Island Department of Administration
Statewide Planning Program

South Carolina Office of State Budget

State Historic Preservation Officers

Alaska	California
Connecticut	Delaware
Florida	Georgia
Hawaii	Illinois
Indiana	Kentucky
Louisiana	Maine
Maryland	Massachusetts
Michigan	Minnesota
Mississippi	Missouri
New Hampshire	New Jersey
North Carolina	Ohio
Oregon	Pennsylvania
Rhode Island	South Carolina
Tennessee	Texas
Virginia	Washington, D.C.
West Virginia	Wisconsin

Southeast Michigan Council of Governments

Texas Governor's Office of Budget and Planning

Wisconsin Department of Administration

OTHER

Coastal America

Confederated Tribes of Colville Reservation

Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs

Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Reservation

Department of Commerce and Community Affairs, Chicago, IL

East Band of Cherokee Indians, Quallah Boundary

Guam Bureau of Budget and Management Research

Guam Historic Preservation Office

Lac Courte Oreilles Band of Lake Superior Chippewa

Lac du Flambeau

Leech Lake Band of Chippewa Indians

Lummi Tribe

The Makah Tribe
Makah Cultural Research Center

Maritime Institute of Technology

Menominee Indian Tribe of Wisconsin

Micronesia Department of Land

Micronesia Division of History and Cultural Preservation
Historic Preservation Officer

Micronesia Office of Management and Budget

Micronesia Department of Community and Cultural Affairs

Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe Indians

Narragansett Indian Tribe

Northwestern University
Institute for Policy and Research

Puerto Rico Office of Historic Preservation

Puerto Rico Planning Board

Republic of Marshall Islands, Majuro Atoll
Interior and Outer Island Affairs

Republic of Palau
Ministry of Community and Cultural Affairs

Red Cliff Band of Lake Superior Chippewa

Samoa Historic Preservation Officer

Samoa Office of Federal Programs, Office of the Governor

Seneca-Iroquois National Museum

Skokomish Indian Tribe

Spokan Tribe of Indians
Squaxin Island Tribe
States of Micronesia Historic Preservation Officer
Timbisha Shoshone Tribe
Tunica-Biloxi Indians of Louisiana
Virgin Islands Historic Preservation Office
Virgin Islands Office of Management and Budget
Wampanoag Tribe of Gay Head (Aquinnah)
Washington Tribal Historic Preservation Officer

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APPENDIX A

PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

Written Comments

Donald T. Foley
PO Box 778
Montauk, NY, 11954

Jan. 10, 2006

Commandant (G-AND)
Attn: Thomas A Tansey (11-1504)
U.S. Coast Guard
2100 Second St.,SW
Washington, D.C. 20593

Sir,

Reference is made to your notice in the East Hampton newspaper concerning a radio tower at your existing site Station Montauk.

Please be advised that your location on Star Island could be awash in the event of a high category hurricane with southerly winds and wave action.

Attached find a draft copy of a disaster plan for Montauk. The plan suggests that communication transmitters be placed on high ground along with portable software at three locations. Any one of the three locations could be connected by land line to Station Montauk for normal use and software moved quickly in the event of approaching disaster conditions.

I will not be able to attend the Montauk meeting and am submitting this information for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Donald T. Foley

Donald T. Foley

RECEIVED
JAN 18 2006

Montauk Emergency Plan Draft 5

Prepared by Donald T. Foley
December 2005

General :

It is obvious that a mass evacuation was not considered by the Town of East Hampton when a State highway by-pass for Rt. 27 was rejected by the then Town Government .As a result, there is no practical or dependable land route available from Montauk to Southhampton..

As a result, Montauk residents, as well as residents of all the other hamlets in flood areas would be directed, along with their domestic pets, to go to the highest elevation, known to be flood free as close to their communities as possible to ride out an emergency such as a category 3,4 or 5 hurricane with enough provisions, including medications, for two weeks. No outside assistance should be expected for 4-5 days with minimal rations at that time.

A copy of a satellite photo and a topographically correct map would be helpful, but not necessary, to show the critically low and therefore dangerous area which would have to be evacuated to higher elevations of Montauk and be prepared for 12 hours of ocean surging which have been recorded at between 15 to 35 feet in height with winds exceeding 120 Knots (140 MPH). For comparison, a telephone pole is between 35-40 feet tall so the surge at sea level can be judged accordingly

Working West from the lighthouse the first critical area is Ditch Plains. Surging waves would breech the dunes and carry with it all structures in its path across Rt. 27, through Lake Montauk and exit at the jetty area into Block Island Sound taking with it the Rt. 27 roadway system and all utilities in that area. Low lying structures on the Lake shoreline would be picked up by the wave action as well. Star Island would be washed over including the Coast Guard Station. Montauk, from the lighthouse to the East shoreline of Lake Montauk would be an island without utilities or access to points West.

Further West, there are many low areas where the dunes would be breached and downtown Montauk would be under water with the loss of many structures. The most serious breach would occur in the area of the IGA which itself would probably be carried through Ft. Pond, across Industrial Rd. and into Ft. Pond Bay. Anything in its path, including the LIPA generators, if not destroyed, would be useless. Structures such as Riverhead Lumber and the Town Maintenance Yard would be destroyed. The Firehouse would have water half way up the equipment doors. The Rough Riders complex would be severely threatened. The high ground West of Ft. Pond to the westernmost overlook parking lot would be an island. There would be no guaranteed access to Amagansett as the Napeague Strip would be washed out including railroad access along with utilities.

The two low- lying areas would divide Montauk into three islands without utilities or land access to the West..

Island "A".....Lighthouse West to the East shoreline of Lake Montauk.
Island "B".....Lake Montauk West to Ft. Pond
Island "C".....Ft. Pond to the Western Overlook.

Communications:

It is assumed that utilities including electricity will not be available for a month until repairs are made from Amagansett east.

Radio and possibly Cell phones will be the main source of communication. Personal battery powered receivers will provide the main information input.

Command Posts should be established, one east of Lake Montauk on high ground at the Overrlook East of Deep Hollow Ranch and another on the westernmost high ground in the vicinity of the Overlook at Hither Hills. All Posts should be self contained and should be located in areas assessable to those who have survived or who have evacuated low lying critical points. All Posts to be located at a helicopter landing site for flight control purposes.

Posts should be equipped with radio frequencies of the Coast Guard, State Police, local Police and a general transmitting frequency for listening purposes only. This general frequency should be in addition to commercially licensed enterprises. Walkie-Talkie short range would be used for maintaining a house-to-house vigil to report emergencies of occupants

Transportation:

It is assumed that State Highway (Rt. 27) will be washed away in various areas including Ditch Plains and the IGA low areas. The highway West of Hither Hills to Amaganset will be destroyed in various areas as will the Railroad and all utilities.

Watercraft remaining in the Lake Montauk harbor will be lost during a 12 hour water surge. Vessels surviving in remote safe ports would find scarce services available upon

returning to Montauk. The Coast Guard Station should not be considered functional until relief arrives from areas not involved in the emergency

Vessels capable of trailering will be taken to high ground on Island "A" and be made available for service on Lake Montauk from one shoreline to another. Temporary landing sites should be selected for a 24 hour operation. Harbor Master vessels and personnel would oversee the activity of all participants. Unlimited access between two points should be provided throughout the recovery period.

Vessels trailered to high ground, Island "B" and "C", would be set up similar to Island "A".

Enough fuel and lubricants should be available and stored with the vessels. Shelters should be planned at each site, helipads and dockage, along with basic supplies including emergency medical kits and known prescription drug requirements such as insulin and other long term drugs.

Dockage should be capable of accommodating ambulatory and non-ambulatory personnel and might be on privately owned land. Privately owned vessels might be commandeered, or volunteered, and used as required under the direction of a Harbor Master.

Post disaster main evacuation and supply needs can be done by air. Helipads, lighted for night operation, should be established on each "Island" at a Command Post site (Overlooks and the Montauk Downs). Military helicopters should be considered as the most reliable. Later, Military amphibious "ducks" would supplement all forms of transportation

Utilities

Electric Power

It must be assumed that Montauk from Hither Hills to the Lighthouse is without electric power as supplied by LIPA.

The immediate need will be for portable electric generators to provide half-house emergency power for refrigeration, well water, communications, recharging both dry and wet cell batteries and other loads including reasonable household illumination. Electric cooking ranges, heating, washer/dryer/dishwasher and other heave load appliances are not to be used during the emergency period.

If at all possible, newly purchased generators should be fueled by propane to eliminate the need to store other types of fuel. Generator capacity should be 6500KW or higher in the event two or more dwellings must rely on one generator. Two 100 gallon

propane tanks should be available for each generator as well as proper fittings for 120W and 240W connections. All equipment should be stored at, or near, a Command Post site and generator fittings should be professionally installed on high ground dwellings.

If Montauk is divided into three islands, those structures above the anticipated flood level should be advised to share electrical resources with others. A house-to-house survey should determine the amount of generators necessary to provide temporary emergency service.

Security

Law Enforcement

Existing law enforcement personnel will be concentrating on search and rescue and will not be available for protecting property or normal patrolling.. A neighborhood watch should be established for each island using the Command Posts at the helipad sites as headquarters. Watch personnel should have radio equipment compatible with law enforcement frequencies. It might be necessary to temporarily deputize watch personnel until the emergency is declared to be over. It should be the responsibility of the property owner, or occupant, to provide additional neighborhood watch for those structures not occupied during the emergency. Neighborhood watch is to include suspicious activity, fire, gas leakage, open valves or fuel spills from above ground storage.

Security

Fire

Existing fire apparatus should be distributed to each island high ground according to residential density and be in position before an expected water surge. Equipment will be without cover and positioned to withstand severe winds and rain. The Command Post should be considered depending on the availability of access roads. Volunteer training classes should be initiated to provide relief for regular fire personnel. The existing Fire House might not be in service because of its proximity to Fort Pond which is a sea level.

Security

Ambulance

Ambulance service will most likely be suspended as there will be no access to points West. Ambulances and Medical Technicians are to be stationed at each Command Post to provide aid to the area as well as shelter for those waiting helicopter evacuation

U.S. Department of Homeland Security

United States Coast Guard

Commandant (G-AND)
United States Coast Guard

2100 Second Street, S.W.
Washington, DC 20593-0001
Staff Symbol: G-AND
Phone: (202) 475-3293
Fax: (202) 475-3916
Email: ttansey@comdt.uscg.mil

16475
January 23, 2006

Mr. Donald T. Foley
East Lake Dr. 28 Signal Hill Path
P.O. Box 778
Montauk, NY 11954-0601

Dear Mr. Foley:

Thank you very much for your letter dated January 10th, 2006, and the information you forwarded concerning the draft Montauk Emergency Plan. I concur that due to its low elevation, the Coast Guard's property at Station Montauk, on Star Island, may be subject to flooding during a strong category 3, 4, or 5 hurricane with significant storm surge. Although we had included the Station in our search because it is Federally owned property, we had quickly eliminated it as we realized there would not be sufficient land on which to build a tower.

Unfortunately, the public meeting notices which appeared on January 4th and 5th in The Independent and The East Hampton Star were inaccurate as they stated that the proposed tower site was, "in the vicinity of Station Montauk." This was a result of my over eager contractors sending out the ad copy to the newspapers prior to my approval, because they were trying to meet a publication deadline. The ads were corrected and republished in both papers on January 11th and 12th, 2006, and noted that the proposed tower would be, "in the vicinity of the Town of East Hampton Recycling Center/Montauk Transfer Station." Attached is an aerial photograph which indicates the proposed location, north of State Highway 27, and south of the Transfer Station at approximate Latitude 41 degrees, 01 minutes, 52 seconds N and Longitude - 71 degrees, 58 minutes, and 32 seconds W. The property is currently owned by the Town of East Hampton and is adjacent to the communications tower owned by the Town.

The Transfer Station site has numerous advantages as a proposed location for the Coast Guard's Rescue 21 communications tower. The high ground elevation will enable the Coast Guard to build a shorter, less expensive, and less visually obtrusive tower than a site at a lower elevation. The high ground elevation affords an excellent and unobstructed location for radio frequency transmission and reception. The site falls within the geographic area which will afford the maximum radio coverage to meet the Coast Guard's operational communications requirements for the waters surrounding Eastern Long Island. The proposed use by the Coast Guard is consistent with the present land use near the Transfer Station, which includes seven existing communications towers in the area. There is existing access to public utilities. The site is well protected from potential hurricane storm surges.

The Coast Guard's proposal for Montauk includes the addition of an emergency generator and 500 gallon propane tank to supply back-up electrical power to operate our radio transmitters and receivers. The Coast Guard usually relies upon commercially supplied T1 lines to serve as a data link to our communications network. In the event that telephone/data service is severed along

State Highway 27, due to severe erosion from hurricane storm surge in the Napeague area, an alternative method of transmitting data to and from the proposed tower would be needed.

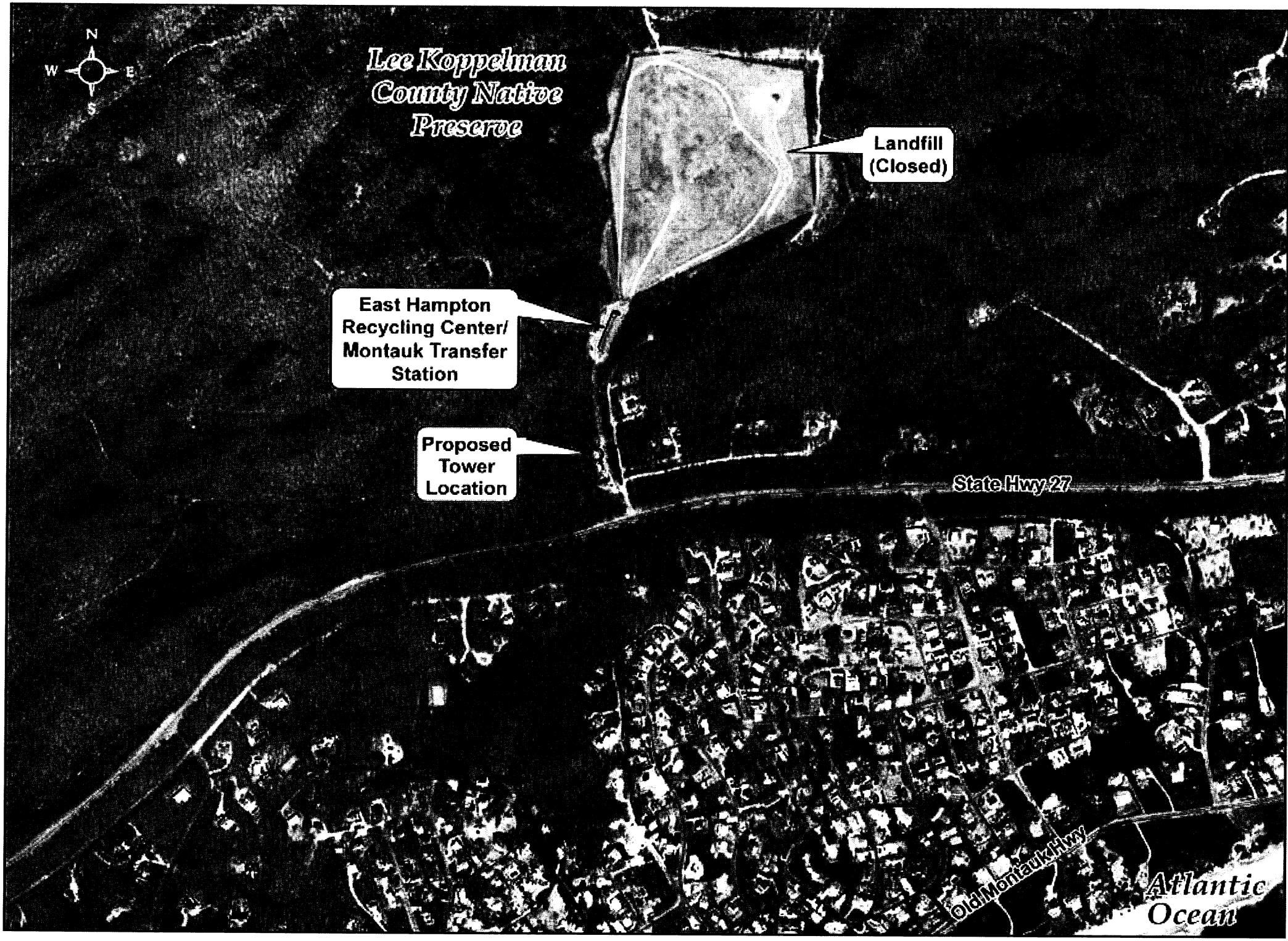
One of the elements of the Rescue 21 system is a self-contained communications recovery package (CRP). The unit is a satellite dish which can be trailered or airlifted into a disaster area and is used to re-establish our data link via a satellite relay. During our response efforts to Hurricane Katrina, the Coast Guard actually used the CRP along with a 127 foot-tall portable antenna tower (PAT) and an electronics recovery package (ERP) to restore communications along the Lower Mississippi River and Mississippi Delta. These three elements, the CRP, PAT, and ERP, along with a satellite downlink and watch stander consoles in Martinsburg, West Virginia, constitute the disaster recovery system for the Rescue 21 project. The system could also be configured to provide direct operational control of the proposed Montauk tower's antennas from the communications center at Coast Guard Sector Long Island or an alternative location.

Thank you once again for the information you have provided on the draft Montauk disaster plan. We will take it under consideration as we further refine our Rescue 21 communication system's engineering requirements. The interest you have shown in providing reliable and secure communications for the Montauk maritime community is commendable.

Sincerely,

THOMAS A. TANSEY
Commander, USCG (Ret.)
Environmental Program Manager
Rescue 21 Project Office

Enclosure: Proposed RFF Montauk aerial photograph


N
W
E
S
Lee Koppelman County Native Preserve
Landfill (Closed)
East Hampton Recycling Center/ Montauk Transfer Station
Proposed Tower Location
State Hwy 27
Old Montauk Hwy
Atlantic Ocean

-----Original Message-----
From: Tansey, Thomas
Sent: Thursday, May 04, 2006 1:53 PM
To: 'lookout@hamptons.com'
Subject: Proposed Coast Guard Rescue 21 Communications Tower in Montauk

Dear Ms. Harder,

Dr. Anita Allen has forwarded your emails of 29 April and 1 May 2006, wherein you asked several questions regarding the Coast Guard's plans for the proposed construction of a communications tower in the Town of East Hampton, New York. Dr. Allen no longer works for the Rescue 21 project office and has moved on to another project office at Coast Guard Headquarters.

As you are aware, the Coast Guard has proposed construction of a new, 300 foot-tall, self-supported lattice tower, in the vicinity of the Town of East Hampton Recycling Center - Montauk Transfer Station. The proposed site is adjacent to the existing 180 foot-tall, self-supported communications tower owned by the Town of East Hampton. There are presently a total of seven self-supported and monopole towers located in the general vicinity of the Recycling Center. A direction finding antenna and lightening rod would be mounted on the top of the antenna, bringing the total height of the tower and "appurtenances" to approximately 311 feet above ground level. The site near the Recycling Center is approximately 180 to 185 feet above mean sea level. The proposed Coast Guard owned tower would be the tallest manmade structure on this hill.

The Coast Guard conducted an extensive radio frequency engineering analysis of the geographic coverage requirements for the Atlantic Ocean and Long Island Sound surrounding the community of Montauk. The proposed height of the Remote Fixed Facility (RFF) tower was selected as the minimum height necessary for the transmission and reception of radio signals in order for the Coast Guard to meet its operational missions on the surrounding waters. Your alternative proposal for the Coast Guard to construct multiple, 199 foot-tall, above ground level (A.G.L.) towers in this geographic region would not meet our project's engineering or operational requirements.

The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) requires lighting on all structures above 200 feet A.G.L., as per FAA Advisory Circular 70/7460-1K, Obstruction Marking and Lighting. In accordance with these standards and the FAA's safety determination for the proposed tower, the Coast Guard would install a medium intensity daytime, white strobe light, with an intensity of 20,000 candelas and a nighttime, flashing red, LED beacon light, with an intensity of 2,000 candelas. Small, low intensity, steady-burning, red LED (L-810) obstruction lights would also be required. The FAA standards were developed as the minimum lighting intensities to ensure aircraft safety and avoidance of fixed structures under variable meteorological conditions.

The Coast Guard shares your concern for the protection of migratory birds which use the Atlantic Coast flyway. We have specifically selected a self-supported tower for the tower design in this area, rather than a guyed tower, in order to minimize the potential for bird strikes. According to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, guyed towers which are over 500 feet

above ground level are believed to cause the most harm to migratory birds, when lit with steady-burning red incandescent nighttime beacon lighting. The greatest hazard to birds is believed to be the guy wires which support guyed towers, not the physical structure of the tower itself. The guy wires are extremely difficult for birds to detect at night during fog or other conditions of limited nighttime visibility. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's Voluntary Tower Guidelines also recommends that, whenever possible, towers be equipped with white strobe lights at night rather than steady-burning red incandescent beacon lights. Unfortunately, medium intensity white strobe nighttime lighting would predictably add to the overall nighttime sky glow in the greater Montauk area. White strobe nighttime lighting has also been reported to be more visually obtrusive to immediate residential neighbors than lower intensity, flashing red, LED beacon lighting. The Coast Guard has not experienced bird mortality, using the identical lighting system as we are proposing to use at Montauk, on similar self-supported towers located within the Atlantic flyway.

We are aware that Suffolk County has recently approved a license agreement with Montauk Observatory, Inc. to construct a research grade, astronomical observatory on the grounds of the Theodore Roosevelt County Park, just east of the community of Montauk. According to information which is available to the public, the observatory is planned to be housed at the historic Third House. The proposed site for the Coast Guard's Rescue 21 communications tower is approximately 4.3 statute miles away from Third House, bearing WSW, 250 degrees True North. The central business district for the community of Montauk lies between Third House and the proposed site for the Coast Guard's tower. We do not believe that the single nighttime, flashing red LED, 2,000 candela, beacon light, mounted at 300 feet A.G.L., proposed for this tower will cause a significant negative effect to the operation and future enjoyment of the planned Montauk Observatory.

Thank you for the information you have provided and for expressing your concerns for protecting the environment in the greater Montauk area. The Coast Guard is equally concerned that all potential environmental affects of this proposed project are considered and addressed during our environmental planning process.

Sincerely,

Thomas A. Tansey
Environmental Program Manager
National Distress and Response System
Modernization Project (Rescue 21)
United States Coast Guard
Commandant (G-AND)
2100 2nd Street, SW
Washington, DC 20593-0001
Phone: 202-475-3293
Fax: 202-457-3916
Email: ttansey@comdt.uscg.mil

United States Coast Guard
RFF Montauk

Public Comment Meeting
Wednesday, July 12, 2006

WRITTEN COMMENT FORM

We want to hear from you.

Please provide us with your written comments following tonight's meeting. For your convenience, you may also submit your comments via mail, fax, or e-mail. Please use the contact information listed below to submit your comments. The deadline to receive your comments is 5:00 pm on Friday, July 28, 2006.

Thank you!

(PLEASE PRINT)

Today's Date: July 14, 2006

Name: Joseph T. Kelley

Street Address:

City/State/Zip: Montauk, New York . 11954

PRIVACY ACT STATEMENT (5 U.S.C. 552(a) Privacy Act)

a. **AUTHORITY:** 5 U.S.C. 301 Departmental Regulations;14 U.S.C.2; 14 U.S.C.5 (88); National Environmental Protection Act (NEPA), 42 U.S.C. 4321; 44U.S.C.3101

b. **PURPOSE:** To obtain personal Information for the purpose of compiling mailing lists and to document public comments as required by the NEPA. NEPA requires public involvement in agency decision-making processes. Decisional documents as well as comment mechanisms must be made available to the public.

c. **ROUTINE USES:** To the Department of Homeland Security, U. S. Coast Guard, President of the Council on Environmental Quality, Environmental Protection Agency, and other authorized federal, state, or local governments who are authorized to develop and enforce environmental standards.

d. **DISCLOSURE:** Disclosure of your name, street address, or other contact information is voluntary; however, if information is not provided, we may not be able to provide copies of decisional documents and to retrieve additional comments related to environmental impact actions or decisions

COMMENTS: Please accept my recognition of Coast Guard's responsibility in the area of Rescue at Sea. I am curious as to the proposed system and the electric additions which will be forthcoming. Is it possible to obtain a diagram of the circuitry? I visual an important step foreward.

Otherwise . . . . I trust that your environmental duties are supplanted with your major duties.

(Use additional sheets if necessary)

For additional information regarding this United States Coast Guard project, please contact:

Commandant (G-AND)
Attn: Thomas A. Tansey (11-1504)
U.S. Coast Guard
2100 Second Street, SW
Washington D.C. 20593-0001

E-mail: ttansey@comdt.uscg.mil
Fax: (202) 475-3916

RECEIVED
JUL 20 2006

Additional Information Requested:

Please send me more information relating to: Rescue System.

X **Check here if you would like to be included on future mailing lists regarding this project.**

U.S. Department of Homeland Security

United States Coast Guard

Commandant (G-AND)
United States Coast Guard

2100 Second Street, S.W.
Washington, DC 20593-0001
Staff Symbol: G-AND
Phone: (202) 475-3293
FAX: (202) 475-3916

16475
July 31, 2006

Mr. Joseph T. Kelley

RE: Proposed Rescue 21 Communications Tower, RFF Montauk, East Hampton, NY

Dear Mr. Kelley:

Thank you for attending the U.S. Coast Guard's public comment meeting held on July 12, 2006. Your interest in the Coast Guard's Rescue 21 communications system and your comments during the meeting were very much appreciated.

In answer to your recent questions regarding the electronic circuitry for the proposed Rescue 21 installation, I regret that I am not able to provide detailed electronic diagrams of the various system components to you. Our prime contractor for this system would consider such detailed information proprietary and not releasable to the public.

I have, however, forwarded several color diagrams which help to illustrate the various components of the Rescue 21 system and how radio signals are transmitted to and from commercial and Coast Guard users of the system. I have also provided a labeled photograph which illustrates the computer components installed at a typical Coast Guard communications center.

I hope this information will help to answer your questions. If you have any additional questions, please contact me via telephone at (202) 475-3293 or via email at ttansey@comdt.uscg.mil.

Sincerely,

Thomas A. Tansey
Environmental Program Manager

Encl: Poster showing customer care center, reduced coverage gaps, multi-channel monitoring
Poster showing digital selective calling, disaster recovery, direction finding
Diagram showing coastal relays and satellite DRS system relay
Photograph – typical communications center installations

Digital Selective Calling

Vessel registers for an MMSI number for their DSC Capable Radio.

The Vessel experiences an emergency

The vessel presses the DSC button on their radio and holds for 5 seconds.

Coast Guard Watch Stander receives the emergency distress call.

Rescue 21 passes all registered MMSI vessel information to the Watch Stander. If the vessel's DSC radio is properly interfaced with GPS, Latitude and Longitude are displayed.

Coast Guard assets respond directly to the position of the vessel.

Disaster Recovery

A hurricane, natural disaster, or war destroys or incapacitates a communications tower.

PAT raised

Portable Antenna Tower (PAT) and Communications Recovery Package (CRP) deployed to the site

Communications Restored

Homeland Security

Patrolling Coast Guard forces spot vessel of interest.

Information is passed over Rescue 21 via protected communications.

Watch stander coordinates Command, Control, and Communications response efforts through Rescue 21.

Direction Finding

A Vessel experiences an emergency

Vessel sends mayday signal on VHF Channel 16

Direction finding equipment on Rescue 21 towers determine lines of bearing to the vessel

Rescue 21 geographic displays show the latitude and longitude of the vessel based on triangulation from the lines of bearing.

Coast Guard assets are deployed to the location.

U.S. COAST GUARD RESCUE 21

SAVING LIVES IN THE 21st CENTURY

Advanced Playback and Recording

New equipment allows watch standers to slow down transmissions and adjust their quality to understand the message.

Weak transmissions and garbled signals will be less of a problem.

Customer Care Center

Available 24 /7 to assist watch standers in Rescue 21 system operation, place repair calls, monitor trouble tickets, and upload software updates.

Reduced Coverage Gaps

Galveston Legacy System Gaps

New towers and better equipment lead to improved communications coverage.

Galveston Rescue 21 coverage

Multi Channel Monitoring

Six speakers to listen to multiple channel transmissions simultaneously

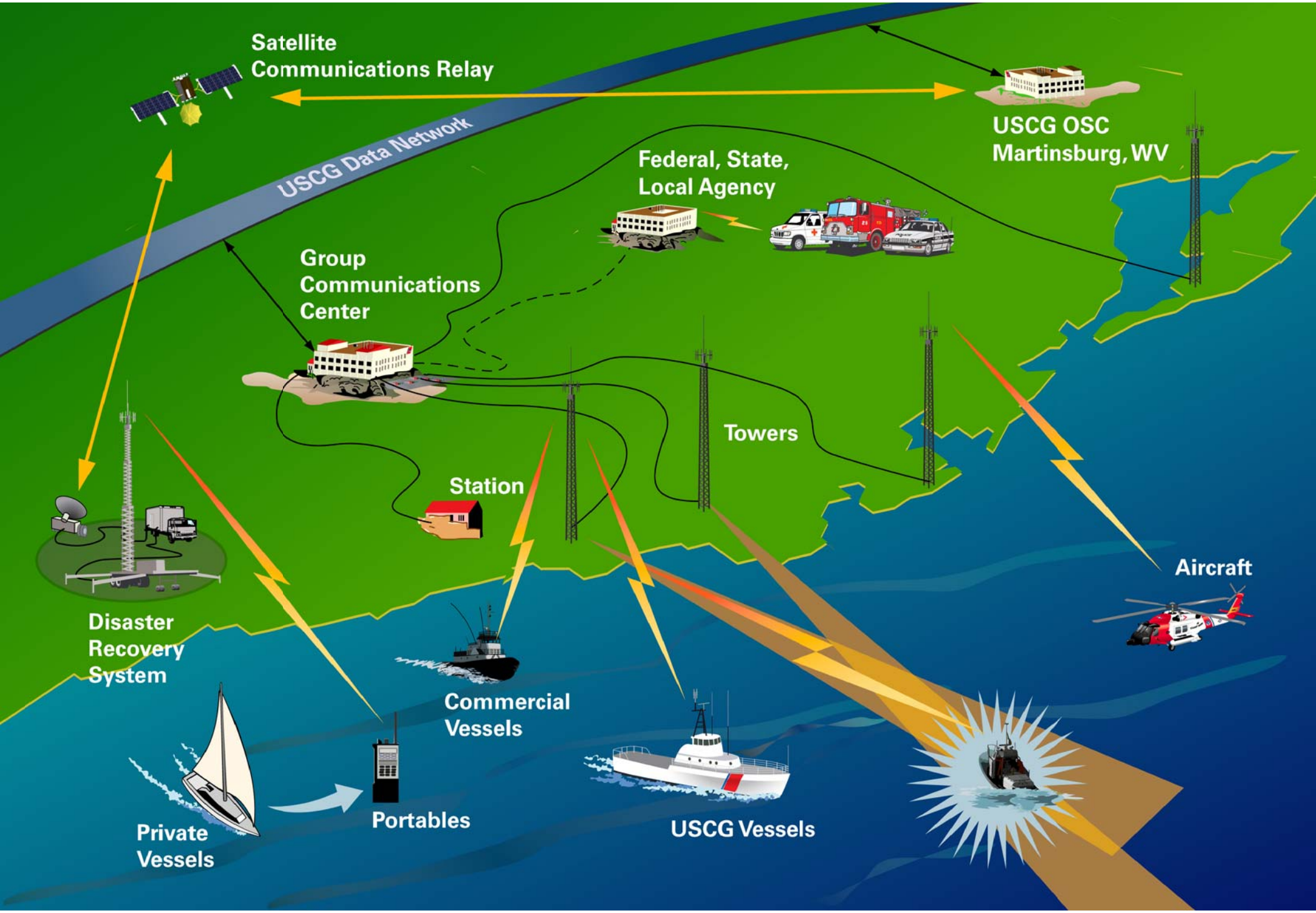
Will reduce the threat of hoax calls, ensuring assets are available for response to actual emergencies.

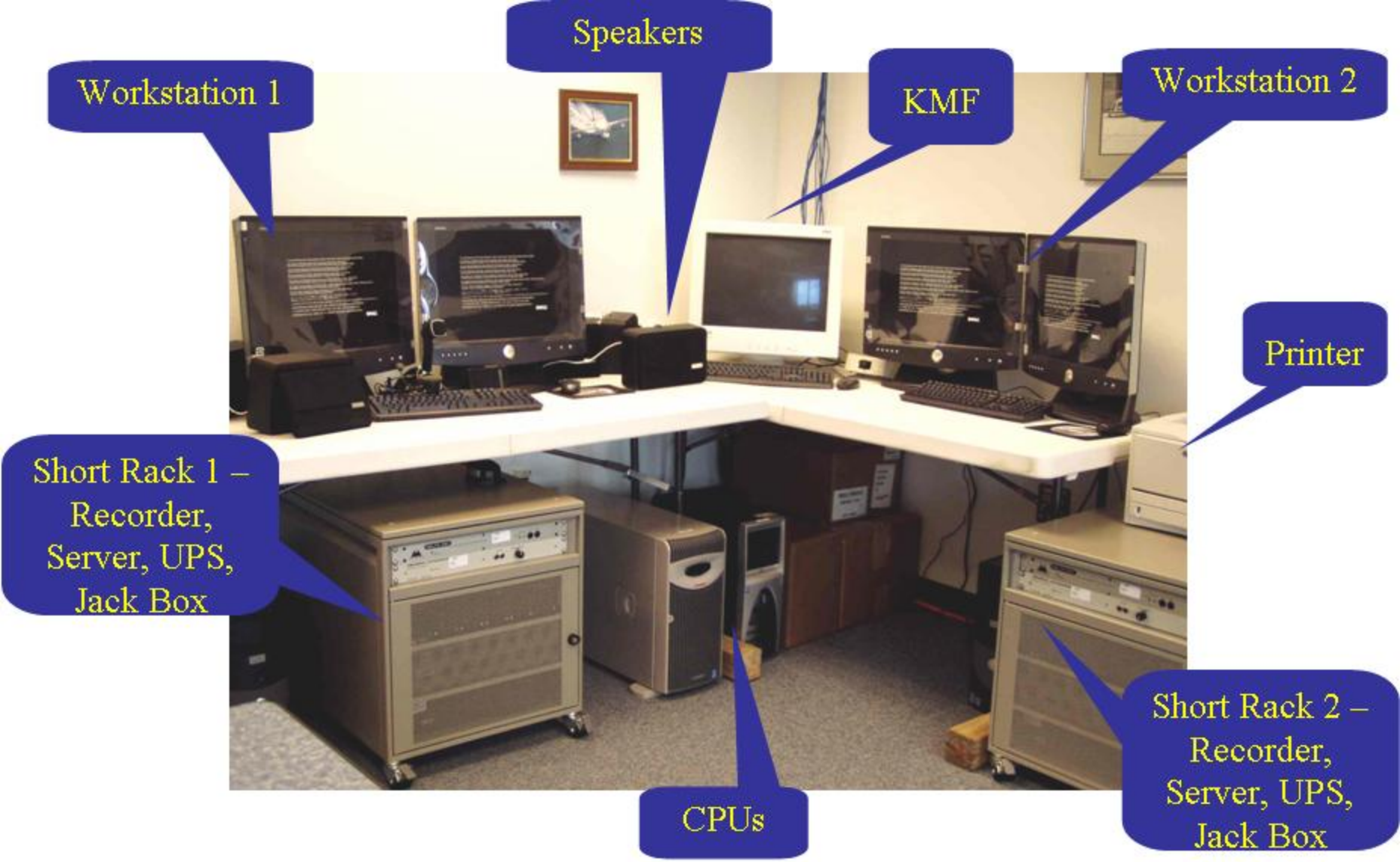
ADVANCED MARITIME COMMAND, CONTROL, AND COMMUNICATIONS

U.S. COAST GUARD
RESCUE 21
SAVING LIVES IN THE 21st CENTURY

Improved Interoperability

Better coordination with federal, state, and local agencies through interoperability standards.


Satellite
Communications Relay
USCG Data Network
USCG OSC
Martinsburg, WV
Federal, State,
Local Agency
Group
Communications
Center
Towers
Station
Disaster
Recovery
System
Aircraft
Commercial
Vessels
Private
Vessels
Portables
USCG Vessels


Speakers
Workstation 1
KMF
Workstation 2
Printer
Short Rack 1 – Recorder, Server, UPS, Jack Box
CPUs
Short Rack 2 – Recorder, Server, UPS, Jack Box

January 2006 Public Information Meeting
Sign-in Sheets

United States Coast Guard
RFF Montauk

SIGN-IN SHEET

Public Information Meeting
Wednesday, January 18, 2006
5:30 pm to 8:00 pm

PLEASE PRINT

Name	Street Address, City, State, Zip	Would you like to receive follow-up information? (✓)
1. Bill WILKINSON	MONTAUK	✓
2. Mike Mahoney	Montauk	Yes
3. J. Philip Perna	Montauk NY	yes
4. Kitty Merrill	THE INDEPENDENT 74 Montauk Hwy. EH. NY 11937	Yes
5. Ed Michels	Town of East Hampton - Marine Patrol	Yes
6. CLIFF Kalfelen	MTK	Yes
7. TOM LOEBL	MTK	yes
8. William McGintee Town Supervisor	EH	Yes
9. Debbie Tuma	Dan's Paper - Box 2163 - Sag Harbor NY 11963	Yes
10.		

PRIVACY ACT STATEMENT *(5 U.S.C. 552(a) Privacy Act)*

a. **AUTHORITY:** 5 U.S.C. 301 Departmental Regulations;14 U.S.C.2; 14 U.S.C.5 (88); National Environmental Protection Act (NEPA), 42 U.S.C. 4321; 44U.S.C.3101

b. **PURPOSE:** To obtain personal Information for the purpose of compiling mailing lists and to document public comments as required by the NEPA. NEPA requires public involvement in agency decision-making processes. Decisional documents as well as comment mechanisms must be made available to the public.

c. **ROUTINE USES:** To the Department of Homeland Security, U. S. Coast Guard, President of the Council on Environmental Quality, Environmental Protection Agency, and other authorized federal, state, or local governments who are authorized to develop and enforce environmental standards.

d. **DISCLOSURE:** Disclosure of your name, street address, or other contact information is voluntary; however, if information is not provided, we may not be able to provide copies of decisional documents and to retrieve additional comments related to environmental impact actions or decisions

United States Coast Guard
RFF Montauk

SIGN-IN SHEET

Public Information Meeting
Wednesday, January 18, 2006
5:30 pm to 8:00 pm

PLEASE PRINT

Name	Street Address, City, State, Zip	Would you like to receive follow-up information? (✓)
1. Carol Rogers	Montauk	
2. Richard Wilson	"	
3. Mary Cannon	Montauk NY	✓
4.		
5.		
6.		
7.		
8.		
9.		
10.		

PRIVACY ACT STATEMENT *(5 U.S.C. 552(a) Privacy Act)*

a. **AUTHORITY:** 5 U.S.C. 301 Departmental Regulations;14 U.S.C.2; 14 U.S.C.5 (88); National Environmental Protection Act (NEPA), 42 U.S.C. 4321; 44U.S.C.3101

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d. **DISCLOSURE:** Disclosure of your name, street address, or other contact information is voluntary; however, if information is not provided, we may not be able to provide copies of decisional documents and to retrieve additional comments related to environmental impact actions or decisions

January 2006 Public Information Meeting
Public Notice and Mailing

Join Us!

for a public meeting

The United States Coast Guard is hosting a **public information meeting** about the proposed construction of a new communications tower in the vicinity of Station Montauk. We invite you to meet with Coast Guard staff in an informal setting where you can discuss the proposed project, ask questions and provide us with your comments.

5:30 – 8:00 p.m.
Wednesday,
January 18, 2006
Montauk Public School
Multi-purpose Room
50 South Dorset Avenue
Montauk, New York

Your written comments about the proposed project also can be mailed to the Coast Guard at the following address:

Commandant (G-AND)
Attn: Thomas A. Tansey (11-1504)
U.S. Coast Guard
2100 2nd Street, SW
Washington, D.C. 20593

Fax: 202-457-3916

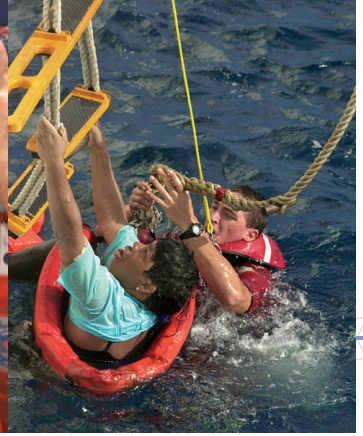
E-mail: ttansey@comdt.uscg.mil

For additional information, please call 1-800-368-5647, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. EST M–F.

U.S. COAST GUARD RESCUE 21
SAVING LIVES IN THE 21st CENTURY

TAKING THE SEARCH OUT OF SEARCH AND RESCUE

UNITED STATES COAST GUARD 1790



Public Information Meeting

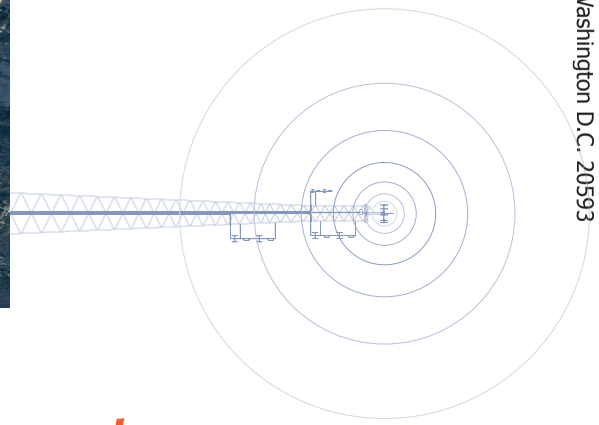
Public involvement plays an important role in the project implementation process. The United States Coast Guard is hosting a public information meeting about the proposed tower construction project. We invite you to meet with Coast Guard staff in an informal setting where you can discuss the proposed project, ask questions and provide us with your comments.

5:30–8:00 p.m.
Wednesday, January 18, 2006
Montauk Public School Multi-purpose Room
50 South Dorset Avenue
Montauk, New York 11954

For more information regarding this project, please contact:

COMMANDANT (G-AND)
Attn: Anita Allen (11-1506)
U.S. Coast Guard
2100 2nd Street, SW
Washington, D.C. 20593-0001

Phone: 1-800-368-5647, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., EST M-F.
Fax: 202-457-3916
E-mail: aallen@comdt.uscg.mil



Join Us

for a public meeting in your community. See inside for details.

United States Coast Guard
2100 Second Street, SW
Washington D.C. 20593

What Is Rescue 21?

U.S. COAST GUARD
RESCUE 21
SAVING LIVES IN THE 21st CENTURY

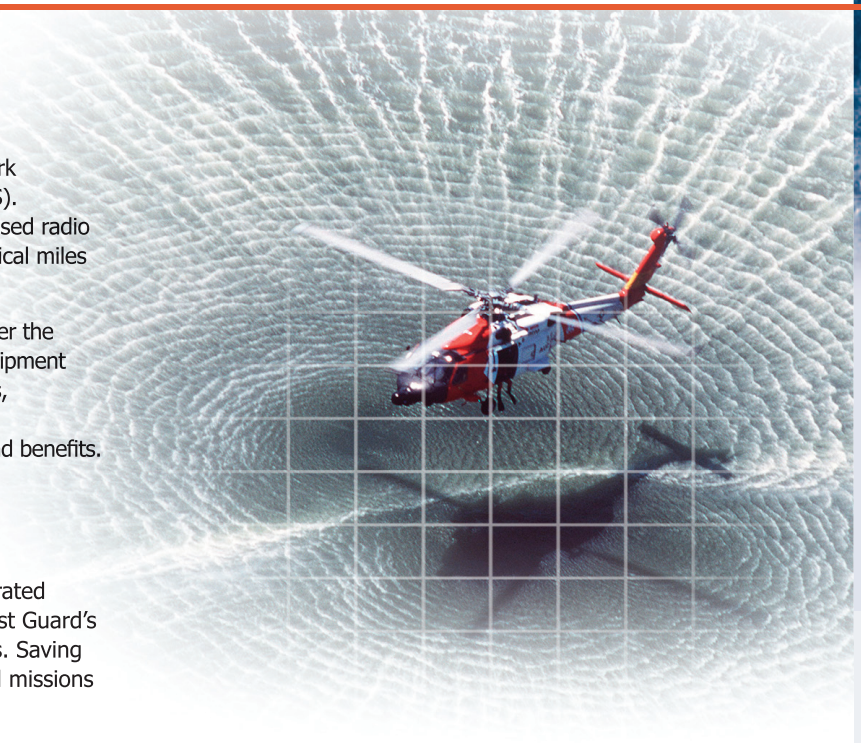
Rescue 21 is the U.S. Coast Guard's program to replace its outdated communications system. The goal is to save lives in the 21st century. *Someday it may save yours.*

Fulfilling this complex mission requires a technologically advanced communications system that is more robust, more reliable, and more capable. The Coast Guard is a world-class rescue organization, but its effectiveness is limited by the system it uses to monitor distress calls.

Current Communications System

The Coast Guard's backbone communications network is the National Distress and Response System (NDRS). Established more than 30 years ago, this VHF-FM-based radio communication system has a range of up to 20 nautical miles along most of the U.S. shoreline.

While this system has served the Coast Guard well over the years, it consists of out-of-date and non-standard equipment with many limitations. To meet it's growing challenges, the Coast Guard requires a technologically advanced communications system with additional capabilities and benefits.



A World-Class System for a New World of Challenges

By replacing outdated technology with a fully integrated communications system, Rescue 21 boosts the Coast Guard's ability to protect boaters and the nation's coastlines. Saving lives and providing homeland security are both vital missions in the 21st century.

Implementation Process

Rescue 21 personnel will follow a thorough implementation process to ensure that the sites chosen for the towers will fit the needs of the Coast Guard while working with environmental experts and the communities to help preserve the land and the people it serves.

A Quantum Leap Forward

Rescue 21 revolutionizes how the Coast Guard communicates and carries out its various missions. The system offers:

- Enhanced VHF-FM and UHF coverage.
- Position accuracy—within 2 degrees—of VHF-FM transmissions.
- An increase in the number of voice and data channels from one to six.
- Protected communications for all Coast Guard operations.
- Position tracking of Coast Guard assets such as boats and cutters.
- Digital voice recording with enhanced playback.
- Improved interoperability among the Coast Guard and federal, state and local partners.
- Digital selective calling (DSC), an alternate distress communication system used internationally.

Environmental Considerations

What is NEPA?

The National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969 requires federal agencies to consider their environmental values when making decisions about projects that through their development and implementation, help accomplish agency goals and objectives. This is achieved by considering the environmental impacts of proposed actions and reasonable alternatives to those actions, and involving the public in the NEPA process. To meet the NEPA requirement for its proposed action to enhance the Rescue 21 Program by constructing enhanced communications towers, the Coast Guard is preparing a Supplemental Environmental Assessment, or SEA. This SEA tiers from a Programmatic EA prepared in 1998 and a Supplemental Programmatic EA prepared in 2002, and an EA prepared in 2005 for Construction of Remote Fixed Facilities at Station Shinnecock and Station Fire Island. The SEA will be prepared in compliance with:

- NEPA requirements;
- Council on Environmental Quality regulations; and
- Coast Guard-specific NEPA procedures.

As part of the NEPA process, the Coast Guard invites the public to provide information and offer insights that will help us assess the full range of impacts associated with our project.

Proposed Action

The SEA will describe and evaluate the proposed action and also will describe the evaluation procedure used in determining the location of the tower. The proposed action at Montauk required to implement Rescue 21 includes the following activities:

- Constructing a communications tower no more than 300 feet tall and installing the Rescue 21 antenna arrays.
- Installing a backup generator and a 500-gallon above-ground propane tank and all required supporting utilities (electricity, fiber optic cable, etc.).
- Installing a small equipment shelter.

Table A-1. Mailing List of Elected Officials, Community Leaders, and Interested Organizations as of January 09, 2006 Public Mailing						
Organization	**Addressee**	**Title**	**Address**	**City**	**State**	**Zip Code**
Coastal Research and Education Society of Long Island, Inc.	Division of Natural Sciences & Mathematics		Dowling College	Oakdale	NY	11769-1999
Concerned Citizens of Montauk	Mr. Billy Akin		P.O. Box 915	Montauk	NY	11954
Concerned Citizens of Montauk	Mr. Ed Porco		P.O. Box 915	Montauk	NY	11954
Concerned Citizens of Montauk	Mr. Larry Smith		P.O. Box 915	Montauk	NY	11954
Concerned Citizens of Montauk	Mr. Peter Lowenstein		P.O. Box 915	Montauk	NY	11954
Concerned Citizens of Montauk	Ms. Celine Keating		P.O. Box 915	Montauk	NY	11954
Concerned Citizens of Montauk	Ms. Dorothy Diskin		P.O. Box 915	Montauk	NY	11954
Concerned Citizens of Montauk	Ms. Shirley Katz		P.O. Box 915	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Planning Board	Mr. Brad Loewen	Chairperson	300 Pantigo Place	East Hampton	NY	11937
East Hampton Recreation and Parks	Mr. Kenneth Scott	Director	159 B. Pantigo Road	East Hampton	NY	11937
East Hampton Star	Mr. David Rattray	Editor	P.O. Box 5002	East Hampton	NY	11937
East Hampton Town Board	Mr. Job Potter	Councilman	159 Pantigo Road	East Hampton	NY	11937
East Hampton Town Board	Mr. Peter Hammerle	Councilman	159 Pantigo Road	East Hampton	NY	11937
East Hampton Town Board	Mr. William McGintee	Town Supervisor	159 Pantigo Road	East Hampton	NY	11937
East Hampton Town Board	Ms. Debra Brodie Foster	Councilwoman	159 Pantigo Road	East Hampton	NY	11937
East Hampton Town Board	Ms. Pat Mansir	Councilwoman	159 Pantigo Road	East Hampton	NY	11937
East Hampton Town Clerk	Mr. Fred Overton	Town Clerk	159 Pantigo Road	East Hampton	NY	11937
East Hampton Town Clerk	Ms. Carole Brennan	Deputy Town Clerk	159 Pantigo Road	East Hampton	NY	11937
East Hampton Town Clerk	Ms. Diane Mamay	Clerk	267 Bluff Road	Amagansett	NY	
East Hampton Town Harbor Masters Office	Marine Patrol		159 Pantigo Road	East Hampton	NY	11937
East Hampton Town Police	Mr. Ed Ecker	Captain	131 Wainscott North West Road	East Hampton	NY	11937
East Hampton Town Police	Mr. Todd Sarris	Chief	131 Wainscott North West Road	East Hampton	NY	11937
East Hampton Village Police Headquarters	Mr. Gerald Larson	Chief	1 Cedar Street	East Hampton	NY	11937
Long Island Environmental Voters Organization			P.O. Box 2060	Riverhead	NY	11940
Long Island Sound Foundation, Inc.			1080 Shennecossett Road	Groton	CT	06340
Montauk Chamber of Commerce	Ms. Laraine Creegan	Executive Director	P.O. Box 5029	Montauk	NY	11954
Montauk Fire Department	Fire Chief		12 Flamingo Ave	Montauk	NY	11954
Montauk Headquarters of East Hampton Town Police	Mr. Kevin Sarlo	Captain	52 South Embassy	Montauk	NY	11954

Table A-1. Mailing List of Elected Officials, Community Leaders, and Interested Organizations as of January 09, 2006 Public Mailing						
Organization	**Addressee**	**Title**	**Address**	**City**	**State**	**Zip Code**
Montauk Library	Ms. Karen Rade	Director	P.O. Box 700	Montauk	NY	11954
New York Department of State, Division of Coastal Resources	Mr. William Feldhusen		41 State Street	Albany	NY	12231
New York State Department of Environmental Conservation, New York Natural Heritage Program	Ms. Jean Piedtrusiak	Program Director	625 Broadway	Albany	NY	12233-4757
New York State Department of Environmental Conservation, Region 1 Office	Mr. Peter A. Scully	Regional Director	SUNY - Building 40	Stony Brook	NY	11794
New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation, Peebles Island Resource Center	Ms. Ruth L. Pierpont	Director	P.O. Box 189	Waterford	NY	12188-0189
NY State Assembly	Mr. Fred Thiele	Assemblyman	P.O. Box 3062	Bridgehampton	NY	11932
NY State Senate	Mr. Kenneth LaValle	Senator	325 Middle County Road, Suite 4	Seldon	NY	11784
Sierra Club	Long Island Chapter Office		P.O. Box 210	Syosset	NY	11791
South Shore Estuary Reserve Council			300 Woodcleft Avenue	Freeport	NY	11520
Suffolk County, H. Lee Dennison Bldg.	Mr. Steve Levy	County Executive	100 Veterans Memorial Hwy.	Hauppauge	NY	11788
The East Hampton Independent	Mr. Rick Murphy	Chief Editor	74 Montauk Highway, Suite 19	East Hampton	NY	11937
The Nature Conservancy	Long Island Chapter Office		250 Lawrence Hill Road	Cold Spring Harbor	NY	11724
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, NY District Office	Colonel Richard J. Polo, Jr.	Commander and District Engineer	26 Federal Plaza, Room 2109	New York	NY	10278-0090
U.S. Congress, House of Representatives	Congressman Timothy Bishop	Representative	1133 Longworth HOB	Washington	DC	20515
U.S. Congress, House of Representatives	Congressman Timothy Bishop	Representative	33 Flying Point Road, Suite 104 A	Southampton	NY	11968
U.S. Congress, United States Senate	Senator Charles Schumer	U.S. Senator	145 Pine Lawn Road, Suite 300	Melville	NY	11747
U.S. Congress, United States Senate	Senator Hillary Rodham Clinton	U.S. Senator	155 Pinelawn Road, Suite 250 North	Melville	NY	11747

Table A-1. Mailing List of Elected Officials, Community Leaders, and Interested Organizations as of January 09, 2006 Public Mailing						
Organization	**Addressee**	**Title**	**Address**	**City**	**State**	**Zip Code**
U.S. Department of Agriculture, Riverhead Service Center Office	Mr. Allan Connell	District Conservationist	423 Griffing Avenue, Suite 110	Riverhead	NY	11901-3011
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 2	Ms. Kathleen Cattahan	Regional Administrator	290 Broadway	New York	NY	10007-1866
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Long Island Field Office	Dr. Rosemarie Gnam, Ph.D.	Project Leader	500 St. Mark's Lane	Islip	NY	11751
United States Post Office	Postmaster		P.O. Box 9998	Montauk	NY	11954
WLNG Radio Station	Dan		2300 Redwood Causeway	Sag Harbor	NY	11963

Table A-2. Residential Mailing List as of January 09, 2006 Public Mailing				
Addressee	Address	City	State	Zipcode
East Hampton Neighbor	1 Harrison Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	1 Webster Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	10 Cleveland Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	10 Sherman Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	10 Webster Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	11 Arnold Court	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	11 Franklin Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	11 Sherman Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	114 Monroe Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	120 Old Montauk Road	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	122 Madison Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	123 Monroe Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	124 Adams Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	124 Madison Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	126 Adams Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	127 Adams Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	133 Madison Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	137 Grant Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	14 Edison Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	14 Houston Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	14 Mckinley Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	14 Taft Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	14 Tyler Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	143 Madison Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	148 Monroe Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	15 Grant Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	15 Roosevelt Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	15 Stuyesant Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	16 Bryan Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	16 Madison Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	16 Stuyesant Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	16 Wood Street	Montauk	NY	11954

Table A-2. Residential Mailing List as of January 09, 2006 Public Mailing				
Addressee	Address	City	State	Zipcode
East Hampton Neighbor	17 Franklin Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	17 Houston Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	18 Arnold Court	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	18 Cleveland Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	18 Mckinley Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	19 Lincoln Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	19 Washington Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	19 Webster Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	2 Lee Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	2 Wood Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	20 Franklin Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	20 Wood Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	21 Hamilton Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	21 Hayes Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	21 Tyler Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	21 Washington Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	22 Bryan Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	22 Cleveland Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	22 Stuyesant Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	23 Adams Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	23 Franklin Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	23 Webster Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	24 Bryan Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	24 Washington Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	25 Cleveland Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	25 Harrison Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	25 Hayes Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	27 Harrison Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	27 Lincoln Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	27 Tyler Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	28 Roosevelt Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	28 Webster Street	Montauk	NY	11954

Table A-2. Residential Mailing List as of January 09, 2006 Public Mailing				
Addressee	Address	City	State	Zipcode
East Hampton Neighbor	30 Coolidge Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	30 Franklin Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	30 Stuyesant Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	30AD Roosevelt Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	30B Roosevelt Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	32 Cleveland Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	32 Harding Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	32 Tyler Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	34 Harding Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	34 Madison Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	34 Taft Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	35 Stuyesant Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	35 Tyler Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	36 Jay Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	37 Lincoln Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	37 Roosevelt Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	38 Arthur Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	38 Harding Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	38 Jackson Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	38 Roosevelt Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	38 Taft Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	40 Taft Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	42 Adams Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	42 Houston Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	421 Sherman Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	42R Roosevelt Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	43 Houston Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	43 Tyler Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	44 Wood Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	46 Adams Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	48 Bryan Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	48 Stuyesant Street	Montauk	NY	11954

Table A-2. Residential Mailing List as of January 09, 2006 Public Mailing				
Addressee	Address	City	State	Zipcode
East Hampton Neighbor	5 Franklin Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	51 Adams Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	51 Bryan Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	51 Franklin Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	51 Madison Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	515 Cleveland Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	523 Old Montauk Road	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	53 Roosevelt Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	533 Old Montauk Road	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	55 Bryan Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	56 Jackson Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	56 Madison Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	56 Stuyesant Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	57 Stuyesant Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	57 Taft Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	57 Tyler Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	577 Old Montauk Road	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	58 Cleveland Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	58 Grant Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	581 Old Montauk Road	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	587 Old Montauk Road	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	59 Bryan Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	59 Madison Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	6 Jefferson Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	60 Houston Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	61 Lincoln Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	62 Grant Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	62 Lincoln Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	63 Cleveland Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	63 Grant Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	63 Houston Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	65 Lincoln Street	Montauk	NY	11954

Table A-2. Residential Mailing List as of January 09, 2006 Public Mailing				
Addressee	Address	City	State	Zipcode
East Hampton Neighbor	653 Old Montauk Road	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	665 Old Montauk Road	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	67 Houston Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	673 Old Montauk Road	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	68 Madison Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	68 Roosevelt Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	7 Bryan Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	72 Madison Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	72 Tyler Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	75 Lincoln Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	75 Wood Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	75A Houston Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	76 Grant Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	77 Roosevelt Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	78 Roosevelt Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	7B Stuyesant Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	8 Arnold Court	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	8 Cleveland Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	8 Mckinley Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	8 Roosevelt Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	8 Stuyesant Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	86 Sherman Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	86 Stuyesant Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	89 Grant Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	89 Madison Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	9 Coolidge Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	9 Webster Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	90 Grant Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	915 Madison Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	92 Madison Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	94 Madison Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	9C Houston Street	Montauk	NY	11954

July 2006 Public Comment Meeting
Sign-in Sheets

United States Coast Guard
RFF Montauk

SIGN-IN SHEET

Public Comment Meeting
Wednesday, July 12, 2006
6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

PLEASE PRINT

Name	Street Address, City, State, Zip	Would you like to receive follow-up information? (✓)
1. Carl Remendy		
2. Mary Miller		
3. EUGENE F. KLAUSMAN		✓
4. RAY FREIDEL		✓
5. J. PHILIP PERNA		✓
6. Joe Kelley		✓
7.		
8.		
9.		
10.		

PRIVACY ACT STATEMENT *(5 U.S.C. 552(a) Privacy Act)*

a. **AUTHORITY:** 5 U.S.C. 301 Departmental Regulations;14 U.S.C.2; 14 U.S.C.5 (88); National Environmental Protection Act (NEPA), 42 U.S.C. 4321; 44U.S.C.3101

b. **PURPOSE:** To obtain personal Information for the purpose of compiling mailing lists and to document public comments as required by the NEPA. NEPA requires public involvement in agency decision-making processes. Decisional documents as well as comment mechanisms must be made available to the public.

c. **ROUTINE USES:** To the Department of Homeland Security, U. S. Coast Guard, President of the Council on Environmental Quality, Environmental Protection Agency, and other authorized federal, state, or local governments who are authorized to develop and enforce environmental standards.

d. **DISCLOSURE:** Disclosure of your name, street address, or other contact information is voluntary; however, if information is not provided, we may not be able to provide copies of decisional documents and to retrieve additional comments related to environmental impact actions or decisions

United States Coast Guard
RFF Montauk

SIGN-IN SHEET

Public Comment Meeting
Wednesday, July 12, 2006
6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

PLEASE PRINT

Name	Street Address, City, State, Zip	Would you like to receive follow-up information? (✓)
1. Capt. Norm Edwards		✓
2. Lynda Edwards		✓
3. Janis Hewitt		✓
4.		
5.		
6.		
7.		
8.		
9.		
10.		

PRIVACY ACT STATEMENT *(5 U.S.C. 552(a) Privacy Act)*

a. **AUTHORITY:** 5 U.S.C. 301 Departmental Regulations;14 U.S.C.2; 14 U.S.C.5 (88); National Environmental Protection Act (NEPA), 42 U.S.C. 4321; 44U.S.C.3101

b. **PURPOSE:** To obtain personal Information for the purpose of compiling mailing lists and to document public comments as required by the NEPA. NEPA requires public involvement in agency decision-making processes. Decisional documents as well as comment mechanisms must be made available to the public.

c. **ROUTINE USES:** To the Department of Homeland Security, U. S. Coast Guard, President of the Council on Environmental Quality, Environmental Protection Agency, and other authorized federal, state, or local governments who are authorized to develop and enforce environmental standards.

d. **DISCLOSURE:** Disclosure of your name, street address, or other contact information is voluntary; however, if information is not provided, we may not be able to provide copies of decisional documents and to retrieve additional comments related to environmental impact actions or decisions

United States Coast Guard
RFF Montauk

SIGN-IN SHEET

Public Comment Meeting
Wednesday, July 12, 2006
6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

PLEASE PRINT

Name	Street Address, City, State, Zip	Would you like to receive follow-up information? (✓)
1. Mike Mahoney		✓
2. JON EDWARDS		✓
3.		
4.		
5.		
6.		
7.		
8.		
9.		
10.		

PRIVACY ACT STATEMENT *(5 U.S.C. 552(a) Privacy Act)*

a. **AUTHORITY:** 5 U.S.C. 301 Departmental Regulations;14 U.S.C.2; 14 U.S.C.5 (88); National Environmental Protection Act (NEPA), 42 U.S.C. 4321; 44U.S.C.3101

b. **PURPOSE:** To obtain personal Information for the purpose of compiling mailing lists and to document public comments as required by the NEPA. NEPA requires public involvement in agency decision-making processes. Decisional documents as well as comment mechanisms must be made available to the public.

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d. **DISCLOSURE:** Disclosure of your name, street address, or other contact information is voluntary; however, if information is not provided, we may not be able to provide copies of decisional documents and to retrieve additional comments related to environmental impact actions or decisions

July 2006 Public Comment Meeting
Public Notice and Mailing

Supplemental Environmental Assessment for Construction of Remote Fixed Facility Montauk, Suffolk County, NY

Interested persons are hereby notified that the U.S. Coast Guard is proposing to construct a communications tower on the southern coast of Long Island. The tower would be constructed near the Town of East Hampton's Recycling Center/Montauk Transfer Station in East Hampton, Suffolk County, New York. In accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA), the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) regulations implementing NEPA (40 CFR Parts 1500 – 1508), and the Coast Guard's NEPA procedures and policies (Environmental Planning Program, MD 5100.1), a Supplemental Environmental Assessment (SEA) was prepared to address the potential impacts of the proposed action on the human and natural environment.

The SEA also addresses potential effects of the proposed action relative to the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (NHPA), the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972 (CZMA), and Executive Order 11988 (Floodplain Management).

The following two alternatives are considered in the SEA: (1) the No Action Alternative; and (2) Construction of Remote Fixed Facility (RFF) Montauk.

The draft SEA is available for public review and comment from June 28 through July 28, 2006, at the Montauk Public Library, located at 815 Montauk Highway, Montauk, New York, 11954. The Draft SEA is also available electronically at www.uscg.mil/rescue21.

Written comments regarding this action should be directed no later than 5:00 p.m. on Friday, July 28, 2006, to:

Commandant (G-AND)
Attention: Thomas A. Tansey (11-504)
U.S. Coast Guard
2100 2nd Street, SW
Washington, DC 20593-0001

Fax: 202-457-3916

E-mail: ttansey@comdt.uscg.mil

The United States Coast Guard is hosting a public comment meeting to present the Supplemental Environmental Assessment for proposed construction of a new communications tower near the Town of East Hampton's Recycling Center/Montauk Transfer Station. This is your opportunity to meet with Coast Guard personnel to informally discuss the proposed project, ask questions, and provide your comments.

6:30 – 8:00 p.m.
Wednesday, July 12, 2006
Montauk Public School
Multipurpose Room
50 South Dorset Drive
Montauk, New York 11954

U.S. COAST GUARD RESCUE 21
SAVING LIVES IN THE 21st CENTURY

UNITED STATES COAST GUARD 1790

Public Comment Meeting

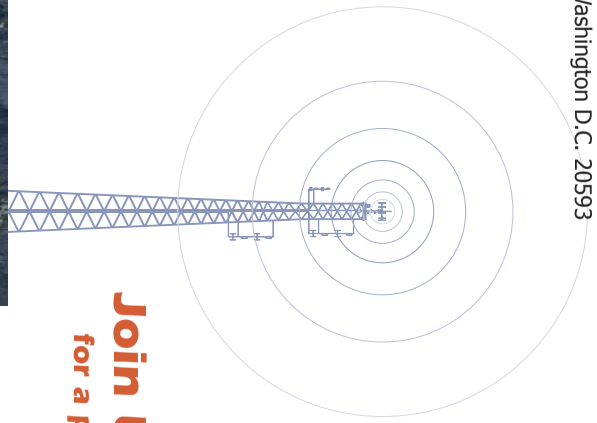
Public involvement plays an important role in the project implementation process. The United States Coast Guard is hosting a public comment meeting about the proposed tower construction project. We invite you to meet with Coast Guard staff in an informal setting where you can receive additional information on the proposed project, ask questions, and provide us with your comments.

6:30–8:00 p.m.
Wednesday, July 12, 2006
Montauk Public School Gymnasium
50 South Dorset Avenue
Montauk, New York 11954

For more information regarding this project, please contact:

COMMANDANT (G-AND)
Attn: Thomas A. Tansey (11-504)
U.S. Coast Guard
2100 2nd Street, SW
Washington, D.C. 20593-0001

Fax: 202-457-3916
E-mail: ttansey@comdt.uscg.mil



Join Us

for a public comment meeting in your community. See inside for details.

United States Coast Guard
2100 Second Street, SW
Washington D.C. 20593

What Is Rescue 21?

U.S. COAST GUARD
RESCUE 21
SAVING LIVES IN THE 21st CENTURY

Rescue 21 is the U.S. Coast Guard's program to replace its outdated communications system. The goal is to save lives in the 21st century. *Someday it may save yours.*

Fulfilling this complex mission requires a technologically advanced communications system that is more robust, more reliable, and more capable. The Coast Guard is a world-class rescue organization, but its effectiveness is limited by the system it uses to monitor distress calls.

Current Communications System

The Coast Guard's backbone communications network is the National Distress and Response System (NDRS). Established more than 30 years ago, this VHF-FM-based radio communication system has a range of up to 20 nautical miles along most of the U.S. shoreline.

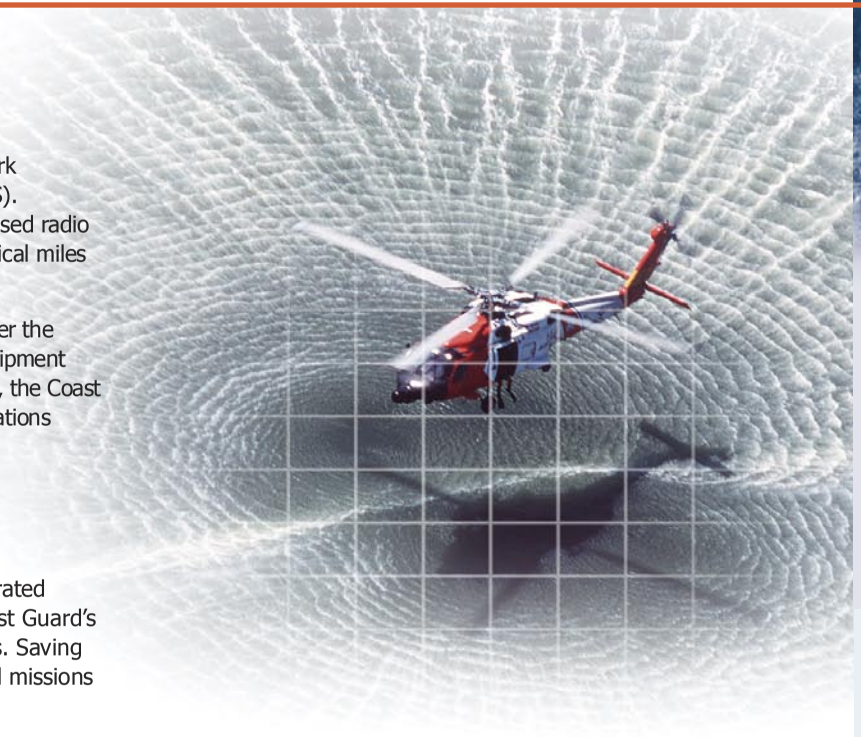
While this system has served the Coast Guard well over the years, it consists of out-of-date and non-standard equipment with many limitations. To meet its growing challenges, the Coast Guard requires a technologically advanced communications system with additional capabilities and benefits.

A World-Class System for a New World of Challenges

By replacing outdated technology with a fully integrated communications system, Rescue 21 boosts the Coast Guard's ability to protect boaters and the nation's coastlines. Saving lives and providing homeland security are both vital missions in the 21st century.

Implementation Process

Rescue 21 personnel will follow a thorough implementation process to ensure that the sites chosen for the towers will fit the needs of the Coast Guard, while working with environmental experts and the communities to help preserve the land and the people it serves.



A Quantum Leap Forward

Rescue 21 revolutionizes how the Coast Guard communicates and carries out its various missions. The system offers:

- Enhanced VHF-FM and UHF coverage.
- Position accuracy—within 2 degrees—of VHF-FM transmissions.
- An increase in the number of voice and data channels from one to six.
- Protected communications for all Coast Guard operations.
- Position tracking of Coast Guard assets such as boats and cutters.
- Digital voice recording with enhanced playback.
- Improved interoperability among the Coast Guard and federal, state and local partners.
- Digital Selective Calling (DSC), an alternate distress communication system used internationally.

Environmental Considerations

What is NEPA?

The National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969 requires federal agencies to consider environmental impacts when making decisions about projects that, through their development and implementation, help accomplish agency goals and objectives. This is achieved by considering the environmental impacts of proposed actions and reasonable alternatives to those actions, and involving the public in the NEPA process. To meet the NEPA requirement for its proposed action to enhance the Rescue 21 Program by constructing enhanced communications towers, the Coast Guard is preparing a Supplemental Environmental Assessment, or SEA. This SEA tiers from a Programmatic EA prepared in 1998 and a Supplemental Programmatic EA prepared in 2002, and an EA prepared in 2005 for Construction of Remote Fixed Facilities at Station Shinnecock and Station Fire Island. The SEA will be prepared in compliance with:

- NEPA requirements;
- Council on Environmental Quality regulations; and,
- Coast Guard-specific NEPA procedures.

As part of the NEPA process, the Coast Guard invites the public to provide information and offer insights that will help assess the full range of impacts associated with the project.

Proposed Action

The SEA describes and evaluates the proposed action and also describes the evaluation procedure used in determining the location of the tower. The proposed action at Montauk required to implement Rescue 21 includes the following activities:

- Constructing a communications tower no more than 300 feet tall and installing the Rescue 21 antenna arrays.
- Installing a backup generator and a 500-gallon above-ground propane tank and all required supporting utilities (electricity, fiber optic cable, etc.).
- Installing a small equipment shelter.

Mailing List of Elected Officials, Community Leaders, and Interested Organizations as of June 27, 2006 Public Mailing						
Organization	**Addressee**	**Title**	**Address**	**City**	**State**	**Zip Code**
Coastal Research and Education Society of Long Island, Inc.	Division of Natural Sciences & Mathematics	Kramer Science Center	Dowling College	Oakdale	NY	11769-1999
Concerned Citizens of Montauk	Mr. Billy Akin	President	P.O. Box 915	Montauk	NY	11954
Concerned Citizens of Montauk	Mr. Ed Porco	Vice President	P.O. Box 915	Montauk	NY	11954
Concerned Citizens of Montauk	Mr. Larry Smith	Vice President	P.O. Box 915	Montauk	NY	11954
Concerned Citizens of Montauk	Mr. Peter Lowenstein	Vice President	P.O. Box 915	Montauk	NY	11954
Concerned Citizens of Montauk	Ms. Celine Keating	Vice President	P.O. Box 915	Montauk	NY	11954
Concerned Citizens of Montauk	Ms. Dorothy Diskin	Vice President	P.O. Box 915	Montauk	NY	11954
Concerned Citizens of Montauk	Ms. Shirley Katz	Treasurer	P.O. Box 915	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Planning Board	Mr. Steven Green	Vice Chair	300 Pantigo Place	East Hampton	NY	11937
East Hampton Planning Board	Ms. Sylvia Overby	Chair	300 Pantigo Place	East Hampton	NY	11937
East Hampton Star	Mr. David Rattray	Editor	P.O. Box 5002	East Hampton	NY	11937
East Hampton Town Harbor Masters Office	Harbor Master		42 Gann Rd	East Hampton	NY	11937
East Hampton Town Parks	Mr. Kenneth Scott	Director	159 Pantigo Road	East Hampton	NY	11937
East Hampton Town Police	Captain Ed Ecker, Jr.	Executive Officer	131 Wainscott Northwest Road	East Hampton	NY	11937
East Hampton Town Police	Chief Todd H. Sarris	Chief	131 Wainscott Northwest Road	East Hampton	NY	11937
East Hampton Town Police, East Hampton Precinct	Sergeant Thomas Grenci	Precinct Commander	159 Pantigo Road	East Hampton	NY	11937
East Hampton Town Police, Montauk Precinct	Captain Kevin Sarlo	Precinct Commander	52 South Embassy	Montauk	NY	11954
Long Island Environmental Voters Forum	Ms. Teri Hauger	Suffolk Co-Chair	P.O. Box 2060	Riverhead	NY	11940
Long Island Sound Foundation, Inc.	Mr. W. Frank Bohlen	President	1080 Shennecossett Road	Groton	CT	06340
Long Island Sound Watershed Alliance	Save the Sound		18 Reynolds St.	East Norwalk	CT	6855
Long Island State Park Region Headquarters, Belmont Lake State Park	Mr. John Norbeck	Regional Director	P.O. Box 247	Babylon	NY	11702
Long Island State Park Region Headquarters, Belmont Lake State Park	Mr. John Norbeck	Regional Director	P.O. Box 247	Babylon	NY	11702
Montauk Chamber of Commerce	Ms. Laraine Creegan	Executive Director	P.O. Box 5029	Montauk	NY	11954
Montauk Fire Department	Mr. Charles Grimes	Fire Chief	12 Flamingo Ave	Montauk	NY	11954
Montauk Library	Ms. Karen Rade	Director	P.O. Box 700	Montauk	NY	11954

Mailing List of Elected Officials, Community Leaders, and Interested Organizations as of June 27, 2006 Public Mailing						
Organization	**Addressee**	**Title**	**Address**	**City**	**State**	**Zip Code**
New York Department of State, Division of Coastal Resources	Mr. George Stafford	Director	41 State Street	Albany	NY	12231
New York State Department of Environmental Conservation, New York Natural Heritage Program	Mr. David VanLuven	Program Director	625 Broadway, 5th Floor	Albany	NY	12233-4757
New York State Department of Environmental Conservation, Region 1 Office	Mr. Peter A. Scully	Regional Director	SUNY - Building 40	Stony Brook	NY	11794
New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation, Peebles Island Resource Center	Ms. Ruth L. Pierpont	Director	P.O. Box 189	Waterford	NY	12188-0189
NY State Assembly	Mr. Fred Thiele	Assemblyman	P.O. Box 3062	Bridgehampton	NY	11932
NY State Senate	Mr. Kenneth LaValle	Senator	325 Middle County Road, Suite 4	Seldon	NY	11784
Sierra Club Long Island	Ms. Jennifer Gomez	Group Chair	P.O. Box 210	Syosset	NY	11791
Suffolk County Government, H. Lee Dennison Bldg.	Mr. Steve Levy	Suffolk County Executive	100 Veterans Memorial Hwy.	Hauppauge	NY	11788
The East Hampton Independent	Mr. Rick Murphy	Chief Editor	74 Montauk Highway, Suite 19	East Hampton	NY	11937
The Nature Conservancy	Long Island Chapter Office		250 Lawrence Hill Road	Cold Spring Harbor	NY	11724
Town of East Hampton	Mr. Fred Overton	Town Clerk	159 Pantigo Road	East Hampton	NY	11937
Town of East Hampton	Mr. Job Potter	Councilman	159 Pantigo Road	East Hampton	NY	11937
Town of East Hampton	Mr. Peter Hammerle	Councilman	159 Pantigo Road	East Hampton	NY	11937
Town of East Hampton	Mr. William McGintee	Town Supervisor	159 Pantigo Road	East Hampton	NY	11937
Town of East Hampton	Ms. Debra Brodie Foster	Councilwoman	159 Pantigo Road	East Hampton	NY	11937
Town of East Hampton	Ms. Pat Mansir	Councilwoman	159 Pantigo Road	East Hampton	NY	11937
Trustees of the Freeholders and Commonalty of the Town of East Hampton	Mr. William J. Mott	Clerk	P.O. Box 7073	Amagansett	NY	11930
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, NY District Office	Colonel Richard J. Polo, Jr.	Commander and District Engineer	26 Federal Plaza, Room 2109	New York	NY	10278-0090
U.S. Congress, House of Representatives	Congressman Tim Bishop	NY 1st District Representative	33 Flying Point Road, Suite 104 A	Southampton	NY	11968
U.S. Congress, United States Senate	Senator Charles Schumer	U.S. Senator	145 Pine Lawn Road, Suite 300	Melville	NY	11747

Mailing List of Elected Officials, Community Leaders, and Interested Organizations as of June 27, 2006 Public Mailing						
Organization	**Addressee**	**Title**	**Address**	**City**	**State**	**Zip Code**
U.S. Congress, United States Senate	Senator Hillary Rodham Clinton	U.S. Senator	155 Pinelawn Road, Suite 250 North	Melville	NY	11747
U.S. Department of Agriculture, Riverhead Service Center Office	Mr. Allan Connell	District Conservationist	423 Griffing Avenue, Suite 110	Riverhead	NY	11901-3011
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 2	Mr. Alan J. Steinberg	Regional Administrator	290 Broadway	New York	NY	10007-1866
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Long Island Field Office	Dr. Rosemarie Gnam, Ph.D.	Project Leader	500 St. Mark's Lane	Islip	NY	11751
U.S. Post Office	Postmaster		P.O. Box 9998	Montauk	NY	11954
WLNG Radio	Mr. Paul Sidney	President & General Manager	23 Redwood Causeway	Sag Harbor	NY	11963

Residential Mailing List as of June 27, 2006 Public Mailing				
Addressee	**Address**	**City**	**State**	**Zip Code**
East Hampton Neighbor	1 Harrison Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	1 Webster Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	10 Cleveland Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	10 Sherman Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	10 Webster Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	11 Arnold Court	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	11 Franklin Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	11 Sherman Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	114 Monroe Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	12 Freemont Place	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	12 North Shore Road	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	120 Old Montauk Road	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	122 Madison Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	123 Monroe Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	124 Adams Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	124 Madison Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	126 Adams Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	127 Adams Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	128 Navy Road	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	133 Madison Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	137 Grant Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	14 Edison Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	14 Houston Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	14 McKinley Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	14 Taft Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	14 Tyler Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	143 Madison Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	148 Monroe Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	15 Clearview Drive	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	15 Grant Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	15 Roosevelt Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	15 Stuyesant Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	16 Bryan Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	16 Madison Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	16 Stuyesant Street	Montauk	NY	11954

Residential Mailing List as of June 27, 2006 Public Mailing				
Addressee	**Address**	**City**	**State**	**Zip Code**
East Hampton Neighbor	16 Wood Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	168 Woodbine Drive	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	169 Second House Road	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	17 Franklin Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	17 Houston Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	17 Upland Road	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	18 Arnold Court	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	18 Cleveland Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	18 McKinley Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	18 South Dewey	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	19 Lincoln Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	19 South Dewey	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	19 Washington Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	19 Webster Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	2 Clearview Drive	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	2 Lee Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	2 Wood Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	20 Franklin Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	20 Wood Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	21 Hamilton Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	21 Hayes Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	21 Tyler Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	21 Washington Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	22 Bryan Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	22 Cleveland Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	22 Stuyesant Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	23 Adams Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	23 Clearview Drive	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	23 Franklin Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	23 Webster Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	24 Bryan Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	24 North Shore Road	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	24 South Dewey	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	24 Washington Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	25 Cleveland Street	Montauk	NY	11954

Residential Mailing List as of June 27, 2006 Public Mailing				
Addressee	**Address**	**City**	**State**	**Zip Code**
East Hampton Neighbor	25 Harrison Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	25 Hayes Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	27 Harrison Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	27 Lincoln Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	27 Tyler Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	28 North Shore Road	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	28 Roosevelt Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	28 South Dewey	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	28 Webster Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	29 Clearview Drive	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	30 Coolidge Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	30 Franklin Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	30 Stuyesant Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	30AD Roosevelt Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	30B Roosevelt Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	32 Cleveland Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	32 Harding Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	32 North Shore Road	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	32 Tyler Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	34 Harding Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	34 Madison Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	34 South Debusy	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	34 Taft Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	35 Stuyesant Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	35 Tyler Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	36 Jay Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	36 Kirk Ave	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	36 North Shore Road	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	36 South Debusy	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	37 Lincoln Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	37 Roosevelt Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	38 Arthur Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	38 Harding Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	38 Jackson Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	38 Roosevelt Street	Montauk	NY	11954

Residential Mailing List as of June 27, 2006 Public Mailing				
Addressee	**Address**	**City**	**State**	**Zip Code**
East Hampton Neighbor	38 Taft Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	4 South Dorset Drive	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	40 Dogwood Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	40 Taft Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	41 South Dewey Place	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	42 Adams Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	42 Houston Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	42 North Shore Road	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	42 South Dewey Place	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	421 Sherman Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	42R Roosevelt Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	43 Houston Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	43 South Dewey Place	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	43 Tyler Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	44 Wood Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	46 Adams Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	P.O. Box 1629	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	48 Bryan Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	48 Stuyesant Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	5 Franklin Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	51 Adams Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	51 Bryan Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	51 Franklin Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	51 Madison Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	515 Cleveland Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	523 Old Montauk Road	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	53 Roosevelt Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	533 Old Montauk Road	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	55 Bryan Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	56 Jackson Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	56 Madison Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	56 Stuyesant Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	57 Stuyesant Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	57 Taft Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	57 Tyler Street	Montauk	NY	11954

Residential Mailing List as of June 27, 2006 Public Mailing				
Addressee	**Address**	**City**	**State**	**Zip Code**
East Hampton Neighbor	577 Old Montauk Road	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	58 Cleveland Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	58 Grant Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	581 Old Montauk Road	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	587 Old Montauk Road	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	59 Bryan Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	59 Madison Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	6 Jefferson Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	6 South Dorset Drive	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	60 Houston Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	61 Lincoln Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	62 Grant Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	62 Lincoln Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	63 Cleveland Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	63 Grant Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	63 Houston Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	65 Lincoln Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	653 Old Montauk Road	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	665 Old Montauk Road	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	67 Houston Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	673 Old Montauk Road	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	68 Madison Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	68 Roosevelt Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	7 Bryan Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	7 Clearview Drive	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	71 Navy Road	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	72 Madison Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	72 Tyler Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	73 Navy Road	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	75 Lincoln Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	75 Wood Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	75A Houston Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	76 Grant Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	77 Roosevelt Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	78 Roosevelt Street	Montauk	NY	11954

Residential Mailing List as of June 27, 2006 Public Mailing				
Addressee	**Address**	**City**	**State**	**Zip Code**
East Hampton Neighbor	7B Stuyesant Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	8 Arnold Court	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	8 Cleveland Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	8 McKinley Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	8 Roosevelt Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	8 Stuyesant Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	86 Sherman Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	86 Stuyesant Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	89 Grant Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	89 Madison Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	9 Coolidge Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	9 Webster Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	90 Grant Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	915 Madison Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	92 Madison Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	94 Madison Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	9C Houston Street	Montauk	NY	11954
East Hampton Neighbor	P.O. Box 2163	Sag Harbor	NY	11963
East Hampton Neighbor	P.O. Box 1300	Montauk	NY	11954

APPENDIX B

AGENCY COORDINATION

U.S. Department of Homeland Security
United States Coast Guard

Commandant (G-AND)
United States Coast Guard

2100 Second Street, S.W.
Washington, DC 20593-0001
Staff Symbol: G-AND
Phone: (202) 475-3293
FAX: (202) 475-3916

16475
March 24, 2006

Ms. Rosmarie Gnam, Ph.D., Project Leader
United States Fish and Wildlife Service
Ecological Services
Long Island Field Office
500 St. Mark's Lane
Islip, New York 11751

RE: Request for Project Review - Construction of a 300-foot Tall Self-Support Communications Tower, RFF Montauk, East Hampton, Suffolk County, New York

Dear Dr. Gnam:

The U.S. Coast Guard (Coast Guard) is preparing a Supplemental Environmental Assessment (SEA) for the proposed construction of a 300-foot high self-support communications tower and associated equipment as part of the Coast Guard's Rescue 21 program. The Rescue 21 program is the maritime equivalent to a "911" communications system, enhancing maritime safety by helping to minimize the time that search and rescue teams spend looking for people in distress. The new communication equipment would fill in existing coverage gaps in the existing VHF-FM marine communication system used for Coast Guard operational missions including search and rescue, maritime law enforcement, maritime pollution prevention and response, and national defense.

The SEA will examine two project alternatives: a No Action Alternative and a Proposed Action Alternative. Under the Proposed Action, the Coast Guard would construct a communications tower and associated equipment at the RFF Montauk site (Figure 1). The RFF Montauk site is located near the Town of East Hampton Recycling Center/Montauk Transfer Station, Suffolk County, New York 11706 (41º 01' 52.4" Latitude, 71º 58' 32.6" Longitude). The proposed project site is located on land that would be leased by the Coast Guard.

The project design would be similar to Coast Guard facilities at other sites. The Coast Guard proposes to construct a 300-foot tall, three-sided, self-supported steel lattice communications tower with a direction-finding (DF) antenna mounted on the top (Figure 2). The addition of a DF antenna, mounting pole, and lightning rod would increase the total height of the tower and added appurtenances to approximately 311 feet above ground level. The tower would be constructed prior to the installation of the Rescue 21 equipment. The proposed tower would be enclosed by a new 55 by 115-foot fenced compound (Figure 3). In addition to the new communications tower, the proposed compound would contain associated equipment including an elevated platform containing a prefabricated equipment shelter that would be no more than 15 by 24 feet, a 20-kilowatt (kW) emergency backup generator, and a 500-gallon above-ground propane fuel tank (Figure 3).

March 24, 2006

The proposed RFF Montauk project site consists of an open, previously disturbed, dirt and gravel area at the Town of East Hampton's Recycling Center/Montauk Transfer Station in eastern Suffolk County on Montauk Highway, East Hampton, Long Island, New York, approximately 0.75 mile west of Montauk (Photographs 1 and 2). The Coast Guard would lease ground space available for construction of the tower compound, immediately adjacent to an existing tower owned by the Town of East Hampton that holds equipment for their local first responders. The proposed project site is bordered by the Town of East Hampton Recycling Center/Montauk Transfer Station to the north, by Montauk Highway (Highway 27) to the south, by Lee Koppelman County Nature Preserve to the west, and by a private low-residential area to the east. According to the National Wetlands Inventory System, the site is located in an upland area.

The proposed site is approximately 185 feet in elevation and is located approximately 250 feet north of Montauk Highway. The proposed compound site is accessible via an existing driveway approximately 20 feet wide that is currently utilized for the Town of East Hampton's Recycling Center/Montauk Transfer Station. Equipment would be staged on existing paved surfaces or sparsely vegetated areas adjacent to the proposed compound site. The tower and associated equipment would not be constructed within wetlands or critical habitat.

As the lead Federal agency, the Coast Guard is responsible for requesting your assistance and concurrence in our determination, in accordance with Section 7(a)(2) of the Endangered Species Act, that the Proposed Action is not likely to have an adverse effect on the continued existence of any endangered or threatened species or critical habitat. The USCG has determined that the construction of the 300-foot high self-support communication tower and associated facilities (i.e., equipment shelter, generator, and above-ground propane tank) would not be a major construction activity in accordance with 50 CFR 402.02 and would not significantly affect the quality of the human environment.

The Coast Guard understands that communication towers have been found to present a potential risk from collisions to migratory birds. The Coast Guard has considered the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's (USFWS) "Interim Guidelines for Recommendations on Communications Tower Siting, Construction, Operation, and Decommissioning" to the maximum extent practicable. The Coast Guard has negotiated a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the USFWS Headquarters for the Rescue 21 program to implement these Guidelines.
We request your concurrence in our determination, in accordance with Section 7(a)(2) of the Endangered Species Act, that the proposed construction within the RFF Montauk site would not be a major construction activity, would not be likely to have an adverse effect on the continued existence of any endangered or threatened species or critical habitat, and that all reasonable measures to avoid affecting migratory birds have been undertaken.

Please direct comments and information directly to me at the letterhead address. If you have any questions or require additional assistance, please contact me via telephone at (202) 475-3293 or via email at ttansey@comdt.uscg.mil.

March 24, 2006

Please direct comments and information directly to me at the letterhead address. If you have any questions or require additional assistance, please contact me via telephone at (202) 475-3293 or via email at ttansey@comdt.uscg.mil.

Sincerely,

Thomas A. Tansey
Environmental Program Manager

Encl: Figure 1 - Topographic map of tower sites at the RFF Montauk site
Figure 2 - Proposed tower elevation drawing of the RFF Montauk site
Figure 3 - Proposed site plan drawing of the RFF Montauk site
Photographs 1-2 of existing conditions at the project site

United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
3817 Luker Road
Cortland, NY 13045

April 19, 2006

Mr. Thomas A. Tansey
Environmental Program Manager
U.S. Department of Homeland Security
U.S. Coast Guard
2100 Second Street, S.W.
Washington, DC 20593-0001

Dear Mr. Tansey:

This is in response to your correspondence dated March 24, 2006, regarding the U.S. Coast Guard's (USCG) request for consultation under the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (87 Stat. 884, as amended; 16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*) on the proposed project entitled, "Construction of a 300 Foot Tall Self Support Communications Tower, RFF Montauk, East Hampton, Suffolk County, New York." The USCG has determined that the proposed project would not be likely to adversely affect Federally-listed species.

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) concurs with your agency's determination that the proposed project would not be likely to adversely affect listed species under the jurisdiction of this agency.

In regards to the protection of migratory birds, the USCG has entered into a Memorandum of Understanding with the Service to implement the Service's guidelines entitled, "Interim Guidelines for Recommendations on Communications Tower Siting, Construction, Operation, and Decommissioning," to the maximum extent practicable.

If you have any questions or require further assistance, please contact Steve Papa of the Long Island Field Office at (631) 581-2941.

Sincerely,

David A. Stilwell
Field Supervisor

RECEIVED
APR 27 2006

U.S. Department of Homeland Security
United States Coast Guard

Commandant (G-AND)
United States Coast Guard

2100 Second Street, S.W.
Washington, DC 20593-0001
Staff Symbol: G-AND
Phone: (202) 475-3293
FAX: (202) 475-3916

16475
March 24, 2006

Colonel Richard J. Polo, Jr., Commander and District Engineer
Unites States Army Corps of Engineers
New York District Office
26 Federal Plaza, Room 2109
New York, NY 10278-0090

RE: Request for Project Review - Construction of a 300-foot Tall Self-Support Communications Tower, RFF Montauk, East Hampton, Suffolk County, New York

Dear Colonel Polo:

The U.S. Coast Guard (Coast Guard) is preparing a Supplemental Environmental Assessment (SEA) for the proposed construction of a 300-foot high self-support communications tower and associated equipment as part of the Coast Guard's Rescue 21 program. The Rescue 21 program is the maritime equivalent to a "911" communications system, enhancing maritime safety by helping to minimize the time that search and rescue teams spend looking for people in distress. The new communication equipment would fill in existing coverage gaps in the existing VHF-FM marine communication system used for Coast Guard operational missions including search and rescue, maritime law enforcement, maritime pollution prevention and response, and national defense.

The SEA will examine two project alternatives: a No Action Alternative and a Proposed Action Alternative. Under the Proposed Action, the Coast Guard would construct a communications tower and associated equipment at the RFF Montauk site (Figure 1). The RFF Montauk site is located near the Town of East Hampton Recycling Center/Montauk Transfer Station, Suffolk County, New York 11706 (41º 01' 52.4" Latitude, 71º 58' 32.6" Longitude). The proposed project site is located on land that would be leased by the Coast Guard.

The project design would be similar to Coast Guard facilities at other sites. The Coast Guard proposes to construct a 300-foot tall, three-sided, self-supported steel lattice communications tower with a direction-finding (DF) antenna mounted on the top (Figure 2). The addition of a DF antenna, mounting pole, and lightning rod would increase the total height of the tower and added appurtenances to approximately 311 feet above ground level. The tower would be constructed prior to the installation of the Rescue 21 equipment. The proposed tower would be enclosed by a new 55 by 115-foot fenced compound (Figure 3). In addition to the new communications tower, the proposed compound would contain associated equipment including an elevated platform containing a prefabricated equipment shelter that would be no more than 15 by 24 feet, a 20-kilowatt (kW) emergency backup generator, and a 500-gallon above-ground propane fuel tank (Figure 3).

March 24, 2006

The proposed RFF Montauk project site consists of an open, previously disturbed, dirt and gravel area at the Town of East Hampton's Recycling Center/Montauk Transfer Station in eastern Suffolk County on Montauk Highway, East Hampton, Long Island, New York, approximately 0.75 mile west of Montauk (Photographs 1 and 2). The Coast Guard would lease ground space available for construction of the tower compound, immediately adjacent to an existing tower owned by the Town of East Hampton that holds equipment for their local first responders. The proposed project site is bordered by the Town of East Hampton Recycling Center/Montauk Transfer Station to the north, by Montauk Highway (Highway 27) to the south, by Lee Koppelman County Nature Preserve to the west, and by a private low-residential area to the east. According to the National Wetlands Inventory System, the site is located in an upland area.

The proposed site is approximately 185 feet in elevation and is located approximately 250 feet north of Montauk Highway. The proposed compound site is accessible via an existing driveway approximately 20 feet wide that is currently utilized for the Town of East Hampton's Recycling Center/Montauk Transfer Station. Equipment would be staged on existing paved surfaces or sparsely vegetated areas adjacent to the proposed compound site. The tower and associated equipment would not be constructed within wetlands or critical habitat.

As the lead Federal agency, the Coast Guard is requesting that your assistance and concurrence in our determination, in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as amended, that the Proposed Action is not likely to have an adverse effect on any waters of the United States, including wetlands.

Please direct comments and information directly to me at the letterhead address. If you have any questions or require additional assistance, please contact me via telephone at (202) 475-3293 or via email at ttansey@comdt.uscg.mil.

Sincerely,

Thomas A. Tansey
Environmental Program Manager

Encl: Figure 1 - Topographic map of tower sites at the RFF Montauk site
Figure 2 - Proposed tower elevation drawing of the RFF Montauk site
Figure 3 - Proposed site plan drawing of the RFF Montauk site
Photographs 1-2 of existing conditions at the project site

U.S. Department of Homeland Security
United States Coast Guard

Commandant (G-AND)
United States Coast Guard

2100 Second Street, S.W.
Washington, DC 20593-0001
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FAX: (202) 475-3916

16475
March 24, 2006

Mr. Alan J. Steinberg, Regional Administrator
United States Environmental Protection Agency, Region 2
290 Broadway
New York, New York 10007-1866

RE: Request for Project Review - Construction of a 300-foot Tall Self-Support Communications Tower, RFF Montauk, East Hampton, Suffolk County, New York

Dear Mr. Steinberg:

The U.S. Coast Guard (Coast Guard) is preparing a Supplemental Environmental Assessment (SEA) for the proposed construction of a 300-foot high self-support communications tower and associated equipment as part of the Coast Guard's Rescue 21 program. The Rescue 21 program is the maritime equivalent to a "911" communications system, enhancing maritime safety by helping to minimize the time that search and rescue teams spend looking for people in distress. The new communication equipment would fill in existing coverage gaps in the existing VHF-FM marine communication system used for Coast Guard operational missions including search and rescue, maritime law enforcement, maritime pollution prevention and response, and national defense.

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The project design would be similar to Coast Guard facilities at other sites. The Coast Guard proposes to construct a 300-foot tall, three-sided, self-supported steel lattice communications tower with a direction-finding (DF) antenna mounted on the top (Figure 2). The addition of a DF antenna, mounting pole, and lightning rod would increase the total height of the tower and added appurtenances to approximately 311 feet above ground level. The tower would be constructed prior to the installation of the Rescue 21 equipment. The proposed tower would be enclosed by a new 55 by 115-foot fenced compound (Figure 3). In addition to the new communications tower, the proposed compound would contain associated equipment including an elevated platform containing a prefabricated equipment shelter that would be no more than 15 by 24 feet, a 20-kilowatt (kW) emergency backup generator, and a 500-gallon above-ground propane fuel tank (Figure 3).

March 24, 2006

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The proposed site is approximately 185 feet in elevation and is located approximately 250 feet north of Montauk Highway. The proposed compound site is accessible via an existing driveway approximately 20 feet wide that is currently utilized for the Town of East Hampton's Recycling Center/Montauk Transfer Station. Equipment would be staged on existing paved surfaces or sparsely vegetated areas adjacent to the proposed compound site. The tower and associated equipment would not be constructed within wetlands or critical habitat.

As the lead Federal agency, the Coast Guard is requesting that your agency review the Proposed Action and provide comments and any available information on resources under your agency's jurisdiction within the project area.

Please direct comments and information directly to me at the letterhead address. If you have any questions or require additional assistance, please contact me via telephone at (202) 475-3293 or via email at ttansey@comdt.uscg.mil.

Sincerely,

Thomas A. Tansey
Environmental Program Manager

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U.S. Department of Homeland Security
United States Coast Guard

Commandant (G-AND)
United States Coast Guard

2100 Second Street, S.W.
Washington, DC 20593-0001
Staff Symbol: G-AND
Phone: (202) 475-3293
FAX: (202) 475-3916

16475
March 24, 2006

Mr. Allan Connell, District Conservationist
United States Department of Agriculture
Natural Resource Conservation Service
Riverhead Service Center Office
423 Griffing Avenue, Suite 110
Riverhead, New York 11901-3011

RE: Request for Project Review - Construction of a 300-foot Tall Self-Support Communications Tower, RFF Montauk, East Hampton, Suffolk County, New York

Dear Mr. Connell:

The U.S. Coast Guard (Coast Guard) is preparing a Supplemental Environmental Assessment (SEA) for the proposed construction of a 300-foot high self-support communications tower and associated equipment as part of the Coast Guard's Rescue 21 program. The Rescue 21 program is the maritime equivalent to a "911" communications system, enhancing maritime safety by helping to minimize the time that search and rescue teams spend looking for people in distress. The new communication equipment would fill in existing coverage gaps in the existing VHF-FM marine communication system used for Coast Guard operational missions including search and rescue, maritime law enforcement, maritime pollution prevention and response, and national defense.

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The proposed RFF Montauk project site consists of an open, previously disturbed, dirt and gravel area at the Town of East Hampton's Recycling Center/Montauk Transfer Station in eastern Suffolk County on Montauk Highway, East Hampton, Long Island, New York, approximately 0.75 mile west of Montauk (Photographs 1 and 2). The Coast Guard would lease ground space available for construction of the tower compound, immediately adjacent to an existing tower owned by the Town of East Hampton that holds equipment for their local first responders. The proposed project site is bordered by the Town of East Hampton Recycling Center/Montauk Transfer Station to the north, by Montauk Highway (Highway 27) to the south, by Lee Koppelman County Nature Preserve to the west, and by a private low-residential area to the east. According to the National Wetlands Inventory System, the site is located in an upland area.

The proposed site is approximately 185 feet in elevation and is located approximately 250 feet north of Montauk Highway. The proposed compound site is accessible via an existing driveway approximately 20 feet wide that is currently utilized for the Town of East Hampton's Recycling Center/Montauk Transfer Station. Equipment would be staged on existing paved surfaces or sparsely vegetated areas adjacent to the proposed compound site. The tower and associated equipment would not be constructed within wetlands or critical habitat.

As the lead Federal agency, the Coast Guard is requesting that your agency review the Proposed Action and provide comments and any available information on resources under your agency's jurisdiction within the project area.

Please direct comments and information directly to me at the letterhead address. If you have any questions or require additional assistance, please contact me via telephone at (202) 475-3293 or via email at ttansey@comdt.uscg.mil.

Sincerely,

Thomas A. Tansey
Environmental Program Manager

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U.S. Department of Homeland Security
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2100 Second Street, S.W.
Washington, DC 20593-0001
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FAX: (202) 475-3916

16475
March 24, 2006

Mr. George Stafford, Director
New York Department of State
Division of Coastal Resources
41 State Street
Albany, New York 12231

RE: Request for Project Review - Construction of a 300-foot Tall Self-Support Communications Tower, RFF Montauk, East Hampton, Suffolk County, New York

Dear Mr. Stafford:

The U.S. Coast Guard (Coast Guard) is preparing a Supplemental Environmental Assessment (SEA) for the proposed construction of a 300-foot high self-support communications tower and associated equipment. As part of a nationwide initiative, the Coast Guard has identified the need to modernize and replace its antiquated maritime search and rescue communications system. The new equipment would fill existing coverage gaps in VHF-FM marine communications used for Coast Guard operational missions including search and rescue, maritime law enforcement, maritime pollution prevention and response, and homeland security.

The new system, known as "Rescue 21," will be the maritime equivalent of a "911" communications system, enhancing maritime safety by helping to minimize the time that search and rescue teams spend looking for people in distress. Rescue 21 represents a quantum leap forward in coastal command and control and distress communications. It will enhance the United States' homeland security capabilities, as well as other safety and security missions, bringing tremendous benefits to the Coast Guard and the American public. The Coast Guard's current National Distress Response System (NDRS) does not provide the Coast Guard with a reliable means of meeting its multi-mission requirements.

The purpose of and need for the proposed project is to provide optimum Radio Frequency (RF) coverage of the Sector Field Office Moriches Area of Responsibility (AOR), which includes 4,000 square miles along the Atlantic coastline of Long Island, New York, from Station Jones Beach northeast to Station Montauk. In conjunction with the construction of Remote Fixed Facility (RFF) Shinnecock and RFF Fire Island towers, the proposed project would serve as a final component to complete communications coverage, and would fill in several existing communication gaps in the current system's coverage in the Sector Field Office Moriches AOR.

Proposed Action and Alternatives

The SEA will examine two project alternatives: a No Action Alternative and a Proposed Action Alternative. Under the Proposed Action, the Coast Guard would construct a communications tower and associated equipment at the RFF Montauk site (Figure 1). The RFF Montauk site is located near the Town of East Hampton Recycling Center/Montauk Transfer Station (41º 01' 52.4" Latitude, 71º 58' 32.6" Longitude). The proposed project site is located on land that would be leased by the Coast Guard. The proposed RFF Montauk project site consists of an open, previously disturbed, dirt and gravel area at the Town of East Hampton's Recycling Center/Montauk Transfer Station in eastern Suffolk County off of Montauk Highway, East Hampton, Long Island, New York, approximately 0.75 mile west of Montauk (Photograph 1).

The project design would be similar to USCG facilities at other sites. The Coast Guard proposes to construct a 300-foot tall, three-sided, self-supported steel lattice communications tower with a direction-finding (DF) antenna mounted on the top (Figure 2). The addition of a DF antenna, mounting pole, and lightning rod would increase the total height of the tower and added appurtenances to approximately 311 feet above ground level. The tower would be constructed prior to the installation of the Rescue 21 equipment. The proposed tower would be enclosed by a new 55 by 115-foot fenced compound (Figure 3). In addition to the new communications tower, the proposed compound would also contain associated equipment including an elevated platform, containing a prefabricated equipment shelter that would be no larger than 15 by 24 feet, a 20-kilowatt (kW) emergency backup generator, and a 500-gallon above-ground propane fuel tank (Figure 3).

The Coast Guard would lease ground space available for construction of the compound immediately adjacent to an existing tower owned by the Town of East Hampton. The proposed project site is bordered by the Town of East Hampton Recycling Center/Montauk Transfer Station to the north, by Montauk Highway (Highway 27) to the south, by Lee Koppelman County Nature Preserve to the west, and by a private low-residential area to the east. According to the National Wetlands Inventory System, the site is located in an upland area.

The proposed site is approximately 185 feet in elevation and is located approximately 250 feet north of Montauk Highway. Equipment would be staged on existing paved surfaces or sparsely vegetated areas adjacent to the proposed compound site. The tower and associated equipment would not be constructed within wetlands or critical habitat. According to the NYS Coastal Area Map Regions, the proposed project area is located within the coastal boundary (Figure 4).

As the lead Federal agency, the Coast Guard is responsible for requesting your assistance and concurrence with our determination, in accordance with the Coastal Zone Management Act (CZMA), that the Proposed Action will be carried out in a manner that is consistent to the maximum extent practicable with the enforceable policies of the New York State Coastal Management Program.

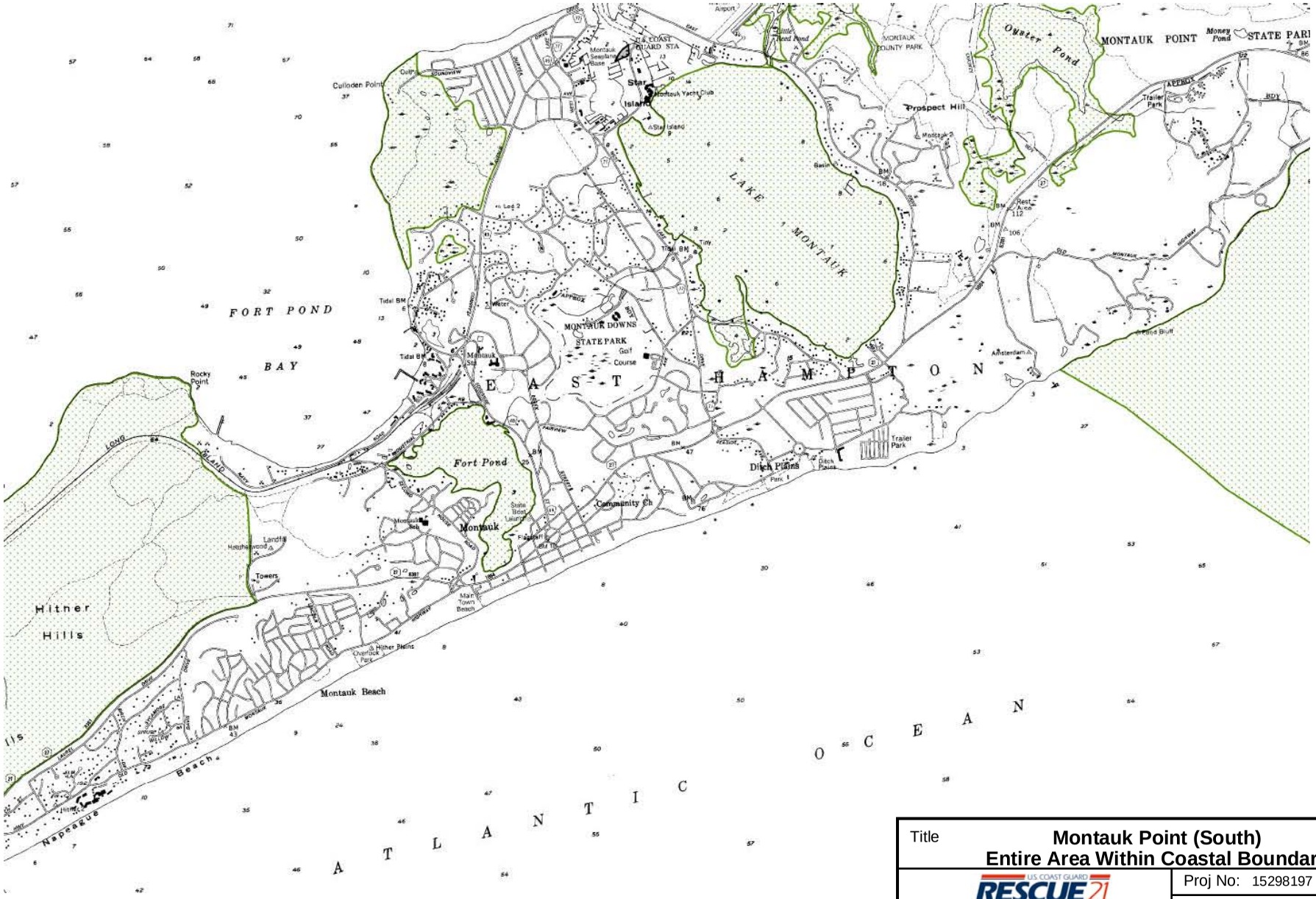
March 24, 2006

Please direct comments and information directly to me at the letterhead address. If you have any questions or require additional assistance, please contact me via telephone at (202) 475-3293 or via email at ttansey@comdt.uscg.mil.

Sincerely,

Thomas A. Tansey
Environmental Program Manager

Encl: Figure 1 - Topographic map of tower sites at the RFF Montauk site
Figure 2 - Proposed tower elevation drawing of the RFF Montauk site
Figure 3 - Proposed site plan drawing of the RFF Montauk site
Figure 4 – Long Island map block 70 (directly from the NYS DOS Division of Coastal Resources)
Photographs 1-2 of existing conditions at the project site



Title	**Montauk Point (South)** **Entire Area Within Coastal Boundary**
RESCUE 21 — U.S. COAST GUARD — SAVING LIVES IN THE 21st CENTURY	Proj No: 15298197
	Figure **4**
Client: U.S. Coast Guard	
Project: RFF Montauk	

U.S. Department of Homeland Security
United States Coast Guard

Commandant (G-AND)
United States Coast Guard

2100 Second Street, S.W.
Washington, DC 20593-0001
Staff Symbol: G-AND
Phone: (202) 475-3293
FAX: (202) 475-3916

16475
March 24, 2006

Mr. David VanLuven, Program Director
New York State Department of Environmental Conservation
New York Natural Heritage Program
Information Services
625 Broadway, 5th Floor
Albany, New York 12233-4757

RE: Request for Project Review - Construction of a 300-foot Tall Self-Support Communications Tower, RFF Montauk, East Hampton, Suffolk County, New York

Dear Mr. VanLuven:

The U.S. Coast Guard (Coast Guard) is preparing a Supplemental Environmental Assessment (SEA) for the proposed construction of a 300-foot high self-support communications tower and associated equipment as part of the Coast Guard's Rescue 21 program. The Rescue 21 program is the maritime equivalent to a "911" communications system, enhancing maritime safety by helping to minimize the time that search and rescue teams spend looking for people in distress. The new communication equipment would fill in existing coverage gaps in the existing VHF-FM marine communication system used for Coast Guard operational missions including search and rescue, maritime law enforcement, maritime pollution prevention and response, and national defense.

The SEA will examine two project alternatives: a No Action Alternative and a Proposed Action Alternative. Under the Proposed Action, the Coast Guard would construct a communications tower and associated equipment at the RFF Montauk site (Figure 1). The RFF Montauk site is located near the Town of East Hampton Recycling Center/Montauk Transfer Station, Suffolk County, New York 11706 (41º 01' 52.4" Latitude, 71º 58' 32.6" Longitude). The proposed project site is located on land that would be leased by the Coast Guard.

The project design would be similar to Coast Guard facilities at other sites. The Coast Guard proposes to construct a 300-foot tall, three-sided, self-supported steel lattice communications tower with a direction-finding (DF) antenna mounted on the top (Figure 2). The addition of a DF antenna, mounting pole, and lightning rod would increase the total height of the tower and added appurtenances to approximately 311 feet above ground level. The tower would be constructed prior to the installation of the Rescue 21 equipment. The proposed tower would be enclosed by a new 55 by 115-foot fenced compound (Figure 3). In addition to the new communications tower, the proposed compound would contain associated equipment including an elevated platform containing a prefabricated equipment shelter that would be no more than 15 by 24 feet, a 20-kilowatt (kW) emergency backup generator, and a 500-gallon above-ground propane fuel tank (Figure 3).

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The proposed site is approximately 185 feet in elevation and is located approximately 250 feet north of Montauk Highway. The proposed compound site is accessible via an existing driveway approximately 20 feet wide that is currently utilized for the Town of East Hampton's Recycling Center/Montauk Transfer Station. Equipment would be staged on existing paved surfaces or sparsely vegetated areas adjacent to the proposed compound site. The tower and associated equipment would not be constructed within wetlands or critical habitat.

As the lead Federal agency, the Coast Guard is requesting that your agency review the Proposed Action and provide comments and any available information on resources under your agency's jurisdiction within the project area.

Please direct comments and information directly to me at the letterhead address. If you have any questions or require additional assistance, please contact me via telephone at (202) 475-3293 or via email at ttansey@comdt.uscg.mil.

Sincerely,

Thomas A. Tansey
Environmental Program Manager

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New Yo rk State Department of Environmental Conservation
Division of Fish, Wildlife & Marine Resources
New York Natural Heritage Program
625 Broadway, Albany, New York 12233-4757
Phone: (518) 402-8935 • **FAX:** (518) 402-8925
Website: www.dec.state.ny.us

Denise M. Sheehan
Commissioner

April 21, 2006

Thomas Tansey
U.S. Coast Guard
2100 Second St, SW
Washington D.C.

Dear Mr. Tansey::

In response to your recent request, we have reviewed the New York Natural Heritage Program databases with respect to an Environmental Assessment for the proposed Construction of a 300 foot Communications Tower, site as indicated on the map you provided, located at RFF Montauk, East Hampton, Suffolk County.

Enclosed is a report of rare or state-listed animals and plants, significant natural communities, and other significant habitats, which our databases indicate occur, or may occur, on your site or in the immediate vicinity of your site. The information contained in this report is considered sensitive and may not be released to the public without permission from the New York Natural Heritage Program.

This project location is adjacent to a designated Significant Coastal Fish and Wildlife Habitat. This habitat is part of New York State's Coastal Management Program (CMP), which is administered by the NYS Department of State (DOS). Projects which may impact the habitat are reviewed by DOS for consistency with the CMP. For more information regarding this designated habitat and applicable consistency review requirements, please contact:

Jeff Zappieri or Vance Barr - (518) 474-6000
NYS Department of State
Division of Coastal Resources and Waterfront Revitalization
41 State Street, Albany, NY 12231

The presence of rare species may result in your project requiring additional permits, permit conditions, or review. For further guidance, and for information regarding other permits that may be required under state law for regulated areas or activities (e.g., regulated wetlands), please contact the appropriate NYS DEC Regional Office, Division of Environmental Permits, at the enclosed address.

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APR 26 2006

For most sites, comprehensive field surveys have not been conducted; the enclosed report only includes records from our databases. We cannot provide a definitive statement on the presence or absence of all rare or state-listed species or significant natural communities. This information should NOT be substituted for on-site surveys that may be required for environmental impact assessment.

Our databases are continually growing as records are added and updated. If this proposed project is still under development one year from now, we recommend that you contact us again so that we may update this response with the most current information.

Sincerely,

Nicholas Conrad Jr

Nicholas N. Conrad
Information Services
NY Natural Heritage Program

Encs.
cc: Reg. 1, Wildlife Mgr.

This page not included because it contains sensitive information that may not be released to the public without permission from the New York Natural Heritage Program.

DIVISION OF ENVIRONMENTAL PERMITS REGIONAL OFFICES

January 2004

REGION	COUNTIES	REGIONAL PERMIT ADMINISTRATORS
1	Nassau & Suffolk	John Pavacic NYS-DEC BLDG. 40 SUNY at Stony Brook Stony Brook, NY 11790-2356 Telephone: (631) 444-0365
2	New York City (Boroughs of Manhattan, Brooklyn, Bronx, Queens, & Staten Island	John Cryan NYS-DEC One Hunters Point Plaza 47-40 21st Street Long Island City, NY 11101-5407 Telephone: (718) 482-4997
3	Dutchess, Orange, Putnam, Rockland, Sullivan, Ulster & Westchester	Margaret Duke NYS-DEC 21 South Putt Corners Road New Paltz, NY 12561-1696 Telephone: (845) 256-3054
4	Albany, Columbia, Greene, Montgomery, Rensselaer & Schenectady	William Clarke NYS-DEC 1150 North Wescott Road Schenectady, NY 12306-2014 Telephone: (518) 357-2069
4 (sub-office)	Delaware, Otsego & Schoharie	Kent Sanders NYS-DEC Route 10 HCR#1, Box 3A Stamford, NY 12167-9503 Telephone: (607) 652-7741
5	Clinton, Essex, Franklin & Hamilton	Thomas Hall NYS-DEC Route 86, PO Box 296 Ray Brook, NY 12977-0296 Telephone: (518) 897-1234
5 (sub-office)	Fulton, Saratoga, Warren & Washington	Thomas Hall NYS-DEC County Route 40 PO Box 220 Warrensburg, NY 12885-0220 Telephone: (518) 623-1281
6	Jefferson, Lewis & St. Lawrence	Brian Fenlon NYS-DEC State Office Building 317 Washington Street Watertown, NY 13601-3787 Telephone: (315) 785-2245
6 (sub-office)	Herkimer & Oneida	J. Joseph Homburger* NYS-DEC State Office Building 207 Genesee Street Utica, NY 13501-2885 Telephone: (315) 793-2555

7	Cayuga, Madison, Onondaga & Oswego	John Feltman NYS-DEC 615 Erie Blvd. West (Env.Permits Room 206) Syracuse, NY 13204-2400 Telephone: (315) 426-7438
7 (sub-office)	Broome, Chenango, Cortland, Tioga & Thompkins	Michael Barylski* NYS-DEC 1285 Fisher Avenue Cortland, NY 13045-1090 Telephone: (607) 753-3095
8	Chemung, Genesee, Livingston, Monroe, Ontario, Orleans, Schuyler, Seneca, Steuben, Wayne & Yates	Peter Lent NYS-DEC 6274 East Avon Lima Road Avon, NY 14414-9519 Telephone: (716) 226-2466
9	Erie, Niagara & Wyoming	Steve Doleski NYS-DEC 270 Michigan Avenue Buffalo, NY 14203-2999 Telephone: (716) 851-7165
9 (sub-office)	Allegany, Cattaraugus, Chautauqua	Ken Taft* NYS-DEC 182 East Union, Suite 3 Allegany, NY 14706-1328 Telephone: (716) 372-0645

* Deputy Regional Permit Administrator

USEF GUIDE TO NY NATURAL HERITAGE D.

New York Natural Heritage Program, 625 Broadway, 5th Floor, Albany, NY 12233-4757 phone: (518) 402-8935

NATURAL HERITAGE PROGRAM: The NY Natural Heritage Program is a partnership between the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation (NYS DEC) and The Nature Conservancy. Our mission is to enable and enhance conservation of rare animals, rare plants, and significant communities. We accomplish this mission by combining thorough field inventories, scientific analyses, expert interpretation, and the most comprehensive database on New York's distinctive biodiversity to deliver the highest quality information for natural resource planning, protection, and management.

DATA SENSITIVITY: The data provided in the report are ecologically sensitive and should be treated in a sensitive manner. The report is for your in-house use and should **not** be released, distributed or incorporated in a public document without prior permission from the Natural Heritage Program.

EO RANK: A letter code for the quality of the occurrence of the rare species or significant natural community, based on population size or area, condition, and landscape context.

A-E = Extant: A=Excellent, B=Good, C=Fair, D=Poor, E=Extant but with insufficient data to assign a rank of A-D.
F = Failed to find. Did not locate species during a limited search, but habitat is still there and further field work is justified.
H = Historical. Historical occurrence without any recent field information.
X = Extirpated. Field/other data indicates element/habitat is destroyed and the element no longer exists at this location.
U = Extant/Historical status uncertain.
Blank = Not assigned.

LAST REPORT: The date that the rare species or significant natural community was last observed at this location, as documented in the Natural Heritage databases. The format is most often YYYY-MM-DD.

NY LEGAL STATUS – Animals:

Categories of Endangered and Threatened species are defined in New York State Environmental Conservation Law section 11-0535. Endangered, Threatened, and Special Concern species are listed in regulation 6NYCRR 182.5.

E - **Endangered Species**: any species which meet one of the following criteria:
- Any native species in imminent danger of extirpation or extinction in New York.
- Any species listed as endangered by the United States Department of the Interior, as enumerated in the Code of Federal Regulations 50 CFR 17.11.

T - **Threatened Species**: any species which meet one of the following criteria:
- Any native species likely to become an endangered species within the foreseeable future in NY.
- Any species listed as threatened by the U.S. Department of the Interior, as enumerated in the Code of the Federal Regulations 50 CFR 17.11.

SC - **Special Concern Species**: those species which are not yet recognized as endangered or threatened, but for which documented concern exists for their continued welfare in New York. Unlike the first two categories, species of special concern receive no additional legal protection under Environmental Conservation Law section 11-0535 (Endangered and Threatened Species).

P - **Protected Wildlife** (defined in Environmental Conservation Law section 11-0103): wild game, protected wild birds, and endangered species of wildlife.

U - **Unprotected** (defined in Environmental Conservation Law section 11-0103): the species may be taken at any time without limit; however a license to take may be required.

G - **Game** (defined in Environmental Conservation Law section 11-0103): any of a variety of big game or small game species as stated in the Environmental Conservation Law; many normally have an open season for at least part of the year, and are protected at other times.

NY LEGAL STATUS – Plants:

The following categories are defined in regulation 6NYCRR part 193.3 and apply to NYS Environmental Conservation Law section 9-1503.

E - **Endangered Species**: listed species are those with:
- 5 or fewer extant sites, or
- fewer than 1,000 individuals, or
- restricted to fewer than 4 U.S.G.S. 7 ½ minute topographical maps, or
- species listed as endangered by U.S. Dept. of Interior, as enumerated in Code of Federal Regulations 50 CFR 17.11.

T - **Threatened**: listed species are those with:
- 6 to fewer than 20 extant sites, or
- 1,000 to fewer than 3,000 individuals, or
- restricted to not less than 4 or more than 7 U.S.G.S. 7 and ½ minute topographical maps, or
- listed as threatened by U.S. Department of Interior, as enumerated in Code of Federal Regulations 50 CFR 17.11.

R - **Rare**: listed species have:
- 20 to 35 extant sites, or
- 3,000 to 5,000 individuals statewide.

V - **Exploitably vulnerable**: listed species are likely to become threatened in the near future throughout all or a significant portion of
their range within the state if causal factors continue unchecked.

U - **Unprotected**; no state status.

FEDERAL STATUS (PLANTS and ANIMALS): The categories of federal status are defined by the United States Department of the Interior as part of the 1974 Endangered Species Act (see Code of Federal Regulations 50 CFR 17). The species listed under this law are enumerated in the Federal Register vol. 50, no. 188, pp. 39526 - 39527. The codes below without parentheses are those used in the Federal Register. The codes below in parentheses are created by Heritage to deal with species which have different listings in different parts of their range, and/or different listings for different subspecies or varieties.

(blank) = No Federal Endangered Species Act status.
LE = Formally listed as endangered.
LT = Formally listed as threatened.
C = Candidate for listing.
LE,LT = Formally listed as endangered in part of its range, and as threatened in the other part; or, one or more subspecies or varieties is listed as endangered, and the others are listed as threatened.
LT,PDL = Populations of the species in New York are formally listed as threatened, and proposed for delisting.

GLOBAL AND STATE RANKS (animals, plants, ecological communities and others): Each element has a global and state rank as determined by the NY Natural Heritage Program. These ranks carry no legal weight. The global rank reflects the rarity of the element throughout the world and the state rank reflects the rarity within New York State. Infraspecific taxa are also assigned a taxon rank to reflect the infraspecific taxon's rank throughout the world. ? = Indicates a question exists about the rank. Range ranks, e.g. S1S2, indicate not enough information is available to distinguish between two ranks.

GLOBAL RANK:

G1 - **Critically imperiled** globally because of extreme rarity (5 or fewer occurrences), or very few remaining acres, or miles of stream) or especially vulnerable to extinction because of some factor of its biology.
G2 - **Imperiled** globally because of rarity (6 - 20 occurrences, or few remaining acres, or miles of stream) or very vulnerable to extinction throughout its range because of other factors.
G3 – **Vulnerable**: Either rare and local throughout its range (21 to 100 occurrences), or found locally (even abundantly at some of its locations) in a restricted range (e.g. a physiographic region), or vulnerable to extinction throughout its range because of other factors.
G4 - **Apparently secure** globally, though it may be quite rare in parts of its range, especially at the periphery.
G5 - **Demonstrably secure** globally, though it may be quite rare in parts of its range, especially at the periphery.
GH - Historically known, with the expectation that it might be rediscovered.
GX - Species believed to be extinct.

NYS RANK:

S1 - **Critically imperiled**: Typically 5 or fewer occurrences, very few remaining individuals, acres, or miles of stream, or some factor of its biology making it especially vulnerable in New York State.
S2 – **Imperiled**: Typically 6 to 20 occurrences, few remaining individuals, acres, or miles of stream, or factors demonstrably making it very vulnerable in New York State.
S3 - **Vulnerable**: Typically 21 to 100 occurrences, limited acreage, or miles of stream in New York State.
S4 - Apparently secure in New York State.
S5 - Demonstrably secure in New York State.
SH - Historically known from New York State, but not seen in the past 15 years.
SX - Apparently extirpated from New York State.

SxB and SxN, where Sx is one of the codes above, are used for migratory animals, and refer to the rarity within New York State of the breeding (B)populations and the non-breeding populations (N), respectively, of the species.

TAXON (T) RANK: The T-ranks (T1 - T5) are defined the same way as the Global ranks (G1 - G5), but the T-rank refers only to the rarity of the subspecific taxon.
T1 through T5 - See Global Rank definitions above.
Q - Indicates a question exists whether or not the taxon is a good taxonomic entity.

Revised April, 2005

U.S. Department of Homeland Security
United States Coast Guard

Commandant (G-AND)
United States Coast Guard

2100 Second Street, S.W.
Washington, DC 20593-0001
Staff Symbol: G-AND
Phone: (202) 475-3293
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16475
March 24, 2006

Mr. Peter A. Scully, Regional Director
New York State Department of Environmental Conservation
Region 1 Office
Building 40, SUNY
Stony Brook, New York 11794

RE: Request for Project Review - Construction of a 300-foot Tall Self-Support Communications Tower, RFF Montauk, East Hampton, Suffolk County, New York

Dear Mr. Scully:

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March 24, 2006

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Environmental Program Manager

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U.S. Department of Homeland Security
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2100 Second Street, S.W.
Washington, DC 20593-0001
Staff Symbol: G-AND
Phone: (202) 475-3293
FAX: (202) 475-3916

16475
March 24, 2006

Mr. John Norbeck, Regional Director
New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation
Long Island State Park Region Headquarters, Belmont Lake State Park
P.O. Box 247
Babylon, New York 11702

RE: Request for Project Review - Construction of a 300-foot Tall Self-Support Communications Tower, RFF Montauk, East Hampton, Suffolk County, New York

Dear Mr. Norbeck:

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March 24, 2006

The proposed RFF Montauk project site consists of an open, previously disturbed, dirt and gravel area at the Town of East Hampton's Recycling Center/Montauk Transfer Station in eastern Suffolk County on Montauk Highway, East Hampton, Long Island, New York, approximately 0.75 mile west of Montauk (Photographs 1 and 2). The Coast Guard would lease ground space available for construction of the tower compound, immediately adjacent to an existing tower owned by the Town of East Hampton that holds equipment for their local first responders. The proposed project site is bordered by the Town of East Hampton Recycling Center/Montauk Transfer Station to the north, by Montauk Highway (Highway 27) to the south, by Lee Koppelman County Nature Preserve to the west, and by a private low-residential area to the east. According to the National Wetlands Inventory System, the site is located in an upland area.

The proposed site is approximately 185 feet in elevation and is located approximately 250 feet north of Montauk Highway. The proposed compound site is accessible via an existing driveway approximately 20 feet wide that is currently utilized for the Town of East Hampton's Recycling Center/Montauk Transfer Station. Equipment would be staged on existing paved surfaces or sparsely vegetated areas adjacent to the proposed compound site. The tower and associated equipment would not be constructed within wetlands or critical habitat.

As the lead Federal agency, the Coast Guard is requesting that your agency review the Proposed Action and provide comments and any available information on resources under your agency's jurisdiction within the project area.

Please direct comments and information directly to me at the letterhead address. If you have any questions or require additional assistance, please contact me via telephone at (202) 475-3293 or via email at ttansey@comdt.uscg.mil.

Sincerely,

Thomas A. Tansey
Environmental Program Manager

Encl: Figure 1 - Topographic map of tower sites at the RFF Montauk site
Figure 2 - Proposed tower elevation drawing of the RFF Montauk site
Figure 3 - Proposed site plan drawing of the RFF Montauk site
Photographs 1-2 of existing conditions at the project site

OFFICE OF PARKS · RECREATION · HISTORIC PRESERVATION
NEW YORK STATE
Bernadette Castro
Commissioner

New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation
Historic Preservation Field Services Bureau
Peebles Island, PO Box 189, Waterford, New York 12188-0189 518-237-8643

March 31, 2006

Thomas A. Tansey
United States Coast Guard
2100 Second Street SW
Washington, DC 20593-0001

Re: USCG
Construction of 300 Ft. Self-Supported
Communications Tower/RFF Montauk
East Hamton, \Suffolk County
06PR01865

Dear Mr. Tansey:

Thank you for requesting the comments of the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO). We have reviewed the project in accordance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966.

Based upon this review, it is the SHPO's opinion that your project will have No Effect upon cultural resources in or eligible for inclusion in the National Registers of Historic Places.

If further correspondence is required regarding this project, please be sure to refer to the OPRHP Project Review (PR) number noted above.

Sincerely,

Ruth L. Pierpont

Ruth L. Pierpont
Director

RLP:bsa

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APR 11 2006

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printed on recycled paper

U.S. Department of Homeland Security
United States Coast Guard

Commandant (G-AND)
United States Coast Guard

2100 Second Street, S.W.
Washington, DC 20593-0001
Staff Symbol: G-AND
Phone: (202) 475-3293
FAX: (202) 475-3916

16475
March 24, 2006

The Nature Conservancy
Long Island Chapter Office
250 Lawrence Hill Road
Cold Spring Harbor, New York 11724

RE: Request for Project Review - Construction of a 300-foot Tall Self-Support Communications Tower, RFF Montauk, East Hampton, Suffolk County, New York

Dear Madam or Sir:

The U.S. Coast Guard (Coast Guard) is preparing a Supplemental Environmental Assessment (SEA) for the proposed construction of a 300-foot high self-support communications tower and associated equipment as part of the Coast Guard's Rescue 21 program. The Rescue 21 program is the maritime equivalent to a "911" communications system, enhancing maritime safety by helping to minimize the time that search and rescue teams spend looking for people in distress. The new communication equipment would fill in existing coverage gaps in the existing VHF-FM marine communication system used for Coast Guard operational missions including search and rescue, maritime law enforcement, maritime pollution prevention and response, and national defense.

The SEA will examine two project alternatives: a No Action Alternative and a Proposed Action Alternative. Under the Proposed Action, the Coast Guard would construct a communications tower and associated equipment at the RFF Montauk site (Figure 1). The RFF Montauk site is located near the Town of East Hampton Recycling Center/Montauk Transfer Station, Suffolk County, New York 11706 (41º 01' 52.4" Latitude, 71º 58' 32.6" Longitude). The proposed project site is located on land that would be leased by the Coast Guard.

The project design would be similar to Coast Guard facilities at other sites. The Coast Guard proposes to construct a 300-foot tall, three-sided, self-supported steel lattice communications tower with a direction-finding (DF) antenna mounted on the top (Figure 2). The addition of a DF antenna, mounting pole, and lightning rod would increase the total height of the tower and added appurtenances to approximately 311 feet above ground level. The tower would be constructed prior to the installation of the Rescue 21 equipment. The proposed tower would be enclosed by a new 55 by 115-foot fenced compound (Figure 3). In addition to the new communications tower, the proposed compound would contain associated equipment including an elevated platform containing a prefabricated equipment shelter that would be no more than 15 by 24 feet, a 20-kilowatt (kW) emergency backup generator, and a 500-gallon above-ground propane fuel tank (Figure 3).

March 24, 2006

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Thomas A. Tansey
Environmental Program Manager

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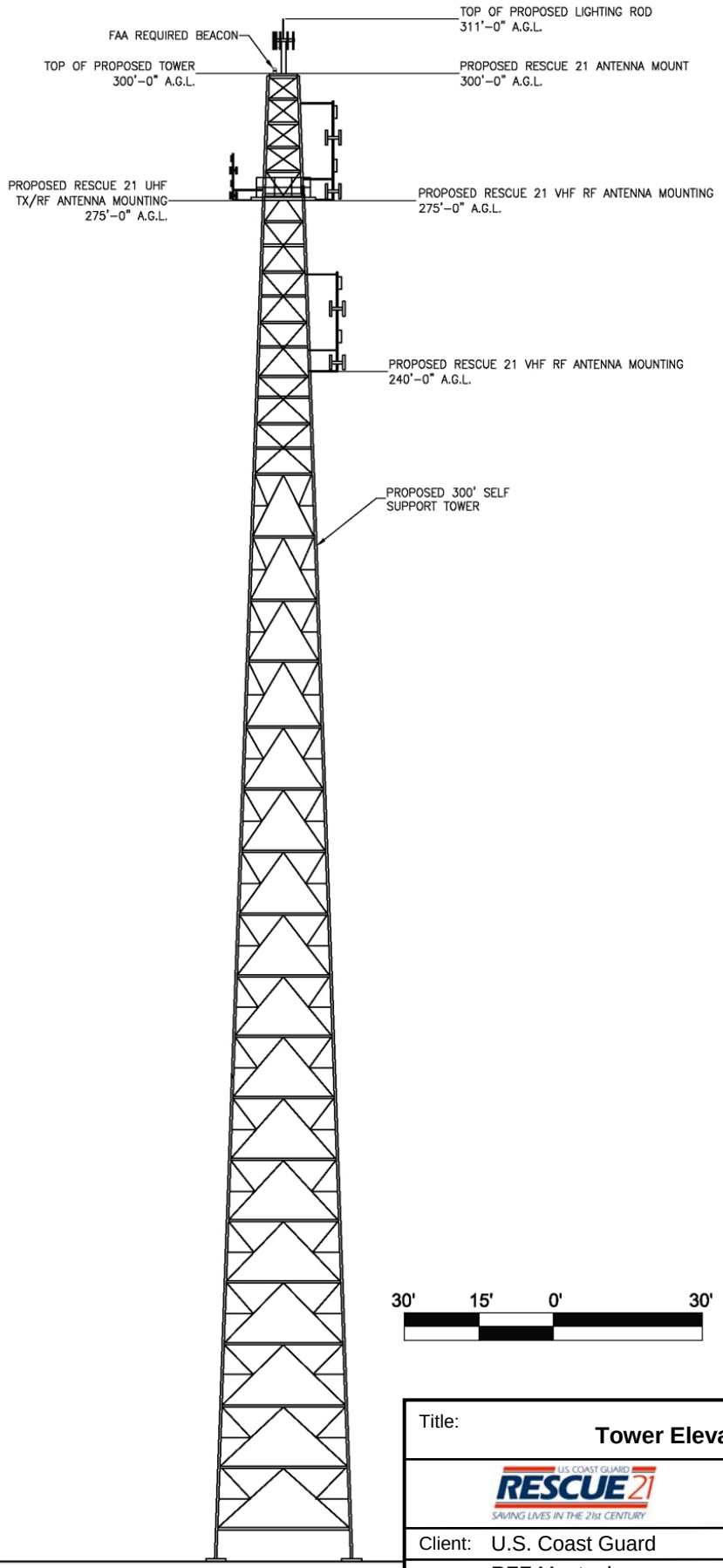
Photographs 1-2 of existing conditions at the project site

Source base map:
USGS 7.5 min Quadrangle: Montauk Point N.Y., 1956

NORTH

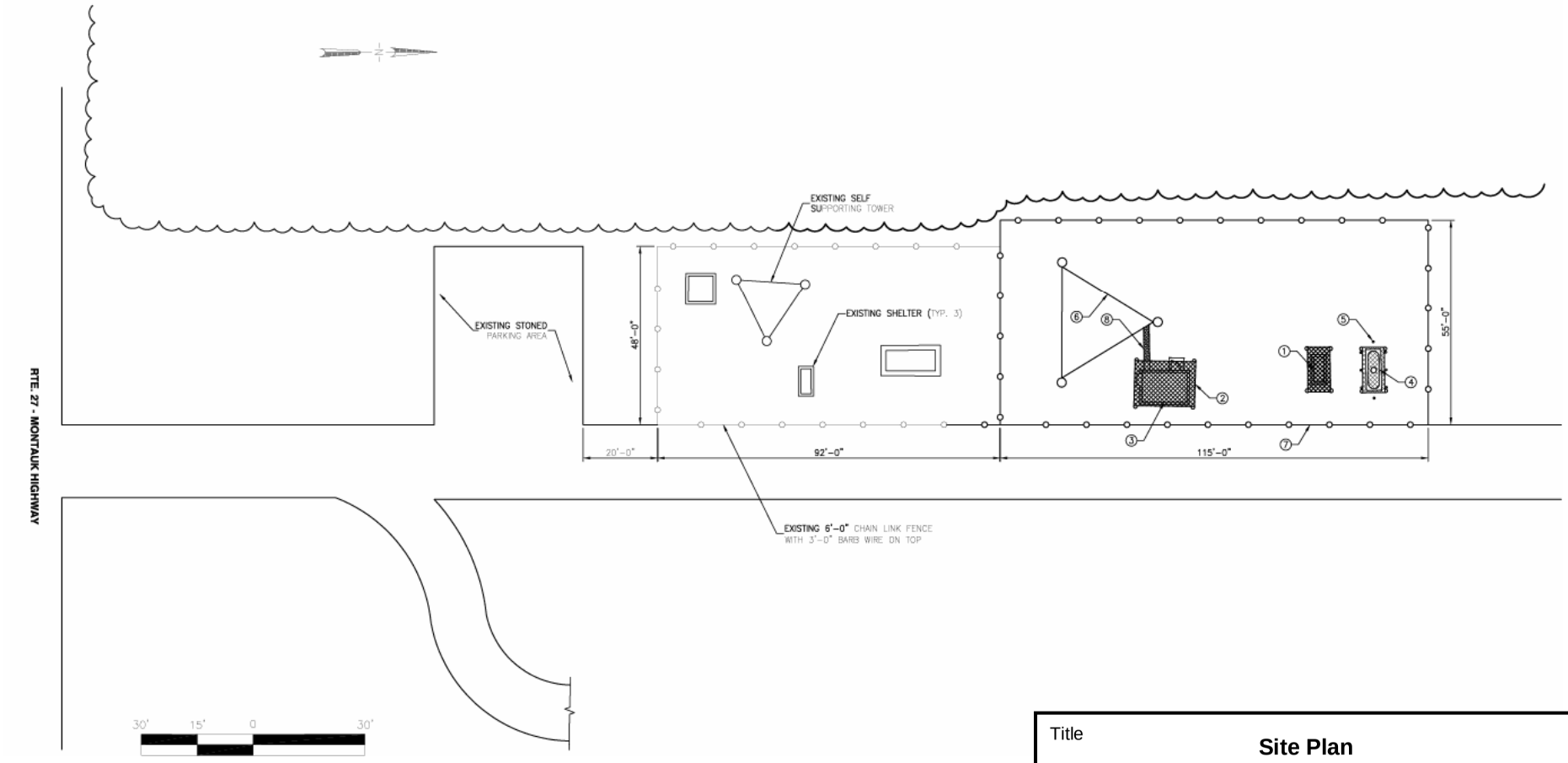
1,000 0 1,000 2,000 Feet

Title: Location Map - RFF Montauk	
U.S. COAST GUARD RESCUE 21 SAVING LIVES IN THE 21st CENTURY	**Proj No:** 15298197
	Figure: 1
Client: U.S. Coast Guard	
Project: RFF Montauk	



Title: **Tower Elevation**	
RESCUE 21 — U.S. COAST GUARD — SAVING LIVES IN THE 21st CENTURY	Proj No: 15298197
	Figure: **2**
Client: U.S. Coast Guard	
Project: RFF Montauk	

① =PROPOSED GENERATOR ON CONCRETE SLAB
② =PROPOSED ICE SHIELD
③ =PROPOSED 8'x12' RESCUE 21 SHELTER ON CONCRETE SLAB
④ =PROPOSED FUEL TANK ON CONCRETE SLAB
⑤ =PROPOSED BOLLARDS (8 TOTAL)
⑥ =PROPOSED 300'-0" SELF SUPPORTING TOWER
⑦ =PROPOSED CHAIN LINK FENCE WITH BARB WIRE
⑧ =PROPOSED ICEBRIDGE



Title	**Site Plan**
RESCUE 21 — U.S. COAST GUARD — SAVING LIVES IN THE 21st CENTURY	Proj No: 15298197
	Figure **3**
Client: U.S. Coast Guard	
Project: RFF Montauk	

Photograph No.1	**Proposed Site Location:** RFF Montauk, Suffolk County, New York
Date: 12/14/05 **Direction Photograph Taken:** South **Description:** A view looking at the RFF Montauk communications tower site (the dirt area in the lower right of the photograph). Note the existing communication tower in the vicinity of the proposed tower site.	

Photograph No. 2	**Proposed Site Location:** RFF Montauk, Suffolk County, New York
Date: 01/19/06 **Direction Photograph Taken:** North **Description:** A view looking at the RFF Montauk communications tower site. Note the existing access driveway to the proposed tower site.	