

**NEW PALTZ  
BACKUP COMMUNITY WATER SUPPLY PROJECT**

**Summary of the Project's  
Environmental Review**

**February 18, 2016**

**Our Purpose -- To provide Information on:**

- 1) how the State Environmental Quality Review process was conducted for this Project,**
- 2) the findings that resulted from this environmental review process, and**
- 3) the investigation's Determination of Significance**

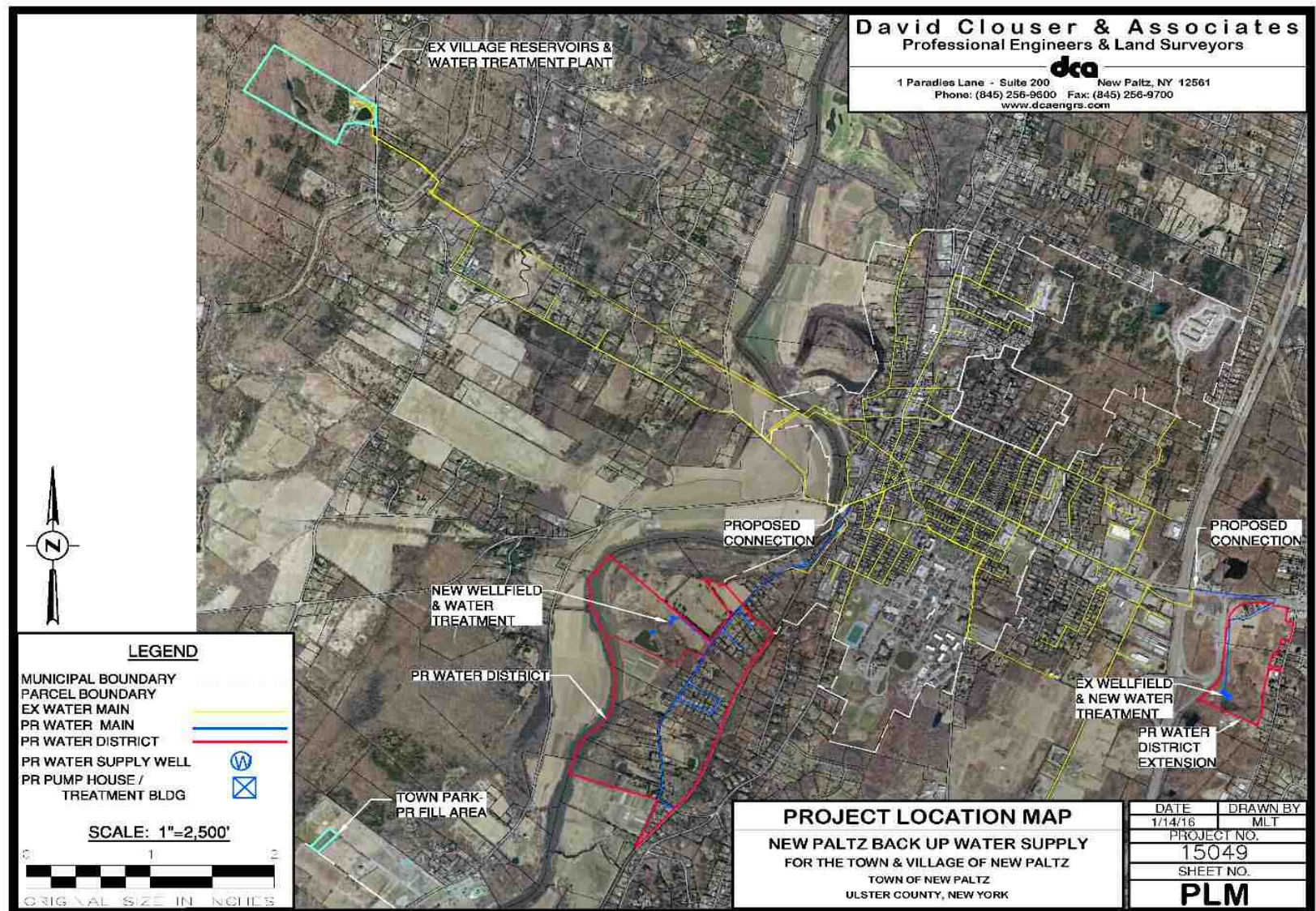
# The SEQRA Process Steps

1. Classify the Action - **COMPLETED**
2. Identify the Project and Its Setting using the Environmental Assessment Form (EAF) Part 1 - **COMPLETED**
3. Circulate to the Identified Agencies that must permit or approve components of the Project – **COMPLETED**
4. Establish Lead Agency
5. Identify Potential Project Impacts using the EAF Part 2
6. Consider all “moderate to large” potential impacts and how their potential impact might be reduced by mitigation methods using the EAF Part 3
7. Determine whether the identified impacts might be considered significant, and
8. Adopt a Resolution of the Board’s Determination of Significance

# **EAF Part 1 – Identify the Project and Its Setting**

- **Review all aspects of the project and the sites where the project activities will occur**
- **Identify the regulatory agencies and permit approvals that may be involved**
- **Identify project details, such as locations, operations, areas of disturbance, land uses near the project locations, and natural and cultural resources near the project sites that may be affected by the proposed project activities**

# Project Component Locations



# **EAF Part 2 – Identify Potential Project Impacts**

- Inventory of the Potential Resources that could be affected by the Project, which includes –
  - Search local, state and federal environmental database records for known natural and cultural resources in the area
  - Confirm this inventory by field investigation and document any other resources that might be affected
- Complete the EAF Part 2 to categorize the anticipated size of the impact

## **EAF Part 3 – Determine the Significance of the Identified Potential Project Impacts**

- Provide a narrative discussion of all potential impacts that were categorized as “moderate to large”
- Discuss how those potential impacts might be avoided or reduced with project measures that would be incorporated in the project design
- Determine whether the potential impact might be considered significant

# Evaluation of Significance

Impact Description	Reason for Determination of Non-Significance
1.c. Land – bedrock removal may be required during water main installation	Conventional removal methods used for an expected small volume, blasting is not anticipated to be necessary
1.d. Land – removal of an estimated volume of 5400 cu. yds. of sediment	Sediment will be tested for quality before disposal; transported to site for future use
3. d. Surface Water – construction within a stream for sediment removal; facilities sited near wetlands	Turbidity curtains installed and stream diversion during sediment removal; facilities will be sited outside of wetland restricted areas
3. e. and 3. i. Surface Water – water quality degradation due to construction activities	Stream diversion during sediment removal, erosion controls employed during all construction and a Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan employed throughout the construction process until site is stabilized



# Evaluation of Significance (cont'd)

Impact Description	Reason for Determination of Non-Significance
4. a. Groundwater – may require new wells or create additional demand on supplies from existing wells	<p>Existing public water supply customers will continue to receive public water service and new water districts will be established to provide a continuous public water service to residents and businesses in those new water district areas. The additional demand will be met with new water supply sources.</p> <p>Withdrawal rates have been tested and proven to meet the water supply needs of the community when used during the Catskill Aqueduct maintenance shutdown periods.</p>
4. e. Groundwater – water supply wells located in an area that is suspected to be contaminated.	<p>The area of pesticide residue contamination on the Turk property that is planned to be remediated is not near the supply wells.</p> <p>Water quality testing indicates no contamination.</p>

# Evaluation of Significance (cont'd)

Impact Description	Reason for Determination of Non-Significance
5. f. Flooding – Are the dams in need of repair or upgrade?	The dams are in a well maintained condition according to NYS DEC dam inspection records. A Dam Engineering Assessment is incorporated in the proposed project activities.
16. a. Human Health – Project is located within 1,500 feet of a school, hospital, licensed day care center, group home, nursing home, or retirement community.	The impact of construction noise will affect 5 schools and day care centers within that 1,500 foot distance area of impact. Mountain View Nursing and Rehab is also located approximately 1,200 feet from the closest planned construction. These temporary noise impacts will occur only during working hours. No blasting is anticipated to be necessary.

# Determination of Significance

Based on the information that resulted from the project's environmental inventory and environmental database review, the field investigation conducted, the identification of potential adverse environmental impacts, the analysis of those impacts and in consideration of mitigation measures in the project design that will be used to avoid or reduce impacts, it does not appear that the proposed action will result in any significant adverse impacts.

If the Board agrees with this conclusion, adopting a Negative Declaration of a Determination of Non-Significance will conclude the environmental review process and a copy of the Board's Negative Declaration will be forwarded to all Involved (permitting) Agencies and the Notice of Determination will be published in the Environmental News Bulletin.

# **Closing Comments or Questions?**

**Thank you for your attention to this matter.**