

**SEQR**

State Environmental Quality Review

**Notice of Completion of Final Generic EIS****Project Number**

**Date: November 15, 2006**

This notice is issued pursuant to Part 617 of the implementing regulations pertaining to Article 8 (State Environmental Quality Review Act) of the Environmental Conservation Law.

A Final Generic Environmental Impact Statement has been completed and accepted by the County of Suffolk, as lead agency, for the proposed action described below.

**Name of Action:** Suffolk County Vector Control and Wetlands Management Final Generic Environmental Impact Statement.

**Description of Action:** The County of Suffolk, as lead agency, has prepared a Final Generic Environmental Impact Statement (FGEIS) for the Suffolk County-wide long-term vector control plan. Many DGEIS comments resulted in further Plan improvements. Every adulticide application will be preceded by an objective (numeric) threshold measurement of mosquitoes. Public education and outreach efforts were expanded to include targeted education (e.g., schools, homeowner associations). Criteria for further environmental review have been clarified. Also, the draft triennial report format has been included in the Plan (including goals, performance measures, indicators of success, etc.). The FGEIS further clarifies the distinction between public health nuisance and disease control, modeling of West Nile Virus effects in the absence of vector control, and potential impacts of methoprene. Most significantly, the wetlands strategy has been refined. The 15-acre threshold which would trigger further review for minor Best Management Practices (BMPs) has been eliminated. All but the most benign BMPs (e.g., hand ditch maintenance; culvert replacement) will receive strict environmental review. As part of the program, no new ditches will be created, and routine machine ditch maintenance has ceased. During the first triennial implementation period, the program will focus on minor water management, such as replacing culverts and restoring tidal circulation. The confusing term "Open Marsh Water Management" has been eliminated, in favor of "Integrated Marsh Management." Wetlands health will now be the paramount objective for all projects. The Wetlands Stewardship Committee membership (four non-profits) and role (will receive notice of most wetland BMPs) have expanded. Note that vector control related to the Fire Island National Seashore will be subject to separate federal processes, including permitting and environmental review.

The FGEIS is available at [www.suffolkmosquitocontrolplan.org](http://www.suffolkmosquitocontrolplan.org).

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### **Location:**

(Include street address and the name of the municipality/county. A location map of appropriate scale is also recommended.)

All of Suffolk County

### **Potential Environmental Impacts:**

Potential Human Health Impacts

Potential Ecological Impacts

Potential impacts of pesticide usage for nuisance reduction and disease control

Impact of marsh management on freshwater and tidal wetlands

Impact of vector control chemicals on soils

Impact of vector control chemicals on receiving water quality and stream, pond and lake water quality

Impact of vector control on mosquito population cycles and resistance to pesticide usage

Impact of vector control chemicals on air quality

Impact of vector control chemicals non-target organisms

Impact of vector control on birds, amphibians, insects, crustaceans, fish, mammals and on rare and endangered plant and animal species

### **A copy of the Final Generic EIS may be obtained from:**

Contact Person:

James Bagg, Chief Environmental Analyst

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Council on Environmental Quality

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For Technical Information Contact:

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**A copy of this notice must be sent to:**

Department of Environmental Conservation, 625 Broadway, Albany, New York 12233-1750

Chief Executive Officer, Town/City/Village of

Any person who has requested a copy of the Draft / Final EIS

Any other involved agencies

Environmental Notice Bulletin, 625 Broadway, Albany, NY 12233-1750

**Copies of the Final Generic EIS must be distributed according to 6NYCRR 617.12(b).**