

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice of Intent to Prepare an Environmental Assessment Hurricane Sandy Proposed Recapitalization Project Rebuild USCG Station Atlantic City, New Jersey

The United States Coast Guard (USCG) intends to prepare an environmental assessment (EA) for the proposal to rebuild shore facilities at Station Atlantic City, New Jersey, pursuant to the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969, the President's Council on Environmental Quality Regulations (40 CFR parts 1500-1508), and the Coast Guard's NEPA implementing procedures (COMDTINST M16475.1D). The EA will also fulfill the requirement for project review under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (36 CFR Part 800). The 2013 Disaster Assistance Supplemental Act (P.L. 113-2) appropriated funds to rebuild USCG shore facilities damaged by Hurricane Sandy in October 2012 and to prevent damage from future storms by replacing damaged facilities with those that are hurricane and flood resilient.

Proposed Action: The USCG proposes to construct a new Boat Maintenance Facility (BMF) with an engineering shop and support space, and reconstruct portions of the waterfront at USCG Station Atlantic City. The new BMF will house all functions currently located in the existing Boathouse and Facility Engineer Shop building, both of which were damaged during Hurricane Sandy and will be demolished. To improve resilience, and reduce down time for mission critical facilities after future storms, these new, hardened shore facilities will be constructed above the 500-year flood elevation, where practicable, and to hurricane resistant building codes. Proposed waterfront work shall include: (1) replacing the guide piles of the existing floating docks with taller ones so that storm surges cannot lift the docks above the guide piles, and (2) repairing or replacing existing concrete "crib" style shore protection, bulkhead, and existing gabions, (3) restoring/stabilizing existing grades, and (4) replacing the existing perimeter security fence and lights along the Northeast shoreline. USCG will consult with the State Historic Preservation Officer to avoid and/or mitigate adverse effects on historic properties at the site.

Alternatives will be evaluated by the USCG in the EA, including the No Action Alternative and the above-described Proposed Action. The USCG may consider other reasonable alternatives identified during the public scoping process.

The EA will describe the need for the project, the alternatives, and the environmental impacts of the alternatives. The EA will also contain a comparative analysis of the alternatives, a statement of the environmental significance of the impacts of the alternatives, and a list of the agencies and persons consulted during EA preparation. The EA will serve as a concise public document to briefly provide sufficient evidence and analysis for determining the need to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) or a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI).

Public Scoping Period: The Coast Guard is seeking public input on the scope of environmental issues to be addressed in the EA. Please submit your written comments by October 20, 2013, via USPS mail, fax, or electronic mail to:

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