3.5 WATER RESOURCES - GROUNDWATER COMMENTS AND RESPONSES

Comment 3.5-1 (Letter 15, Ann B. De Felice, May 22, 2005 Letter 11, Pearl Seigler, May 21, 2005): The property is near a stream. How will it affect the watershed and our water supply?

> ***Response 3.5-1:*** *As noted in the DEIS, potential adverse impacts on the watercourse, the New York City water supply watershed, and on the groundwater supply, will be mitigated by the implementation of the Yorktown Farms Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) that maintains post-construction rate and volume of stormwater discharge, as well as pollutant loads in stormwater, to near pre-construction limits.*
>
> *Less than 14 acres of the project site is located in NY City's water supply watershed. As detailed on FEIS Figure 3.6-1, Existing Drainage Areas, and Figure 3.6-2, Post Development Drainage Areas, existing drainage patterns in the contributing watershed (labeled WS-1 in Figure 3.6-1) will be maintained. With maintenance of water quantity and quality controls in the proposed plan, no adverse impacts on the watershed are anticipated. In addition, based upon the moderately low density of the proposed development and treatment of wastewater in the municipal sewer system, no adverse impacts on the quantity or quality of any existing water supply wells in the area are anticipated.*

Comment 3.5-2 (Letter 16, Alice Kiely, May 22, 2005; Letter 17, Allison Lichtenberg, May 17, 2005; Mr. Montello, Public Hearing June 11, 2007; Dan Kiely, Public Hearing June 25, 2007): Homes in the area are subject to high water pressure that results in water seepage into homes, and has also affected landscaping. This problem will be exacerbated by the proposed project and the installation of the drainage pits. Homeowners experience problems with water seeping into basements that have caused health problems.

> ***Response 3.5-2:*** *A revision to the project has been made that will further address the potential for off-site drainage impacts through installation of a storm drain system along the property line in the southwestern corner of the subject site (behind the Stonewall Court homes). The proposed system will collect surface runoff in several drains before it flows off-site and toward the Stonewall Court homes, and will direct that water to the proposed stormwater basin in Yorktown Farms. Site walks with current homeowners have revealed that some homes that experience basement flooding lack the proper foundation drains needed to convey water away from the basements. This is an inherent condition that will be improved with the proposed drainage system in Yorktown Farms, although will likely continue to some degree unless proper footing drains are installed at these homes. Collection of this surface water will alleviate, to some extent, infiltration of water into basements. This is an existing condition that will not be worsened by the proposed project.*

Comment 3.5-3: (Letter 2, Bruce Barber, June 13, 2005): Applicant should provide an analysis of the location and functional aspects of the substantial number of existing drains (aka "farm drains") located on this site.

> ***Response 3.5-3:*** *The extent of existing subsurface drains is not known by the Applicant. These were apparently installed to control subsurface water to improve the farming operations during the time the project site was used for agriculture. To the extent of the site clearing necessary to construct the proposed project, any existing drain pipe*

encountered during grading operations will be removed. Any pipes found that extend beyond the limit of disturbance will remain and where found to be functioning, existing drain pipes will be connected to the subsurface drainage system constructed in Yorktown Farms so as not to interrupt their function. As any such farmer's pipes are not relied upon in the project design, these existing pipes will not be replaced.

Comment 3.5-4: (Letter 2, Bruce Barber, June 13, 2005): Applicant should provide pre and post construction wetland hydrographs to demonstrate changes in water supply to on-site and adjacent wetlands.

Response 3.5-4: *Calculations included in the project specific SWPPP demonstrate that the rate of pre and post construction stormwater discharging to the wetlands on, and off, the project site will be maintained near pre-construction rates by the proposed stormwater management systems.*