

3.7 Historical and Archaeological Resources Comments and Responses

Comment 3.7-1 (Letter 4, CT Male Associates, July 1, 2010): Historical and Archeological Resources: Phase 1B testing for the entire project site, less steep slopes, wetlands and water bodies needs to be included in the FEIS in order to adequately address the potential impact to historic and pre-historic resources. In addition, the review comments of the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation (OPRHP) should be included within the FEIS.

Response 3.7-1: *Phase 1B testing was conducted over the entire project site according to a project-specific methodology in the months of June through October 2010. In addition a small area near Lost Lake was further evaluated in Phase 2 testing and found to not be National Register Eligible (NRE). The summary results of the Phase 1B and 2 investigations are included in the archaeologist's report in FEIS Appendix G. (Full copies of these reports are included in the accompanying CD.) Based on the lack of significant cultural material recovery from the project site, it is the professional opinion of the project archaeologist that no further investigation of historical and archaeological resources at the Lost Lake site is warranted. This conclusion is subject to the review and approval of OPRHP.*

The combined Phase 1A/1B and Phase 2 investigation reports have been sent to NYS OPRHP for review and comment. (Letter of transmittal is included in FEIS Appendix B.) This review may take some time to be completed and the review comments will be provided to the Town when received by the Applicant. As stated in the DEIS, the Applicant acknowledges that State and Federal regulations for the protection of historical and archaeological resources require that no impact to such resources be allowed to occur as a result of the development of this project. The Applicant must obtain concurrence from the NYS OPRHP of No Impact on cultural resources (or no adverse impact after mitigation through the successful implementation of an OPRHP approved recovery plan) prior to receiving other State permits or commencement of any project site construction.

In recognition of the importance of receiving "no impact" or "no adverse impact" confirming correspondence from OPRHP and its unique qualifications for making final NRE determinations, the Town Board is requiring that such "no impact" or "no adverse impact" correspondence be provided to the Planning Board as part of the Site Plan Application, and further that no final site approval be granted without such confirming correspondence from OPRHP. Adhering to this condition will ensure that there are no adverse impacts to any historic or archaeological resources.