BUFFALO
SEWER AUTHORITY

ATTACHMENT B-3

Agency Use Only [IfApplicable]

Project : Sidney and Lark RTC

Date : 04/14/2025

Full Environmental Assessment Form
Part 3 - Evaluation of the Magnitude and Importance of Project Impacts
and
Determination of Significance

Part 3 provides the reasons in support of the determination of significance. The lead agency must complete Part 3 for every question in Part 2 where the impact has been identified as potentially moderate to large or where there is a need to explain why a particular element of the proposed action will not, or may, result in a significant adverse environmental impact.

Based on the analysis in Part 3, the lead agency must decide whether to require an environmental impact statement to further assess the proposed action or whether available information is sufficient for the lead agency to conclude that the proposed action will not have a significant adverse environmental impact. By completing the certification on the next page, the lead agency can complete its determination of significance.

Reasons Supporting This Determination:

To complete this section:

- Identify the impact based on the Part 2 responses and describe its magnitude. Magnitude considers factors such as severity, size or extent of an impact.
- Assess the importance of the impact. Importance relates to the geographic scope, duration, probability of the impact occurring, number of people affected by the impact and any additional environmental consequences if the impact were to occur.
- The assessment should take into consideration any design element or project changes.
- Repeat this process for each Part 2 question where the impact has been identified as potentially moderate to large or where there is a need to explain why a particular element of the proposed action will not, or may, result in a significant adverse environmental impact.
- Provide the reason(s) why the impact may, or will not, result in a significant adverse environmental impact
- For Conditional Negative Declarations identify the specific condition(s) imposed that will modify the proposed action so that no significant adverse environmental impacts will result.
- Attach additional sheets, as needed.

Please see attached significance statement

Determination of Significance - Type 1 and Unlisted Actions

SEQR Status: ☑ Type 1 ☐ Unlisted

Identify portions of EAF completed for this Project: ☑ Part 1 ☑ Part 2 ☑ Part 3

Upon review of the information recorded on this EAF, as noted, plus this additional support information

and considering both the magnitude and importance of each identified potential impact, it is the conclusion of the Buffalo Sewer Authority as lead agency that:

☑ A. This project will result in no significant adverse impacts on the environment, and, therefore, an environmental impact statement need not be prepared. Accordingly, this negative declaration is issued.

☐ B. Although this project could have a significant adverse impact on the environment, that impact will be avoided or substantially mitigated because of the following conditions which will be required by the lead agency:

There will, therefore, be no significant adverse impacts from the project as conditioned, and, therefore, this conditioned negative declaration is issued. A conditioned negative declaration may be used only for UNLISTED actions (see 6 NYCRR 617.7(d)).

☐ C. This Project may result in one or more significant adverse impacts on the environment, and an environmental impact statement must be prepared to further assess the impact(s) and possible mitigation and to explore alternatives to avoid or reduce those impacts. Accordingly, this positive declaration is issued.

Name of Action: CSO053_1.4 Sidney-Lark Real Time Control (RTC)

Name of Lead Agency: Buffalo Sewer Authority

Name of Responsible Officer in Lead Agency: Rosaleen B. Nogle, PE, BCEE, PMP

Title of Responsible Officer: Principal Sanitary Engineer

Signature of Responsible Officer in Lead Agency: Date:

Signature of Preparer (if different from Responsible Officer) Date:

For Further Information:

Contact Person: Elizabeth Tramposch, PE - CORE Environmental Consultants, Inc.

Address: 2312 Wehrle Drive, Williamsville, NY 14221

Telephone Number: 716-204-8054

E-mail: emt@coreenv.com

For Type 1 Actions and Conditioned Negative Declarations, a copy of this Notice is sent to:

Chief Executive Officer of the political subdivision in which the action will be principally located (e.g., Town / City / Village of)
Other involved agencies (if any)
Applicant (if any)
Environmental Notice Bulletin: http://www.dec.ny.gov/enb/enb.html

PRINT FULL FORM

Full Environmental Assessment Form

Part 3 – Evaluation of the Magnitude and Importance of Project Impacts and Determination of Significance

Buffalo Sewer Authority – CSO053_1.4 Sidney and Lark RTC

Impacts

The following impacts were identified on the FEAF Part 2.

1. Impact on Land

Analysis

The Sidney-Lark RTC project will involve the open cut excavation of a new 48-inch gravity sewer line and a drop shaft approximately 35 to 40 feet below grade. The work will occur within City-owned parcels and within the right-of-way along Sidney and Lark Streets. Construction activities will result in significant soil disturbance and the movement of excavated material. These activities may also temporarily alter drainage patterns and increase the potential for erosion or soil compaction in disturbed areas.

Mitigation Measures

To mitigate potential impacts on land, standard erosion and sediment control measures will be implemented during construction, including silt fencing, stabilized construction entrances, and temporary vegetative cover or gravel surfacing for disturbed areas. Disturbed surfaces will be regraded and restored upon completion. Stormwater best management practices will be incorporated into the site design to manage post-construction runoff.

Impact

The impact on land is expected to be moderate and short term during the construction period. These impacts are not permanent and will be mitigated through restoration and erosion control practices.

14. Impact on Transportation

Analysis

The Sidney-Lark RTC project will temporarily disrupt transportation patterns in the vicinity of Sidney Street, Lark Street, and Humboldt Parkway during construction. Construction activities, including excavation and pipe installation, will require partial lane closures and detours. Local traffic circulation, including access to adjacent residences and businesses, may be temporarily affected. Pedestrian access along sidewalks may

be restricted or rerouted during certain phases of construction. However, the affected area is primarily residential with low to moderate traffic volumes, and no long-term operational impacts on transportation are expected after construction is complete.

Mitigation:

A Maintenance and Protection of Traffic (MPT) plan will be developed and coordinated with the City of Buffalo and local emergency services. The MPT plan will include temporary signage, barriers, pedestrian rerouting, and traffic control measures such as flaggers or temporary signals as needed. The construction schedule will be coordinated to minimize disruption during peak traffic hours. Access for emergency vehicles and local deliveries will be maintained.

Impact:

The impact on transportation will be moderate and short term, limited to the construction phase. Post-construction, traffic and pedestrian conditions will return to normal, with no permanent transportation infrastructure changes resulting from the project.

15. Impact on Noise, Odor, and Light

Analysis

Construction activities will result in elevated noise levels from heavy machinery, generators, and vehicle traffic, particularly along Sidney and Lark Streets. Temporary lighting may be required for early morning or evening work.

Mitigation

Construction activities will comply with local noise ordinances and be limited to standard daytime hours. Light fixtures will be directed downward and shielded to minimize glare.

Impacts

The impact on noise will be moderate to significant and temporary during construction. Light impacts will be moderate and temporary.

16. Impact on Human Health

Analysis

Construction activities present short-term risks to human health through airborne dust, diesel emissions, and potential disturbance of urban soils that may contain residual contaminants. In the long term, the project will benefit public health by reducing combined sewer overflows to the Scajaquada Tunnel and improving water quality.

Mitigation

Dust control measures, such as water spraying, covering of stockpiles, and restricting vehicle idling, will be used. If contaminated soils are encountered, they will be managed and disposed of in accordance with applicable regulations. Construction safety standards will be enforced in accordance with OSHA guidelines.

Impact

The impact on human health during construction will be minor and short term, with mitigation in place. The long-term impact is significantly beneficial due to improved sewer performance and reduced CSO discharge.

Determination of Significance

The Sidney-Lark RTC project involves the construction of a diversion chamber, drop shaft, interconnecting sewer, and above-grade electrical infrastructure to improve wet weather flow management as part of the Buffalo Sewer Authority's Long Term Control Plan. The project is located in a mixed-use urban environment and will involve deep excavation and long-duration construction activities within the public right-of-way and City-owned parcels.

Temporary impacts include soil disturbance, noise, potential dust emissions, and minor traffic disruptions. There is the potential for odor emissions during system operation. All identified impacts will be addressed through best management practices, construction controls, regulatory compliance, and design mitigation strategies. No permanent adverse environmental effects are anticipated.

Long-term benefits include significant improvements in combined sewer overflow control, public health, and water quality in the Buffalo sewer system.

Negative Declaration

Based on the environmental assessment, the proposed action will not result in any significant adverse environmental impacts that cannot be mitigated. The impacts that will occur during construction—including on land, air, community character, and transportation—will be temporary and managed using best practices. The project is consistent with environmental, infrastructure, and public health goals of the community and regulatory agencies.

Given that the project will ultimately result in long-term environmental and public health benefits by reducing CSO discharges, improving water quality, and supporting regional stormwater management goals, and because all adverse effects will ultimately be temporary and mitigated appropriately, the Buffalo Sewer Authority is issuing a **Negative Declaration** pursuant to the State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQR).

No significant adverse environmental impacts are anticipated that would warrant the preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS).