



**Meeting Minutes
Dredging of Delaware and Raritan Canal
New Jersey Water Supply Authority
Public Officials' Briefing
Somerset County
July 21, 2010**

ATTENDEES:

Carol Beske, ACT Engineers, clbeske@actengineers.com
Tom Boccino, Somerset County, boccino@co.somerset.nj.us
Gary Cortelyou, Somerset County, cortel@co.somerset.nj.us
Bob DeLorenzo, Urban Dredging Consultants JV, robert.delorenzo@obg.com
Sharmila Rahman, NJWSA, srahman@njwsa.org

PURPOSE OF THE MEETING

To open dialog between Somerset County and the NJWSA project team, Urban Dredging Consultants, concerning the proposed dredging of the D&R Canal.

DISCUSSION

Carol Beske thanked Somerset County personnel for meeting with the team and explained the purpose of the introductory meeting for the dredging of the D&R Canal from Route 27 in Kingston to Amwell Road in Franklin Township.

Bob DeLorenzo identified the consulting firms that make up the joint venture project team, Urban Dredging Consultants, JV. He noted the project objective is to remove an estimated 250,000 cubic yards of sediment from the Canal in an environmentally protective manner to increase flow capacity.

The following information was reviewed:

- Technical approach – considering cultural and recreational significance, source of water, and visibility.
- Scope of Work - Landside and bathymetric survey, sediment sampling and characterization, staging areas, dredging and dewatering, disposal options, and environmental issues.
- Schedule - Evaluation of dredging methodologies by December 2010, design by July 2011, funding November 2012, with construction estimated to span two construction seasons, depending on weather.

Carol Beske explained the public outreach program to be conducted during the design project to develop a dredging plan that is acceptable to the stakeholders. Components of the program include:

- Outreach to state, county and municipal officials, and local businesses and residents.
- Conducting three public officials' briefings and three public participation meetings with stakeholders.
- Providing information on the project on NJWSA website with links to municipal website.

CONCERNS

Issues/comments raised by the Somerset County public officials to be addressed during the project include:

- Is there a cultural resource firm/person selected?
- Somerset County owns the bridges over the Millstone River and bridges over the Causeway but not the roadway.
 - Griggstown Causeway has a posted weight limit, but the bridge is designed to handle truck traffic with no weight restrictions. Posting is for roads not bridges. The County Engineers office will require a permit for use of the Causeway.
- Trap Rock Industries site encompasses a large drainage area that drains directly into the lake on their site. The water is pumped from the lake into the canal. George Conway, Jr. (609-924-0300) is the contact person at Trap Rock.
- The Somerset Park Commission is attempting to buy additional park land near the canal.
- Somerset County will provide a link to the NJWSA site for updates on the project.