DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS, NEW YORK DISTRICT JACOB K. JAVITS FEDERAL BUILDING 26 FEDERAL PLAZA NEW YORK NY 10278-0090

Regulatory Branch

JUL 2 6 2016

SUBJECT:

New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection Rebuild by Design Project Meadowlands Flood Protection Project, Bergen County, New

Jersey

New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection C/o Mr. Dennis Reinknecht Project Manager 501 East State Street, Mail Code 501-01A P.O. Box 420 Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0420

Dear Mr. Reinknecht:

In response to your agency's April 19, 2016 correspondence, the New York District of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) accepts your invitation to be a cooperating agency for the review of the Rebuild by Design Meadowlands Flood Protection Project.

Please note that the proposed project will be reviewed in accordance with Title 33 of the Code of Federal Regulations, Sections 320-332, the regulations for the Regulatory Program of the Corps of Engineers, and other pertinent laws, regulations and executive orders. The decision whether or not to issue a permit will be based on an evaluation of the probable impacts, including cumulative impacts, of the proposed activity on the public interest. That decision will reflect the national concern for both the protection and utilization of important resources. The benefits which may reasonably be expected to accrue from the proposal must be weighed against its reasonably foreseeable detriments. All factors which may be relevant to the proposal will be considered. It should be noted that in accordance with Title 33 of the Code of Federal Regulations Section 320.1(a)(4), the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is neither a proponent nor opponent of any permit proposal. However, the Corps believes that applicants are due a timely decision. Reducing unnecessary paperwork and delays is a continuing Corps goal.

This office looks forward to working with you. If you have any questions, need additional information, or wish to discuss any of the above issues in more detail, please contact Jim Cannon, Project Manager, at 917-790-8412.

Sincerely,

Stephan A. Ryba

Chief, Regulatory Branch