



New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation
The Governor Nelson A. Rockefeller Empire State Plaza
Agency Building 1, Albany, New York 12238

518-474-0456

Human Resources
518-474-0453

Fiscal Management
518-474-0061

TDD: 518-486-1899

June 8, 2006

**RE: Lead Agency Determination
State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQR)**

Dear Interested or Involved Agency:

The Niagara River Greenway Commission (the Commission) is in the process of preparing a Plan and Generic Environmental Impact Statement (GEIS) for the Niagara River Greenway pursuant to Article 39 of the Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation Law. The Plan will be the fundamental document defining the goals and boundaries of the Greenway and the means for its management. The plan will:

- Designate the specific boundaries of the Greenway;
- Develop a specific vision for the Greenway that focuses on linking parks and conservation areas;
- Create an inventory of existing parks and other lands under the jurisdiction of the State, public corporations and municipalities;
- Identify other lands that can contribute to the purposes of the Greenway;
- Recommend how the Greenway could be linked to upland and interior communities in order to promote linkages to the River;
- Evaluate how economic development activities in proximity to the Greenway can support and complement the Greenway;
- Identify ways for the Commission to work with municipal, State and Federal agencies, public and private corporations, not-for-profit organizations and private property owners and interests; and
- Make recommendations for the on-going operation and maintenance of the Greenway.

The Plan will be finalized following review by area municipalities and public hearings. Final Plan approval will be by the Commissioner of NYS Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation (NYSOPRHP).

The Niagara Greenway Commission and NYSOPRHP have determined that adoption of the Plan is an action subject to environmental review according to the State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQR). In accordance with Part 617, the rules and regulations implementing SEQR, we are notifying all involved or interested agencies of the NYSOPRHP's request for lead agency designation under SEQR. The NYSOPRHP seeks your comments on its intent to be lead agency. Please respond within 30 days; the deadline for comments is: **July 8, 2006**

www.nysparks.com

An Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Agency

printed on recycled paper

Please direct comments and/or questions to:

Thomas B. Lyons, Director
Environmental Management Bureau
NYS Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation
Agency Building 1, Empire State Plaza
Albany, NY 12238

As required by the Niagara River Greenway enabling legislation, a generic environmental impact statement (GEIS) will be prepared in conjunction with the Greenway Plan. Attached please find the SEQR Environmental Assessment Form, Part 1 for your review. If your organization has been included on the list of interested agencies, and you believe yours is an involved agency, please submit information on the type and extent of any actions that may fall under your jurisdiction. Please feel free to submit any preliminary comments, additional information or concerns you feel need to be addressed within the environmental review. We would appreciate receiving any comments within the 30-day period. Comments and questions should be directed to my attention at the address above.

Sincerely,

 #103

Thomas B. Lyons – Director
Environmental Management
NYS OPRHP

Attachments
Environmental Assessment Form, Part 1
List of Involved and Interested Agencies