

This chapter assesses the Proposed Action's potential impacts on and consistency with the Nassau and Suffolk Counties comprehensive management plan for the special groundwater protection area program as implemented pursuant to article 55, or any plan subsequently ratified and adopted pursuant to article 57, of the New York Environmental Conservation Law.

Article 55 of the Environmental Conservation Law (known as the Sole Source Aquifer Protection Act) designates areas on Long Island that are Special Groundwater Protection Areas (SGPAs). Prepared under the direction of the Long Island Regional Planning Board and released in 1992, *The Long Island Comprehensive Special Groundwater Protection Area Plan* identifies nine SGPAs in the Nassau and Suffolk County regions. The SGPAs are watershed recharge areas important for the maintenance of large volumes of high-quality groundwater. SGPAs are usually located in largely undeveloped or sparsely developed areas of Long Island that provide recharge to portions of the deep flow aquifer system. The existing water supply policy is to ensure the future quantity and quality of groundwater recharge by controlling development and pumpage in these SGPAs. All SGPAs are designated Critical Environmental Areas (CEAs), which are areas of exceptional or unique natural settings which have an inherent ecological, geological, or hydrological sensitivity. The project area is not located within a SGPA. *