Chapter 26: Irreversible and Irretrievable Commitment of Resources

Under the proposed actions, both natural and man-made resources would be expended in the construction, renovation, reuse, and operation of developments projected to occur under the proposed actions. These resources include the building materials used during construction or renovation; energy in the form of gas and electricity consumed during construction and operation of buildings by various mechanical and processing systems; and the human effort required to develop, construct, renovate, and operate various elements of projected and potential developments, as well as the associated costs. These are considered irretrievably committed because their reuse for some other purpose would be highly likely.

The proposed actions would result in the increased consumption of approximately 189,900 BTU's annually over the future without the proposed actions (see Table 15-3 in Chapter 15, "Energy"). This is the projected annual commitment of energy resources attributable to the proposed actions. This, however, is not significant energy consumption or a significant impact.

The land use changes associated with the proposed actions may also be considered an irreversible or irretrievable commitment of land. Projected and potential developments under the proposed actions constitute a long-term commitment of land resources, thereby rendering land use for other purposes infeasible. Under both the existing conditions and conditions in the future without the proposed actions, all of the projected and potential development sites are essentially developed and substantially devoid of natural resources, as defined by the *CEQR Technical Manual.* None of the projected or potential development sites possess any natural resource values, and the sites are in large part developed or previously developed. New land uses expected as a result of the proposed actions would be similar to, and compatible with, adjacent uses in the primary and secondary study areas.

Although the proposed actions would result in an increase in the use of public services (e.g., police and fire protection, public education, open space, and other city resources) in respective service areas, the DEIS analyses have shown that the proposed actions would not result in significant adverse impacts. ✷