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SERVICE GROUP MANAGER

DAVID O. KELLY

September 21, 1989

TO: Supervisor Frederick G. Field, Jr., Town of Colonie  
Mayor Herbert Kuhn, Village of Colonie  
Thomas J. Jorling, Commissioner, NYS Dept. of Environmental Conservation  
William Clark, Region 4, Permit Administrator, NYSDEC  
Richard W. Carlson, NYS Department of Transportation  
Director, Albany County Department of Public Works  
Director, Albany County Health Department  
Executive Director, Albany County Sewer District  
Chairman, Albany County Industrial Development Agency  
Chairman, Town of Colonie Zoning Board of Appeals  
Chairman, Town of Colonie Sign Review Board  
Director, Latham Water District  
Director, Town of Colonie Sewer District  
Chairman, Town of Colonie Industrial Development Agency  
Robert Graf, Chairman, Village of Colonie Planning Commission  
James Barba, Chairman, Village of Colonie Zoning Board of Appeals  
Charles Szuberla, Superintendent, North Colonie School District  
Thomas Brown, Superintendent, South Colonie School District  
Theodore Foot, Superintendent, Niskayuna School District

RE: Albany County Airport Area GEIS  
CHA File: 1912.01.05

As a result of recognition by the Town of Colonie, the County of Albany and the Village of Colonie that development within the area surrounding the Albany County Airport, as shown on the attached map, may have a significant effect on the environment, the Town, County, and Village have agreed that a Generic Environmental Impact Statement should be prepared.

It is proposed that the Town of Colonie Planning Board be the Lead Agency with respect to preparation of the GEIS. A copy of Part 1 of the Environmental Assessment Form (EAF) is attached for your review.

We request that, as an involved agency, you respond within 30 days of the date of this notice, indicating whether you concur with designation of the Planning Board as Lead Agency. If we do not hear from you within 30 days, we will assume you have no objection.

3 WINNERS CIRCLE • P.O. BOX 5269 • ALBANY, NEW YORK 12205 - 5269

Tel: 518-453-4500

FAX: 518-458-1735

We anticipate that, once Lead Agency is established, a scoping session will be held to identify issues to be addressed in the GEIS. You will be notified of the scoping session time and place at a later date.

Should you have any questions, please be sure to contact me.

Very truly yours,

**CLOUGH, HARBOUR & ASSOCIATES  
ENGINEERS & PLANNERS**



Larry M. Callander  
Senior Environmental Planner

LMC/kc

1912-1

Enclosures

cc: Capital District Transportation Authority  
Albany County Planning Department  
Capital District Transportation Committee

Appendix A

State Environmental Quality Review  
FULL ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT FORM

**Purpose:** The full EAF is designed to help applicants and agencies determine, in an orderly manner, whether a project or action may be significant. The question of whether an action may be significant is not always easy to answer. Frequently here are aspects of a project that are subjective or unmeasurable. It is also understood that those who determine significance may have little or no formal knowledge of the environment or may be technically expert in environmental analysis. In addition, many who have knowledge in one particular area may not be aware of the broader concerns affecting the question of significance.

The full EAF is intended to provide a method whereby applicants and agencies can be assured that the determination process has been orderly, comprehensive in nature, yet flexible to allow introduction of information to fit a project or action.

**Full EAF Components:** The full EAF is comprised of three parts:

- Part 1:** Provides objective data and information about a given project and its site. By identifying basic project data, it assists a reviewer in the analysis that takes place in Parts 2 and 3.
- Part 2:** Focuses on identifying the range of possible impacts that may occur from a project or action. It provides guidance as to whether an impact is likely to be considered small to moderate or whether it is a potentially-large impact. The form also identifies whether an impact can be mitigated or reduced.
- Part 3:** If any impact in Part 2 is identified as potentially-large, then Part 3 is used to evaluate whether or not the impact is actually important.

**DETERMINATION OF SIGNIFICANCE — Type 1 and Unlisted Actions**

Identify the Portions of EAF completed for this project:     Part 1     Part 2     Part 3

Upon review of the information recorded on this EAF (Parts 1 and 2 and 3 if appropriate), and any other supporting information, and considering both the magnitude and importance of each impact, it is reasonably determined by the agency that:

- A. The project will not result in any large and important impact(s) and, therefore, is one which will not have a significant impact on the environment, therefore a **negative declaration will be prepared.**
  - B. Although the project could have a significant effect on the environment, there will not be a significant effect for this Unlisted Action because the mitigation measures described in PART 3 have been required, therefore a **CONDITIONED negative declaration will be prepared.\***
  - C. The project may result in one or more large and important impacts that may have a significant impact on the environment, therefore a **positive declaration will be prepared.**
- \* A Conditioned Negative Declaration is only valid for Unlisted Actions

Albany County Airport Area GEIS

Name of Action

TOWN OF COLONIE PLANNING BOARD

Name of Lead Agency

PETER E. PLATT

Print or Type Name of Responsible Officer in Lead Agency

CHAIRMAN

Title of Responsible Officer

*Peter E Platt*

Signature of Responsible Officer in Lead Agency

Signature of Preparer (If different from responsible officer)

OCTOBER 24 1989

Date

**PART 1—PROJECT INFORMATION**

**Prepared by Project Sponsor**

**NOTICE:** This document is designed to assist in determining whether the action proposed may have a significant effect on the environment. Please complete the entire form, Parts A through E. Answers to these questions will be considered as part of the application for approval and may be subject to further verification and public review. Provide any additional information you believe will be needed to complete Parts 2 and 3.

It is expected that completion of the full EAF will be dependent on information currently available and will not require new studies, research or investigation. If information requiring such additional work is unavailable, so indicate in each instance.

<b>NAME OF ACTION</b> Albany County Airport Area Generic Environmental Impact Statement		
<b>LOCATION OF ACTION (Include Street Address, Municipality and County)</b> Central Section of Town of Colonie, North & East Sections of Village of Colonie, Albany County		
<b>NAME OF APPLICANT/SPONSOR</b> Town of Colonie Planning Board		<b>BUSINESS TELEPHONE</b> (518) 482-0248
<b>ADDRESS</b> 272 Maxwell Road		
<b>CITY/PO</b> Latham	<b>STATE</b> NY	<b>ZIP CODE</b> 12110
<b>NAME OF OWNER (if different)</b>		<b>BUSINESS TELEPHONE</b> ( )
<b>ADDRESS</b>		
<b>CITY/PO</b>	<b>STATE</b>	<b>ZIP CODE</b>

**DESCRIPTION OF ACTION**

Preparation of Generic Environmental Impact Statement (GEIS) for the Albany County Airport Area, in the Town and Village of Colonie, Albany County, New York.

**Please Complete Each Question— Indicate N.A. if not applicable**

**A. Site Description**

Physical setting of overall project, both developed and undeveloped areas.

1. Present land use:     Urban     Industrial     Commercial     Residential (suburban)     Rural (non-farm)  
                                Forest     Agriculture     Other \_\_\_\_\_
  
2. Total acreage of project area:    8,300 acres.
 

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE (to be evaluated in GEIS)	PRESENTLY	AFTER COMPLETION
Meadow or Brushland (Non-agricultural)	_____ acres	_____ acres
Forested	_____ acres	_____ acres
Agricultural (Includes orchards, cropland, pasture, etc.)	_____ acres	_____ acres
Wetland (Freshwater or tidal as per Articles 24, 25 or ECL)	_____ acres	_____ acres
Water Surface Area	_____ acres	_____ acres
Unvegetated (Rock, earth or fill)	_____ acres	_____ acres
Roads, buildings and other paved surfaces	_____ acres	_____ acres
Other (Indicate type) _____	_____ acres	_____ acres
  
3. What is predominant soil type(s) on project site? varies (to be discussed in GEIS)
  - a. Soil drainage:     Well drained \_\_\_\_\_ % of site     Moderately well drained \_\_\_\_\_ % of site  
                                Poorly drained \_\_\_\_\_ % of site
  - b. If any agricultural land is involved, how many acres of soil are classified within soil group 1 through 4 of the Land Classification System? NA acres. (See 1 NYCRR 370)
  
4. Are there bedrock outcroppings on project site?     Yes     No
  - a. What is depth to bedrock? \_\_\_\_\_ (in feet)

7. Approximate percentage of proposed project site with slopes: N/A  0-10%  10-15%  15% or greater \_\_\_\_\_ %

6. Is project substantially contiguous to, or contain a building, site, or district, listed on the State or the National Registers of Historic Places?  Yes  No

7. Is project substantially contiguous to a site listed on the Register of National Natural Landmarks?  Yes  No

8. What is the depth of the water table? varies (in feet)

9. Is site located over a primary, principal, or sole source aquifer?  Yes  No  Unknown, to be determined

10. Do hunting, fishing or shell fishing opportunities presently exist in the project area?  Yes  No

11. Does project site contain any species of plant or animal life that is identified as threatened or endangered?  Yes  No According to Unknown, to be discussed in GEIS  
Identify each species \_\_\_\_\_

12. Are there any unique or unusual land forms on the project site? (i.e., cliffs, dunes, other geological formations)  Yes  No Describe Unknown, to be discussed in GEIS

13. Is the project site presently used by the community or neighborhood as an open space or recreation area?  Yes  No If yes, explain Shaker Ridge Country Club, Ann Lee Pond, Heritage Park.

14. Does the present site include scenic views known to be important to the community?  Yes  No  Unknown, to be discussed in GEIS.

15. Streams within or contiguous to project area: Shaker Creek  
a. Name of Stream and name of River to which it is tributary Mohawk River

16. Lakes, ponds, wetland areas within or contiguous to project area:  
a. Name Ann Lee Pond, Stump Pond, DEC Wetlands A-7, b. Size (In acres) >100ac.

17. Is the site served by existing public utilities?  Yes  No A-10, N-3, N-4, N-7, N-13, N-17  
a) If Yes, does sufficient capacity exist to allow connection?  Yes  No N/A  
b) If Yes, will improvements be necessary to allow connection?  Yes  No N/A

18. Is the site located in an agricultural district certified pursuant to Agriculture and Markets Law, Article 25-AA, Section 303 and 304?  Yes  No

19. Is the site located in or substantially contiguous to a Critical Environmental Area designated pursuant to Article 8 of the ECL, and 6 NYCRR 617?  Yes  No

20. Has the site ever been used for the disposal of solid or hazardous wastes?  Yes  No N/A

### B. Project Description

1. Physical dimensions and scale of project (fill in dimensions as appropriate)
  - a. Total contiguous acreage owned or controlled by project sponsor N/A acres.
  - b. Project acreage to be developed: \_\_\_\_\_ acres initially; \_\_\_\_\_ acres ultimately. To be discussed in the GEIS.
  - c. Project acreage to remain undeveloped N/A acres.
  - d. Length of project, in miles: N/A (If appropriate)
  - e. If the project is an expansion, indicate percent of expansion proposed N/A %;
  - f. Number of off-street parking spaces existing N/A; proposed N/A.
  - g. Maximum vehicular trips generated per hour \_\_\_\_\_ (upon completion of project)? To be discussed in GEIS.
  - h. If residential: Number and type of housing units:
 

	One Family	Two Family	Multiple Family	Condominium
Initially	_____	_____	_____	_____
Ultimately	_____	_____	_____	_____
  - i. Dimensions (in feet) of largest proposed structure N/A height; N/A width; N/A length.
  - j. Linear feet of frontage along a public thoroughfare project will occupy is? N/A ft

2. How much natural material (i.e., rock, earth, etc.) will be removed from the site? N/A tons/cubic yards
3. Will disturbed areas be reclaimed?  Yes  No  N/A
- a. If yes, for what intended purpose is the site being reclaimed? N/A
- b. Will topsoil be stockpiled for reclamation?  Yes  No N/A
- c. Will upper subsoil be stockpiled for reclamation?  Yes  No N/A
4. How many acres of vegetation (trees, shrubs, ground covers) will be removed from site? N/A acres.
5. Will any mature forest (over 100 years old) or other locally-important vegetation be removed by this project?  
 Yes  No N/A
6. If single phase project: Anticipated period of construction \_\_\_\_\_ months, (including demolition).
7. If multi-phased:
- a. Total number of phases anticipated \_\_\_\_\_ (number).
- b. Anticipated date of commencement phase 1 \_\_\_\_\_ month \_\_\_\_\_ year, (including demolition).
- c. Approximate completion date of final phase \_\_\_\_\_ month \_\_\_\_\_ year.
- d. Is phase 1 functionally dependent on subsequent phases?  Yes  No
8. Will blasting occur during construction?  Yes  No N/A
9. Number of jobs generated: during construction N/A; after project is complete N/A
10. Number of jobs eliminated by this project N/A
11. Will project require relocation of any projects or facilities?  Yes  No If yes, explain \_\_\_\_\_
12. Is surface liquid waste disposal involved?  Yes  No N/A
- a. If yes, indicate type of waste (sewage, industrial, etc.) and amount \_\_\_\_\_
- b. Name of water body into which effluent will be discharged \_\_\_\_\_
13. Is subsurface liquid waste disposal involved?  Yes  No N/A type \_\_\_\_\_
14. Will surface area of an existing water body increase or decrease by proposal?  Yes  No N/A  
Explain \_\_\_\_\_
15. Is project or any portion of project located in a 100 year flood plain?  Yes  No
16. Will the project generate solid waste?  Yes  No N/A
- a. If yes, what is the amount per month \_\_\_\_\_ tons
- b. If yes, will an existing solid waste facility be used?  Yes  No
- c. If yes, give name \_\_\_\_\_; location \_\_\_\_\_
- d. Will any wastes **not** go into a sewage disposal system or into a sanitary landfill?  Yes  No N/A
- e. If Yes, explain \_\_\_\_\_
17. Will the project involve the disposal of solid waste?  Yes  No N/A
- a. If yes, what is the anticipated rate of disposal? \_\_\_\_\_ tons/month.
- b. If yes, what is the anticipated site life? \_\_\_\_\_ years.
18. Will project use herbicides or pesticides?  Yes  No N/A
19. Will project routinely produce odors (more than one hour per day)?  Yes  No N/A
20. Will project produce operating noise exceeding the local ambient noise levels?  Yes  No N/A
21. Will project result in an increase in energy use?  Yes  No N/A  
If yes, indicate type(s) \_\_\_\_\_
22. If water supply is from wells, indicate pumping capacity N/A gallons/minute.
3. Total anticipated water usage per day N/A gallons/day
24. Does project involve Local, State or Federal funding?  Yes  No  
If Yes, explain Town, Village of Colonie and Albany County to fund GEIS.

25. Approvals Required:

(See attached list of involved agencies) Type

Submital Date

City, Town, Village Board	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Funding	
City, Town, Village Planning Board	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	See attached list	
Town Zoning Board	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	See attached list	
County Health Department	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	See attached list	
Other Local Agencies	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	See attached list	
Other Regional Agencies	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Alb. Co. DOH, Public Works	
State Agencies	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	DOT, DEC	
Federal Agencies	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No		

**C. Zoning and Planning Information**

- Does proposed action involve a planning or zoning decision?  Yes  No  
 If Yes, indicate decision required:  
 zoning amendment    zoning variance    special use permit    subdivision    site plan  
 new/revision of master plan    resource management plan    other \_\_\_\_\_
- What is the zoning classification(s) of the site? varies
- What is the maximum potential development of the site if developed as permitted by the present zoning?  
To be discussed in GEIS
- What is the proposed zoning of the site? N/A
- What is the maximum potential development of the site if developed as permitted by the proposed zoning?  
To be discussed in GEIS
- Is the proposed action consistent with the recommended uses in adopted local land use plans? N/A  Yes  No
- What are the predominant land use(s) and zoning classifications within a 1/4 mile radius of proposed action?  
N/A
- Is the proposed action compatible with adjoining/surrounding land uses within a 1/4 mile? N/A  Yes  No
- If the proposed action is the subdivision of land, how many lots are proposed? N/A  
 a. What is the minimum lot size proposed? N/A
- Will proposed action require any authorization(s) for the formation of sewer or water districts?  Yes  No  
To be discussed in GEIS.
- Will the proposed action create a demand for any community provided services (recreation, education, police, fire protection)?  Yes  No  
 a. If yes, is existing capacity sufficient to handle projected demand?  Yes  No
- Will the proposed action result in the generation of traffic significantly above present levels?  Yes  No  
 a. If yes, is the existing road network adequate to handle the additional traffic?  Yes  No

**D. Informational Details**

Attach any additional information as may be needed to clarify your project. If there are or may be any adverse impacts associated with your proposal, please discuss such impacts and the measures which you propose to mitigate or avoid them.

**E. Verification**

I certify that the information provided above is true to the best of my knowledge.

Applicant/Sponsor Name Kevin DeLaughter for Albany Co. Planning Board Date 9/22/89  
 Signature Kevin DeLaughter Title Planner, Town of Colonie

If \_\_\_\_\_ is in the Coastal Area, and you are a state agency, complete the Coastal Assessment Form before proceeding with \_\_\_\_\_ assessment.

## Part 2—PROJECT IMPACTS AND THEIR MAGNITUDE

Responsibility of Lead Agency

### General Information (Read Carefully)

- In completing the form the reviewer should be guided by the question: Have my responses and determinations been **reasonable**? The reviewer is not expected to be an expert environmental analyst.
- Identifying that an impact will be potentially large (column 2) does not mean that it is also necessarily **significant**. Any large impact must be evaluated in PART 3 to determine significance. Identifying an impact in column 2 asks that it be looked at further.
- The **Examples** provided are to assist the reviewer by showing types of impacts and wherever possible the threshold of magnitude that would trigger a response in column 2. The examples are generally applicable throughout the State and for most situations. But, for any specific project or site other examples and/or lower thresholds may be appropriate for a Potential Large Impact response, thus requiring evaluation in Part 3.
- The impacts of each project, on each site, in each locality, will vary. Therefore, the examples are illustrative and have been offered as guidance. They do not constitute an exhaustive list of impacts and thresholds to answer each question.
- The number of examples per question does not indicate the importance of each question.
- In identifying impacts, consider long term, short term and cumulative effects.

### Instructions (Read carefully)

- a. Answer each of the 19 questions in PART 2. Answer **Yes** if there will be any impact.
- b. **Maybe** answers should be considered as **Yes** answers.
- c. If answering **Yes** to a question then check the appropriate box (column 1 or 2) to indicate the potential size of the impact. If impact threshold equals or exceeds any example provided, check column 2. If impact will occur but threshold is lower than example, check column 1.
- d. If reviewer has doubt about size of the impact then consider the impact as potentially large and proceed to PART 3.
- e. If a potentially large impact checked in column 2 can be mitigated by change(s) in the project to a small to moderate impact, also check the **Yes** box in column 3. A **No** response indicates that such a reduction is not possible. This must be explained in Part 3.

### IMPACT ON LAND

1. Will the proposed action result in a physical change to the project site?  
 NO     YES

#### Examples that would apply to column 2

- Any construction on slopes of 15% or greater. (15 foot rise per 100 foot of length), or where the general slopes in the project area exceed 10%.
- Construction on land where the depth to the water table is less than 3 feet.
- Construction of paved parking area for 1,000 or more vehicles.
- Construction on land where bedrock is exposed or generally within 3 feet of existing ground surface.
- Construction that will continue for more than 1 year or involve more than one phase or stage.
- Excavation for mining purposes that would remove more than 1,000 tons of natural material (i.e., rock or soil) per year.
- Construction or expansion of a sanitary landfill.
- Construction in a designated floodway
- Other impacts \_\_\_\_\_

2. Will there be an effect to any unique or unusual land forms found on the site? (i.e., cliffs, dunes, geological formations, etc.)  NO     YES

- Specific land forms \_\_\_\_\_

1 Small to Moderate Impact	2 Potential Large Impact	3 Can Impact Mitigated Project Change
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No









**IMPACT ON TRANSPORTATION**

14 Will there be an effect to existing transportation systems?  
 NO  YES

Examples that would apply to column 2

- Alteration of present patterns of movement of people and/or goods.
- Proposed Action will result in major traffic problems.
- Other impacts: Extent of impact to be evaluated in GEIS

**IMPACT ON ENERGY**

15. Will proposed action affect the community's sources of fuel or energy supply?  
 NO  YES

Examples that would apply to column 2

- Proposed Action will cause a greater than 5% increase in the use of any form of energy in the municipality.
- Proposed Action will require the creation or extension of an energy transmission or supply system to serve more than 50 single or two family residences or to serve a major commercial or industrial use.
- Other impacts: \_\_\_\_\_

**NOISE AND ODOR IMPACTS**

16. Will there be objectionable odors, noise, or vibration as a result of the Proposed Action?  
 NO  YES

Examples that would apply to column 2

- Blasting within 1,500 feet of a hospital, school or other sensitive facility.
- Odors will occur routinely (more than one hour per day).
- Proposed Action will produce operating noise exceeding the local ambient noise levels for noise outside of structures.
- Proposed Action will remove natural barriers that would act as a noise screen.
- Other impacts: Extent of impact to be evaluated in GEIS.

**IMPACT ON PUBLIC HEALTH**

17 Will Proposed Action affect public health and safety?  
 NO  YES

Examples that would apply to column 2

- Proposed Action may cause a risk of explosion or release of hazardous substances (i.e. oil, pesticides, chemicals, radiation, etc.) in the event of accident or upset conditions, or there may be a chronic low level discharge or emission.
- Proposed Action may result in the burial of "hazardous wastes" in any form (i.e. toxic, poisonous, highly reactive, radioactive, irritating, infectious, etc.)
- Storage facilities for one million or more gallons of liquified natural gas or other flammable liquids.
- Proposed action may result in the excavation or other disturbance within 2,000 feet of a site used for the disposal of solid or hazardous waste
- Other impacts: \_\_\_\_\_

1 Small to Moderate Impact	2 Potential Large Impact	3 Can Impact Be Mitigated By Project Change
<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
unknown at this time		
<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
unknown at this time		
<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No

**IMPACT ON GROWTH AND CHARACTER OF COMMUNITY OR NEIGHBORHOOD**

18 Will proposed action affect the character of the existing community?  NO  YES

Examples that would apply to column 2

The permanent population of the city, town or village in which the project is located is likely to grow by more than 5%.

- The municipal budget for capital expenditures or operating services will increase by more than 5% per year as a result of this project.
- Proposed action will conflict with officially adopted plans or goals.
- Proposed action will cause a change in the density of land use.
- Proposed Action will replace or eliminate existing facilities, structures or areas of historic importance to the community.
- Development will create a demand for additional community services (e.g. schools, police and fire, etc.)
- Proposed Action will set an important precedent for future projects.
- Proposed Action will create or eliminate employment.
- Other impacts: Extent of impact to be discussed in GEIS.

1 Small to Moderate Impact	2 Potential Large Impact	3 Can Impact Be Mitigated By Project Change
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	unknown at this time <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

19 Is there, or is there likely to be, public controversy related to potential adverse environmental impacts?  NO  YES

**If Any Action in Part 2 Is Identified as a Potential Large Impact or If You Cannot Determine the Magnitude of Impact, Proceed to Part 3**

**Part 3—EVALUATION OF THE IMPORTANCE OF IMPACTS**

**Responsibility of Lead Agency**

Part 3 must be prepared if one or more impact(s) is considered to be potentially large, even if the impact(s) may be mitigated.

**Instructions**

Discuss the following for each impact identified in Column 2 of Part 2:

- 1 Briefly describe the impact.
- 2 Describe (if applicable) how the impact could be mitigated or reduced to a small to moderate impact by project change(s)
- 3 Based on the information available, decide if it is reasonable to conclude that this impact is **important**.

To answer the question of importance, consider:

- The probability of the impact occurring
- The duration of the impact
- Its irreversibility, including permanently lost resources or value
- Whether the impact can or will be controlled
- The regional consequence of the impact
- Its potential divergence from local needs and goals
- Whether known objections to the project relate to this impact.

(Continue on attachments)

### PART 3 - EVALUATION OF THE IMPORTANCE OF IMPACTS

Due to the increasing development pressures within the Albany County Airport area, the cumulative effect of many proposed and/or future projects may have potentially significant impacts on the environment. These impacts could also have a major effect upon essential public facilities and services. As a result, it is appropriate to consider the preparation of a Generic Environmental Impact Statement (GEIS) for the Airport Area. The GEIS will examine potential impacts and necessary mitigation measures for a reasonable development scenario for a 15 year planning period. The GEIS will be distributed to all involved and interested agencies for review and comment.



**CLOUGH, HARBOUR  
& ASSOCIATES**  
ENGINEERS & PLANNERS

ALBANY, NEW YORK • ROCKY HILL, CONNECTICUT

PARTNERS

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SHAWN H. VÉLTMAN, P.E.

DIR. PROJ. DEVELOP.

RAYMOND J. KINLEY, JR.

SERVICE GROUP MANAGER

DAVID O. KELLY

October 26, 1989

TO: Frederick G. Field, Supervisor, Town of Colonie  
Herbert Kuhn, Mayor, Village of Colonie  
Charles Cahill, Chairman, Albany County Legislature, Albany County IDA  
Thomas J. Jorling, Commissioner, NYS Dept. of Environmental Conservation  
William Clarke, Permit Administrator, Region 4, NYS-DEC  
Richard W. Carlson, Commissioner, NYS Dept. of Transportation  
Paul Cooney, County Engineer, Albany County Dept. of Public Works  
Steven Lukowski, Dir., Albany County Health Dept., Env. Health Services  
William Greene, Director, Albany County Sewer District  
Jean Donovan, Chairman, Town of Colonie Zoning Board of Appeals  
Steven Colter, Chairman, Town of Colonie Sign Review Board  
Gary Mostert, Director, Latham Water District  
Joseph Chiefari, Director, Town of Colonie Pure Waters Department  
Jay Sherman, Chairman, Town of Colonie IDA  
Robert Graff, Chairman, Village of Colonie Planning Commission  
James Barba, Chairman, Village of Colonie Zoning Board of Appeals  
Charles Szuberla, Superintendent, North Colonie School District  
Thomas Brown, Superintendent, South Colonie School District  
Theodore Foot, Superintendent, Niskayuna School District  
Eric Alsmeyer, New York Office, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
Robert Mendez, New York District Office, Federal Aviation Administration

RE: Positive Declaration, Albany County Airport Area  
Generic Environmental Impact Statement

As representatives of the Town of Colonie, we are hereby officially notifying your agency that the Town of Colonie Planning Board, as Lead Agency, has determined that a Generic Environmental Impact Statement should be prepared to analyze future development in the above named study area. Attached you will find a copy of the Positive Declaration.

3 WINNERS CIRCLE • P.O. BOX 5269 • ALBANY, NEW YORK 12205 - 5269

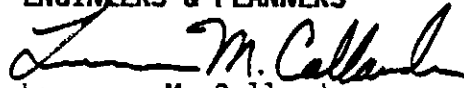
Tel: 518-453-4500

FAX: 518-458-1735

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Very truly yours,

**CLOUGH, HARBOUR & ASSOCIATES  
ENGINEERS & PLANNERS**



Lawrence M. Callander  
Senior Environmental Planners

LMC:cjn  
1912-6  
Enclosures

cc: Town Planning Board  
Susan Tatro, Town Attorney  
Robert Mitchell, Town of Colonie  
Mark Fitzsimmons, Albany County  
David Marinucci, Colonie Village Attorney



617.21

## Appendix E

## State Environmental Quality Review

**POSITIVE DECLARATION**  
 Notice of Intent to Prepare a Draft EIS  
 Determination of Significance

Project Number \_\_\_\_\_

Date October 24, 1989

This notice is issued pursuant to Part 617 of the implementing regulations pertaining to Article 8 (State Environmental Quality Review Act) of the Environmental Conservation Law.

The Town of Colonie Planning Board, as lead agency, has determined that the proposed action described below may have a significant effect on the environment and that a Draft Environmental Impact Statement will be prepared.

**Name of Action:** Albany County Airport Area Generic Environmental Impact Statement (GEIS)

**SEQR Status:** Type I   
 Unlisted

**Description of Action:** As a result of increased development interest in the Albany County Airport area in the Town and Village of Colonie, it has been determined by the Town of Colonie Planning Board that a Generic Environmental Impact Statement is appropriate.

**Location:** (Include street address and the name of the municipality/county. A location map of appropriate scale is also recommended.)

The study area includes lands around the Albany County Airport within the Town and Village of Colonie, County of Albany, New York. See attached map of study area.

**Reasons Supporting This Determination:**

Due to the increasing development pressures within the Albany County Airport a cumulative effect of many proposed and/or future projects may have potentially significant impacts on the environment. These impacts could also have a major effect on essential public facilities and services. Potentially large impacts to surface and groundwater, air quality, aesthetic resources, transportation systems and neighborhood character have been identified and other impacts are, as yet, unknown. Therefore, the completed study and findings associated with proposed development will address these issues and provide the Town of Colonie, Village of Colonie and Albany County with a planning tool to manage future growth within the study area. This action will also assist the lead agency in forwarding the basic goal and purpose of SEQR as outlined in 6 NYCRR Part 617.1(c).

**For Further Information:**

Contact Person: Peter Platt, Chairman, Town of Colonie Planning Board

Address: 272 Maxwell Road, Latham, NY 12110

Telephone Number: (518) 482-0248

**A Copy of this Notice Sent to:**

- X Commissioner, Department of Environmental Conservation, 50 Wolf Road, Albany, New York 12233-0001
- X Appropriate Regional Office of the Department of Environmental Conservation
- X Office of the Chief Executive Officer of the political subdivision in which the action will be principally located.
  - Town of Colonie Zoning Board of Appeals
  - Latham Water District
  - Town of Colonie Sewer District
  - Town of Colonie Industrial Devel. Agency
  - Village of Colonie Planning Commission
  - Village of Colonie Zoning Board of Appeals
  - North Colonie School District
  - South Colonie School District
  - Niskayuna School District
  - Federal Aviation Adm. - NY Airports District Office
  - U.S. Army Corps of Engineers - NY District
- X Applicant (if any)
- X Other involved agencies (if any)
  - Colonie Town Board
  - Colonie Village Board
  - NYS Dept. of Transportation
  - Albany County Dept. of Public Works
  - Albany County Health Dept. Div. of Environmental Health Services
  - Albany County Sewer District
  - Albany County Legislature
  - Albany County Industrial Devel. Agency

# CLOUGH, HARBOUR & ASSOCIATES

ENGINEERS & PLANNERS

ALBANY, NEW YORK • ROCKY HILL, CONNECTICUT

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SHAWN H. VELTMAN, P.E.

DIR. PROJ. DEVELOP.

RAYMOND J. KINLEY, JR.

SERVICE GROUP MANAGER

DAVID O. KELLY

November 2, 1989

TO: Susan Tatro, Colonie Town Attorney  
Mary Brizzell, Colonie Town Board Member  
Peter Platt, Town of Colonie Planning Board  
David Marinucci, Colonie Village Attorney  
Paul Cooney, Albany County Engineer  
Mark Fitzsimmons, Env. Management Director, Albany Co. Plan. Dept.  
Charles Cahill, Albany County Legislature & Albany Co. IDA  
Eric Alsmeyer, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
Robert Mendez, Federal Aviation Administration  
Fred Field, Colonie Town Supervisor  
Herbert Kuhn, Colonie Village Mayor  
Thomas Jorling, Commissioner, NYS Dept. of Environmental Conservation  
William Clarke, NYS Dept. of Environmental Conservation, Region 4  
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Robert Graf, Village of Colonie Planning Commission  
James Barba, Village of Colonie, Zoning Board of Appeals  
Charles Szuberla, North Colonie School District  
Thomas Brown, South Colonie School District  
Theodore Foot, Niskayuna School District  
John Poorman, Capital District Transportation Committee  
John Masko, Albany County Airport  
Robert Lyman, Capital District Transportation Authority

RE: **Development of Draft Scoping Document**  
**Notice of Workshop Session**  
**Albany County Airport Area DGEIS**  
**CHA File No. 1912.01.02**

3 WINNERS CIRCLE • P.O. BOX 5269 • ALBANY, NEW YORK 12205 - 5269

Tel: 518 - 453 - 4500

FAX: 518 - 458 - 1735

As representatives of the Town of Colonie, we are officially notifying your agency that the Town of Colonie Planning Board, as lead agency, will hold a workshop session on November 9 at 8:00 AM to identify all significant environmental issues which should be addressed in the Albany County Airport Area DGEIS. The Planning Board would appreciate your participation at this meeting, as an interested or involved agency, to ensure that your concerns will be addressed in this document.

The meeting will be held at the above mentioned date and time at the offices of Clough, Harbour and Associates, 3 Winners Circle, Albany, New York. In advance of the November 9 workshop session, we have prepared a draft scoping document for your review and comment. The Town Planning Board will conduct a formal public scoping session at a date, time and location to be announced. As an interested or involved agency, you will also receive notification of this meeting.

If you have any questions or need directions to our office, please feel free to contact me at your convenience.

Very truly yours,

**CLOUGH, HARBOUR & ASSOCIATES  
ENGINEERS AND PLANNERS**



Lawrence M. Callander  
Sr. Environmental Planner

LMC:cjn  
1912-8  
Enclosure

cc: R. Mitchell, Town of Colonie  
M. Burke, Town of Colonie

**\* \* DRAFT SCOPING DOCUMENT \* \***

**ALBANY COUNTY AIRPORT AREA**

**DRAFT GENERIC ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT (DGEIS)**

**I. PROJECT DESCRIPTION AND HISTORY:**

A description of the study area boundaries will be included along with a discussion of existing development conditions. The need for the DGEIS will be discussed based on the report, Traffic Assessment for the Albany County Airport Area, prepared by the Capital District Transportation Committee (CDTC). A fifteen (15) year planning period will be used as a basis for the draft GEIS. Two (2) development scenarios, eight (8) years and fifteen (15) years, will be evaluated.

**II. PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING AND IMPACT ANALYSIS:**

**A. Land Use and Zoning:**

Existing land use and zoning within the study area will be evaluated including a discussion of lands used for agricultural purposes and those properties owned by Albany County, the Town of Colonie and the Village of Colonie.

**B. Geology, Topography and Soils:**

The general geology, topography and soils will be identified and discussed. Analysis of slope stability will be based on review of topographic maps, existing soils information and site visits as required. Areas of severe limitations will be identified. In addition, areas of potential limitations will be identified and specific guidelines for future analyses will be provided.

**C. Vegetation, Wildlife and Aquatic Ecology:**

This section will rely heavily on readily available information on vegetation, wildlife and aquatic ecology for the Ann Lee Pond Nature and Historic Preserve. However, additional information will be gathered for this area and other sections of the study area. The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) Wildlife Resource Center and the NYSDEC Region 4 Office will be contacted to identify any rare, threatened or endangered animal or plant habitats, including regulated wetlands within the study area. Potential impacts and mitigation measures associated with projected development will be discussed. A general discussion of vegetative types and potential wildlife which may inhabit the study area will also be included.

**D. Surface and Ground Water:**

This section will discuss the locations of both surface water and known aquifers. Depth to water table and potential limitations this may create will also be discussed. Methods to protect surface and groundwater resources will be outlined.

**E. Hydrology, Drainage and Water Quality:**

An analysis of existing drainage patterns (i.e., Shaker Creek) and flood prone areas will be provided. In addition, specific areas of water quality problems as they relate to the Albany County Airport activities will be addressed. Impacts and mitigation measures related to future development will be provided. In addition, costs for identified alternatives will be developed.

**F. Utilities:**

Water and sewer services in the study area will be analyzed. Specifically, this will include: 1) evaluation of existing water distribution and treatment systems for potable water and fire flows, 2) assessment of existing sewage collection and treatment facilities and, 3) evaluation of impacts and mitigation measures associated with the eight (8) and fifteen (15) year planning periods. In addition, Niagara Mohawk Power Corporation and the New York Telephone Company will be contacted to evaluate their ability to supply services based on the projected development demand.

**G. Transportation/Traffic**

Existing traffic data generated by the New York State Department of Transportation (NYSDOT), Albany County Department of Public Works, Capital District Transportation Committee (CDTC), the Town and Village of Colonie and other agencies, as appropriate, will be obtained and reviewed. Particular attention will be paid to the information available from CDTC as part of the Wolf Road and Albany County Airport Area traffic studies. Updated traffic counts throughout the study area will be conducted to update the 1987 traffic volumes determined by Albany County. The location and amount of new development that will likely occur in the years 1990-1998 will be identified and the trip generation potential of the anticipated development will be evaluated. Based on this analysis, 1988 design year traffic volumes will be projected.

Assuming the short term improvements noted by CDTC are in place, capacity analyses for 1998 traffic volumes will be conducted. (Note: These improvements do not include an I-87/Exit 3 airport connector.) This will provide the following information:

- o Maximum Peak Hour Traffic Volumes for each intersection approach upon the completion of the short term improvements.
- o The amount of available reserve capacity for each intersection approach upon completion of the short term improvements.
- o Based on the available reserve capacity, upon completion of the short term improvements, the amount of additional development that could be supported without exceeding the capacity of the roadway network in the airport vicinity will be estimated.
- o If the design capacity of any location is exceeded by the 1998 traffic volumes additional measures required to provide adequate capacity will be identified.

A general review of the "long term improvements" noted by CDTC for the study area will be conducted. Of specific concern is the alignment of the Exit 3 connector/Albany Shaker Road intersection and other impacts caused by the apparent inability to construct the new north-south arterial noted by CDTC. Using the 2005 traffic projections developed by CDTC, the lane arrangements required in the Albany Shaker Road area from Route 7 to I-87 without this arterial will be determined.

The traffic analyses will be based on standard traffic engineering procedures (i.e., the 1985 Highway Capacity Manual, Institute of Transportation Engineers, etc.) using the CDTC traffic analyses to the maximum extent possible.

#### H. Air Quality

A Level one air analysis based on procedures outline in "NYSDOT Air Quality Analysis Procedures - PEG #42" of 10 key intersections within the study area will be conducted. This includes the intersections of the following streets/highways:

- NY 7/Vly Road and Rosedale Road
- Albany Shaker/Old Wolf Road
- NY 7/Shaker Road
- Albany Shaker Road/Wolf Road
- NY 7/Wade Road
- Wolf Road/Sand Creek Road
- Watervliet Shaker/Sand Creek Road
- Watervliet Shaker/New Karner/Vly Road
- Albany Shaker/South Airport Access Road
- New Karner/Central Avenue

Relative impacts, mitigation measures and associated costs for improvements will also be discussed.

I. Noise:

Based on existing and available information, a discussion of impacts associated with airport related noise levels will be included. Appropriate mitigation measures will be identified. Information in this section will be developed using the Albany County Airport Noise and Land Use Capability Study of 1981.

III. SOCIOECONOMIC SETTING AND IMPACT ANALYSIS

A. Demographics

Demographic growth rates established in the CDTC traffic studies for the airport area based on the planning period year 2005 will be utilized for this section. Projected population for the 1998 planning period year will be extrapolated from data provided in the CDTC studies. In addition, projected population growth for those areas within the DGEIS boundary that were not included in the CDTC study area will be estimated. Criteria used for projections will be identified.

B. Economics:

Existing and future economic conditions based on projected growth through 1998 and 2005 will be discussed. Fiscal impacts to municipal and community services associated with future development within the study area will be addressed.

C. Historical and Archaeological Considerations:

Existing data on the historic and archaeological resources within the study area will be incorporated into this section with particular emphasis devoted to the Watervliet Shaker Historic District. Additional information on other potentially historic and archaeologically sensitive sites within the study area will be collected. Development related impacts and appropriate mitigation measures to reduce those impacts will be identified.

D. Recreation and Open Space:

Included in this section will be a discussion of existing recreational facilities serving the study area. Impacts related to associated development for the eight (8) and fifteen (15) year planning periods for the user demand and carrying capacity of recreation facilities will be analyzed. Recommendations regarding required recreation and open space for associated development will be provided. Particular emphasis will be focused on the Ann Lee Pond Nature and Historic Preserve. Estimated costs will be prepared for projected improvements.



**E. Municipal Services:**

Current municipal services in the project area will be evaluated. These include schools, police, fire and ambulance services. Appropriate agencies will be contacted and projected user demands for the eight (8) and fifteen (15) year planning periods will be analyzed. Based on this analysis, projections for future need for municipal services will be provided.

**F. Visual Resources:**

This section will include a discussion of the physical character of the study area and a description of areas or sites of significant scenic or aesthetic value. Impacts on these visual resources for the eight (8) and fifteen (15) year planning periods will be identified and potential mitigation measures will be developed.

**IV. ALTERNATIVES**

A discussion of alternatives with respect to varying development densities, changes to existing zoning and, various financial mechanisms to fund necessary public improvements will be included. The no action alternative will also be evaluated in this section.

**V. CUMULATIVE AND GROWTH-INDUCING IMPACTS:**

Potential growth impacts associated with proposed residential and commercial development within the study area will be characterized. This may include impacts to community facilities and services, the natural environment, cultural and aesthetic resources and, the local economy.

**VI. IRREVERSIBLE AND IRRETRIEVABLE COMMITMENT OF RESOURCES:**

Those natural and human resources listed in sections II and III above that will be consumed, converted or made unavailable for future use will be identified.

**VII. UNAVOIDABLE ADVERSE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS:**

This section will identify those environmental impacts which cannot be avoided. Although some impacts may be minimized through the implementation of various mitigation measures, the proposed development within the study area may have lasting social and environmental effects which can be expected to occur.

# PUBLIC NOTICE

## TOWN OF COLONIE PLANNING BOARD PUBLIC SCOPING SESSION

### AIRPORT AREA GENERIC ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT

DATE

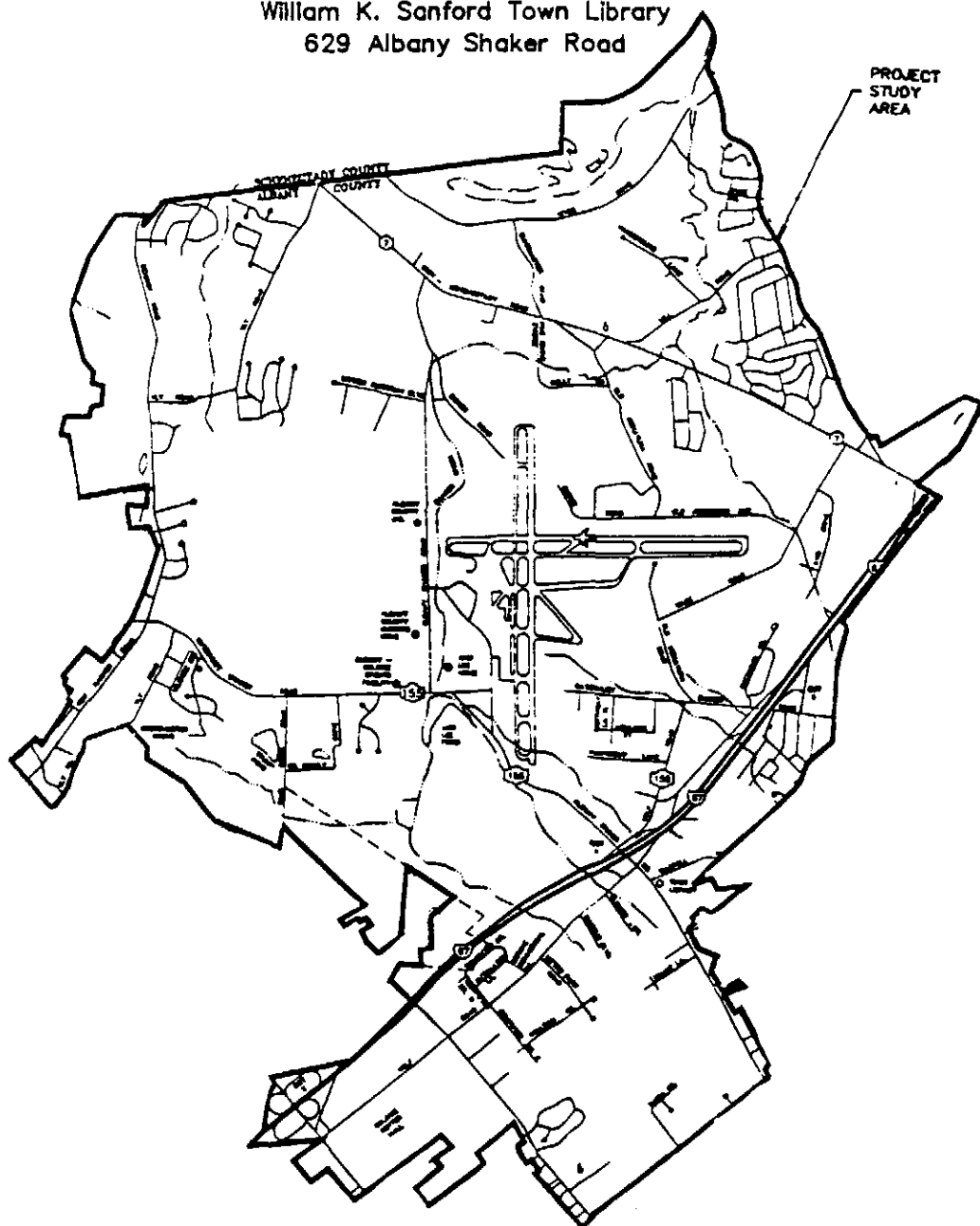
December 12, 1989

LOCATION

Stedman Room  
William K. Sanford Town Library  
629 Albany Shaker Road

TIME

7:00-9:00 PM





# CLOUGH, HARBOUR & ASSOCIATES

ENGINEERS & PLANNERS

ALBANY, NEW YORK • ROCKY HILL, CONNECTICUT

PARTNERS

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SHAWN H. VELTMAN, P.E.

DIR. PROJ. DEVELOP.

RAYMOND J. KINLEY, JR.

SERVICE GROUP MANAGER

DAVID O. KELLY

January 2, 1990

TO: Susan Tatro, Colonie Town Attorney  
Mary Brizzell, Colonie Town Board Member  
David Marinucci, Colonie Village Attorney  
Paul Cooney, Albany County Engineer  
Mark Fitzsimmons, Env. Management Director, Albany Co. Plan. Dept.  
Charles Cahill, Albany County Legislature & Albany Co. IDA  
Eric Alsmeyer, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
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Robert Graf, Village of Colonie Planning Commission  
James Barba, Village of Colonie, Zoning Board of Appeals  
Charles Szuberla, North Colonie School District  
Thomas Brown, South Colonie School District  
Theodore Foot, Niskayuna School District  
John Poorman, Capital District Transportation Committee  
John Masko, Albany County Airport  
Robert Lyman, Capital District Transportation Authority

Re: Final Scoping Document-Airport Area Draft Generic EIS  
CHA File: 1912

As representatives of the Town of Colonie Planning Board, we are enclosing a copy of the final scoping document for the above referenced generic

III WINNERS CIRCLE P.O. BOX 5269 ALBANY, NEW YORK 12205 - 5269

Tel: 518 - 453 - 4500

FAX: 518 - 458 - 1735

environmental impact statement for your information. This final scoping document was prepared based on input obtained from interested and involved agencies and the public. The Planning Board would like to thank those agencies that participated in this process.

If you have any questions pertaining to the enclosed, please feel free to contact me at your earliest convenience.

Very truly yours,

**CLOUGH, HARBOUR & ASSOCIATES  
ENGINEERS & PLANNERS**



Lawrence M. Callander  
Sr. Environmental Planner

LMC:cjn  
1912.M3  
Enclosure

cc: Town of Colonie Planning Board  
Mary Burke, Town of Colonie EPSD