U.S. COAST GUARD ISSUES CLEAN AIR DOCUMENTATION for the NEW NY BRIDGE PROJECT (formerly the Tappan Zee River Crossing Project)

The U.S. Coast Guard has issued a Final General Conformity Determination for the New NY Bridge Project required by Section 176c of the Federal Clean Air Act Amendments of 1990. The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) as the federal lead agency for the project, with the New York State Department of Transportation (NYSDOT) and the New York State Thruway Authority (NYSTA) as joint lead agencies, propose to replace the existing Tappan Zee Bridge across the Hudson River between

Rockland and Westchester Counties, New York.

As part of the environmental review of the Proposed Project, the USCG conducted a general conformity evaluation pursuant to 40 C.F.R. Part 93 Subpart B. Based on this review, the USCG has concluded that since the State of New York has committed to revise its State Implementation Plan (SIP) to include emissions from construction of the New NY Bridge Project, the construction impacts of the New NY Bridge Project will conform to the SIP. USEPA reviewed and agreed with the regulatory analysis.

The USCG issued its Draft Conformity Determination on August 4, 2012, with a 30 day comment period concluding on September 4, 2012. Copies of the Draft General Conformity Determination were provided via e-mail and postal service to USEPA-Region 2, the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation and regional Metropolitan Planning Organization (New York Metropolitan Transportation Council-NYMTC). No comments were received.

In summary, the USCG has determined that New NY Bridge Project will comply with the Conformity Rule and issued its Final Conformity Determination for the Project on February 28, 2013. The USCG provided copies of its Final Conformity Determination to the offices of USEPA-Region 2, NYSDEC, and NYMTC. The Final General Conformity Determination can be found online at http://www.newnybridge.com/documents/index.html.

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