



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION 2
290 BROADWAY
NEW YORK, NY 10007-1866

APR 11 2007

Greg Marshall
Superintendent
National Park Service
Sagamore Hill National Historic Site
20 Sagamore Hill Road
Oyster Bay, New York 11771

Dear Mr. Marshall:

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has reviewed the draft environmental impact statement (DEIS) for the General Management Plan for the Sagamore Hill National Historic Site, Nassau County, New York. This review was conducted in accordance with Section 309 of the Clean Air Act, as amended (42 U.S.C 7609, PL 91-604 12 (a), 84 Stat. 1709), the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and the Council on Environmental Quality's regulations for implementing NEPA (40 CFR Parts 1500-1508).

The DEIS presents the analysis of three alternative management plans for the Sagamore Hill National Historic Site. Sagamore Hill was the home of Theodore Roosevelt from 1880 until his death in 1919. During his presidency (1901-1909), it served as the Summer Whitehouse. In 1962, Congress passed Public Law 87-547 establishing the Sagamore Hill National Historic Site. The property includes Sagamore Hill, Theodore Roosevelt's home and working estate, Old Orchard, the home of Theodore Roosevelt Jr., ancillary buildings and 83 acres of woodland, beach, salt marsh and tidal creek communities. A comprehensive management plan will provide a clear definition of the site's purpose and management direction that will guide and coordinate all subsequent planning and management.

The preferred alternative, designated as "Past meets Present" would expand the New Barn by 1500 square feet (sq.ft.) to provide visitor services, including restrooms and a gift shop, and create a 6,600 sq. ft. addition to the Old Orchard House to provide exhibit, program, research and storage space. A new 6,000 sq. ft. maintenance facility would be constructed near the Gray Cottage. In addition staff would improve partnerships with other community groups, enhance signage within and outside the site, and upgrade paths and walkways.

While the proposed project does not present significant environmental concerns, we would like to take this opportunity to alert you to energy savings opportunities that may be considered in the implementation of the preferred alternative. A variety of energy efficient lighting products, appliances, fans, heating and cooling equipment that have received the EnergyStar label are now commercially available; these products can provide lower utility bills and help reduce green house gas emissions. More information about EnergyStar products and locations where they can be purchased can be found at: www.energystar.gov.

Based on our review, we do not anticipate that implementation of the preferred alternative will result in significant adverse impacts to the environment. Accordingly, consistent with EPA policy, we have rated this DEIS as LO, indicating that we lack objections to the project's implementation. EPA recommends that the FEIS be identified as programmatic to ensure public understanding of the nature of the document, and that future NEPA documents will be prepared for individual aspects of the preferred alternative. Also, please note that Sagamore Hill is located in an area of non-attainment for ozone and PM 2.5. While not necessary in a programmatic EIS, the National Park Service will have to provide general conformity determinations for those aspects of the preferred alternative that will impact air quality.

If you have any questions, please call Lingard Knutson of my staff at (212) 637-3747.

Sincerely yours,



John Filippelli, Chief
Strategic Planning Multi-Media Programs Branch