

7.0 Irreversible and Irretrievable Commitments of Resources

This chapter addresses whether the Proposed Project would cause permanent loss of one or more environmental resources, either natural or humanmade due to construction or operation of the Proposed Project.

Both natural and humanmade resources would be expended in the construction and operation of the Proposed Project, including:

- Building materials used for construction;
- Energy through consumption of gas and electricity during construction activities; and
- Human labor needed to construct and operate the flood barrier system.

These are considered irretrievable commitments because their reuse for another purpose is not possible. The Proposed Project also constitutes a long-term commitment of land, thereby rendering this land unusable for other purposes. Lastly, funds committed to the design, construction, and operation of the Proposed Project would be unavailable to other projects.

These commitments of resources and materials are weighed against the Proposed Project's purpose and need, as identified in Chapter 1.0, "Project Description." The Proposed Project's fulfillment of the project purpose and need to provide a reliable coastal flood barrier system that reduces flood risk to residents, property, and assets within Battery Park City outweighs the irreversible and irretrievable commitment of resources.