

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY BEFORE THE ADMINISTRATOR

In the Matter of:)
New York State Department of Transportation,)))
Respondent.)

Docket No. CWA-02-2016-3403

<u>REPORT RECOMMENDING CONTINUATION</u> OF ALTERNATIVE DISPUTE RESOLUTION PROCESS

The Chief Administrative Law Judge's Order of February 8, 2017 provides that this alternative dispute resolution (ADR) process terminates April 10, 2017. The recommendation of this report is that the ADR process be continued for two months until **June 12, 2017**.

The continuation of the ADR process is recommended because the parties' negotiations are ongoing. Furthermore, during the initial teleconference with the parties held on 3/2/17, Respondent's counsel gave notice that she will be on maternity leave until mid-May and unable to participate in ADR until then. The parties' chances of achieving a settlement are sufficient to justify continuation of ADR for two months, or until **June 12, 2017**. Counsel for Respondent stated that she has no alternate counsel to represent New York State Department of Transportation during her absence.

Accordingly, I will continue to work as a Neutral in this case and will file another report with the Chief Administrative Law Judge by June 12, 2017 unless otherwise directed by her.

Busch

M. Lisa Buschmann Administrative Law Judge Dated: April 14, 2017

Approved:

Susan L. Biro Chief Administrative Law Judge

Dated: April 14, 2017

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that the foregoing **Report Recommending Continuation of Alternative Dispute Resolution Process,** dated April 14, 2017, and issued by Administrative Law Judge M. Lisa Buschmann, was sent this day to the following parties in the manner indicated below.

Mary Angeles Paralegal Specialist

Original and One Copy by Hand Delivery to: Mary Angeles Headquarters Hearing Clerk U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Office of Administrative Law Judges Ronald Reagan Building, Room M1200 1300 Pennsylvania Ave., NW Washington, DC 20004

<u>Copy by Electronic and Regular Mail to</u>: Timothy Murphy, Esq. Assistant Regional Counsel U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 2 290 Broadway, 16th Floor New York, NY 10007-1866 Email: murphy.tim@epa.gov Attorney for Complainant

Copy by Regular Mail to: Alicia McNally, Esq. Assistant Counsel Division of Legal Affairs New York State Department of Transportation 50 Wolf Road, 6th Floor Albany, NY 12232 Email: alicia.mcnally@dot.ny.gov Attorney for Respondent

Dated: April 14, 2017 Washington, D.C.