

**State Environmental Quality Review
Combined Notice of Completion of Draft GEIS
Availability of DGEIS for Public Comment, and
Notice of SEQR Public Hearing and Comment Period
For the Saratoga Racecourse Redevelopment Plan**

Lead Agency: State of New York Franchise Oversight Board **Date:** April 29, 2015

Address: c/o New York State Office of General Services, 33rd Floor Corning Tower,
Governor Nelson A Rockefeller Empire State Plaza Albany, NY 12242.

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

The Draft Generic Environmental Impact Statement (“DGEIS”) for the New York Racing Association (“NYRA”) Saratoga Race Course Redevelopment Plan has been submitted to the New York State Franchise Oversight Board (“FOB”) as lead agency and the FOB has accepted the DGEIS as complete for involved and interested agency and public review and comment. The FOB, as Lead Agency, has scheduled a public hearing on May 28, 2015 at 6:00 p.m. at the Saratoga Springs Civic Center, 522 Broadway, Saratoga Springs, NY 12866; and provides further notice that written comments on the DGEIS will be accepted until close of business on June 15, 2015.

Name of Action: Saratoga Race Course Redevelopment Plan

SEQR Status: Type I
Unlisted

Description of Action:

The FOB has initiated the SEQRA process to address the potential environmental impacts resulting from a comprehensive development plan by NYRA to preserve, restore and enhance the approximately 330 acre historic Saratoga Race Course. The goal of the proposed project is to ensure that the Saratoga Race Course retains its status as a world-class horse racing facility and key component in the local community character and regional economy. The proposed improvements seek to maintain and emphasize the historic character of the Race Course while responding to changes in the global racing landscape to ensure a sustainable future for racing at Saratoga.

The Race Course season runs annually for 6.5 weeks from July to September. The project is not expected to: lengthen the racing season, substantially increase overall attendance or attendance patterns (particularly on peak Saturdays), nor substantially change existing non-seasonal use of the facility. The project will likely include construction of new buildings, parking areas, pedestrian facilities including walkways and pavilions, horse paths, planted areas, etc., renovation of existing buildings and facilities, including upgrade to utilities and removal of certain structures. The project will be implemented over an assumed ten year period based on need, schedule and funding. Improvements will be divided between the Frontside and the Backstretch portions of the project site.

Location:

267 Union Avenue in the City of Saratoga Springs, New York.

Reasons Supporting This Determination:

The Lead Agency has completed its review of the DGEIS and determined that the DGEIS complies with the requirements of the Positive Declaration, the final Scoping Outline and the Part 617 requirements of the State Environmental Quality Review Act. The DGEIS evaluates the environmental impacts of the redevelopment plan due to: (a) construction of new buildings; (b) construction of new parking areas; (c) construction of new pedestrian facilities including walkways and pavilions, horse paths, planted areas, etc.; and (d) renovation of existing buildings and facilities, including upgrade to utilities and removal of certain structures.

The DGEIS can be found on the NYRA website at www.nyra.com and a copy is on file at the following locations for public review:

New York State Office of General Services
(contact Carolyn Dunderdale 48 hours in advance to secure review appointment)
33rd Floor Corning Tower
Governor Nelson A Rockefeller Empire State Plaza
Albany, NY 12242

National Racing Museum and Hall of Fame
191 Union Street
Saratoga Springs, NY 12866

Saratoga Public Library
49 Henry Street
Saratoga Springs, NY 12866

City of Saratoga Springs Planning Department
City Hall
474 Broadway
Saratoga Springs, NY 12866

All comments should be directed to **Carolyn Dunderdale**, at the NYS Office of General Services address below (agent for New York State Franchise Oversight Board)

For Further Information:

Contact Person: Carolyn Dunderdale

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