

#### **SEQR – Overview**

The Fundamental Tenets of SEQR

- 1. Environmentally-Informed Government Decisions
- 2. Consideration of Alternatives
- 3. Public Disclosure of Environmental Impacts
- 4. Avoidance and Mitigation of Impacts
- 5. Contextual Impact Analysis



# A Brief History of SEQR

- National Environmental Policy Act of 1969
- State Environmental Quality Review Act of 1975
- Original SEQR Regulations adopted in 1976
- Major Amendments to SEQR Regulations 1978, 1987, 1996



#### 2018 Amendments to SEQR – Part 617

2018 amendments build upon previous improvements:

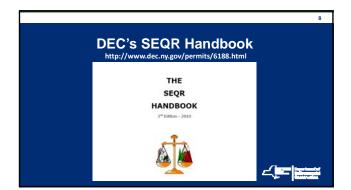
- EAFs revised to web-based forms
- GIS Mapping component added (EAF Mapper)
- Workbooks released as guidance

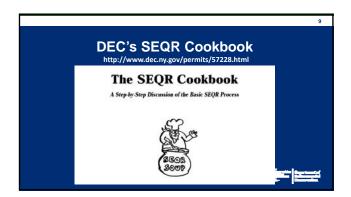












#### 2018 SEQR Amendments - Part 617

- Goal: Streamline regulatory process without sacrificing environmental protection
- Generic EIS and findings explain changes



#### **Timeline for 2018 SEQR Amendments**

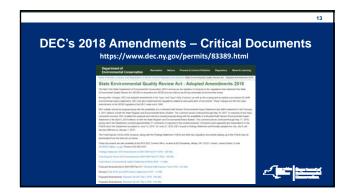
- Notice of Intent and Draft Scope July 11, 2012
- Final Scope November 28, 2012
- Proposed Rule and Draft GEIS January 20, 2017
- Revised Rule and Revised Draft GEIS April 4, 2018
- Rule Adopted June 27, 2018
- Rule Effective January 1, 2019



## **Overview of Amendments**

- Type I List
- Type II List
- EIS Scoping
- EIS Preparation
- Document Preparation
- SEQR Fees





## Type I List

Lowered thresholds for residential subdivisions:

- From 250 to 200 units pop. 150,000 or less
- From 1,000 to 500 units pop. 150,001 to 999,999
- From 2,500 to 1,000 units pop. 1,000,000 or greater



## Type I List

Added a threshold for parking spaces in smaller communities:

- 500 or more vehicles pop. of 150,000 or less
- 1,000 of more vehicles pop. of 150,001 or more



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Type I List	
Adds thresholds to historic properties similar to	
other sensitive resources	
<ul><li>Adds "eligible" historic properties</li><li>Eligible properties will now appear on EAF Mapper</li></ul>	
- Liigibie properties will now appear on LAT Mapper	
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Type II List	
Upgrading buildings to meet state energy	
code	
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Type II List	
Green infrastructure	

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Type II List	-
Installation of telecommunications cables in	
ROWs with trenchless burial or use of	
existing poles	
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Type II List	
Conveyances of land in connection with 1-3 family	
residence	-
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Time U.L.int	
Type II List	
Solar (on rooftops, landfills, brownfield and	
Superfund sites, wastewater treatment facilities,	
parking lots/garages and industrial areas)	
V- Describe.	

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Time III ist	
Type II List	
Lot line adjustments	
<b>4</b>	
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Type II List	
Reuse of a commercial or residential structure	
Reuse of a commercial or residential structure	
	-
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Type II List	
GML §§ 239-m or 239-n planning recommendations	
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Type II List	
Acquisition/dedication of parkland or conservation	
easement	
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Type II List	
Conveyance of property by public auction	
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Type II List	
Organic digesters at operating municipal landfills	
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## **Scoping**

- Scoping will be required for all EISs (similar to Federal and NYC requirements) except for supplemental EISs
- New process for late-filed comments on scope

## **EIS Preparation**

- Clarify procedures to define when a DEIS is adequate for public review
- Addition of requirement, where relevant, to evaluate measures to avoid or reduce an actions impact on climate change and associated impacts of flooding and sea level rise.

# Document Preparation and SEQR Fees

- Draft and final scopes must be noticed in the ENB
- Draft and finals scopes, as well as draft, final and supplemental EISs must be posted on a publicly available website

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