

# GUIDE TO ... **DOS Division of Coastal Resources**

## ► *What is it?*

The Division of Coastal Resources is part of the New York Department of State (DOS), whose Commissioner is appointed by the Governor.

## ► *Why is it important?*

The Division of Coastal Resources is required to determine the **consistency** of the St. Lawrence Cement project with NY State's 44 Coastal Policies. Denial of consistency would end the possibility of siting the St. Lawrence Cement plant because then the Army Corps of Engineers could not issue a permit.

## ► *What are the key issues?*

- The State's **44 policies** cover issues ranging from flood and erosion control, air and water resource protection, protection of significant wildlife habitat, protection of agricultural lands, protection of scenic and historic resources.
  - The Division of Coastal Resources is mandated to **avoid impairment** of key coastal resources through the prohibition of the siting of discordant visual elements such as those proposed by SLC.
  - The **discordant** industrial elements of the proposed SLC facility (an enormous dock facility, conveyors, stacks, structures and plumes) would severely and adversely impair Scenic Areas of Statewide Significance (SASS) such as the the Catskill-Olana SASS and Columbia-Greene SASS. The facility would be a major intrusion into these SASS areas as well other views from the Hudson River, including its eastern and western shores.
  - The facility would be the **dominant feature** of the landscape as viewed from the Hudson waterfront and Athens waterfront. It would not "improve" upland or adjacent views of the water, but would severely and adversely impair them.
  - Also, the adverse impacts from noise, odors and traffic upon the surrounding community would **detract** from exiting community character.
  - Business and residential districts adjacent to the development area will not be "enhanced or rejuvenated" by the SLC waterfront or its upland activity (truck traffic, dock activity, blasting and pollution due to the manufacturing of cement).
  - It is **not compatible** with important historic sites which have a "coastal relationship" and does not protect the character of these historic resources through the use of "appropriate architectural style, design material, scale, proportion, composition, mass, line, color, texture, detail, setback and landscaping".
  - The facility's **massive scale** does not complement the many historic sites and districts which will suffer severe and permanent impacts, including: Olana, the Hudson-Athens Lighthouse, the Rossman Avenue Historic District, the City of Hudson Historic District, the Village of Athens, the Town of Claverack Historic District, the Plumb-Bronson House, Dutch Reformed Church, et al.
- ## ► *What should Coastal Resources do?*
- Hold a **public hearing** to hear the public's views on these Coastal Policy questions before making any decision.
  - **Deny consistency** to the SLC project based on violation of the agency's Development Policies and its Historic and Scenic Resources Policies.

TO READ THE COASTAL RESOURCE POLICIES IN FULL, GO TO:  
<http://dos.state.ny.us/cstl/cstlcr.html#policies>

## WRITE TO:

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Division of Coastal Resources  
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Randy A. Daniels  
Secretary of State  
41 State Street  
Albany, NY 12231-0001

## SEND COPIES TO:

IF YOU'RE FEELING ENERGETIC...

Friends of Hudson/OSI  
P.O. Box 326  
Hudson NY 12534

Don Klima, Director  
Office of Planning & Review  
Advisory Council on Historic Preservation  
1100 Pennsylvania Ave. NW #809  
Washington D.C. 20004

Christine Delorier  
US Army Corps of Engineers  
Field Office, 1 Bond Street  
Troy NY 12180

Bernadette Castro, Commissioner  
NYS Dept. of Parks and Recreation  
1 Empire State Plaza, 14th Floor  
Albany NY 12238

## REMEMBER ...

*You do not need to be an expert to voice your opinion. If you are short on time, please write a short, simple letter expressing your opposition to the project. If possible, mention that you would like there to be a public hearing on this issue. If you have already written a letter to Judge Goldberger or other officials, you could send a copy of these with a shot cover note, or rework your old letter. If you would like to learn more about this issue before writing, please call our office, 822-0334 or email sam@mhcable.com ...*