



EXHIBIT IX.A.2.b.Attachment "B"

# ALCO Redevelopment City of Schenectady



## Draft Generic Environmental Impact Statement





# ALCO Redevelopment Draft Generic Environmental Impact Statement

---

**Location of Action:**

Former ALCO Site  
Broadway  
Schenectady, New York

**Lead Agency:**

Schenectady Metroplex Development Authority  
433 State Street Schenectady, New York

**Contact Person:**

Jayme B. Lahut, Executive Director  
Schenectady Metroplex Development Authority  
Phone: (518) 377-1109

**Prepared by:**



III Winners Circle  
Albany, New York 12205  
CHA File 16828

**Contact Person:**

Steven R. Wilson  
(518) 453-3938  
[swilson@chacompanies.com](mailto:swilson@chacompanies.com)

**Date of DEIS Acceptance:**  
**Comment Period Deadline:**

**February 10, 2010**  
**March 12, 2010**

## 2.8 Natural Resources

### 2.8.1 Existing Conditions

As part of the Ecological Assessment of the Study Area, existing maps and data bases were reviewed to gain a preliminary understanding of the project location. The reviewed resources included:

- New York State Freshwater Wetland Maps (Schenectady USGS Quadrangle)
- NYS Department of Transportation Topographic USGS Maps
- National Wetland Inventory (NWI) Maps (Schenectady USGS Quadrangle)
- NYS Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) Natural Heritage Program (NHP) database
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) Endangered Species database
- Schenectady County Soil Survey

Following the review of these resources, a field visit was conducted to collect information on vegetative plant communities, wetlands, site ecology, wildlife, and threatened and endangered species and habitat.

In general, the area consists of natural areas, such as the Mohawk River and developed areas including residential, commercial, and industrial areas.

The NYSDEC NHP was contacted regarding the presence of rare, threatened or endangered species. Their response indicated that they have no records of threatened or endangered species within the Study Area. This is supported by the field assessment, which concluded that there are no significant habitats present within the Study Area.

The USFWS endangered species database indicates that Indiana bat (*Myotis sodalis*) and Karner blue butterfly (*Lycaeides melissa samuelis*) have been documented in Schenectady County. Their information indicates that “while Indiana bats were known to winter in Albany County, we now believe they are likely extirpated or in such small numbers that it is unlikely that they would be present and impacted by any specific proposed projects in Albany, Rensselaer, Saratoga, Schenectady, and Schoharie Counties. This determination may change as we receive new information.”

---

According to the NHP<sup>2</sup>, Karner blue butterflies can be found in extensive pine barrens, oak savannas or openings in oak woodlands, and unnatural openings such as airports and right-of-ways that contain lupine (*Lupinus perennis*), the sole larval food source. Some populations have occurred in sandy fields. The Study Area does not contain these critical habitat types and blue lupine is not present. Therefore Karner blue butterfly should not be present or impacted by the project.

---

<sup>2</sup> New York Natural Heritage Program. 2009. Online Conservation Guide for *Plebejus Melissa samuelis*. Available from: <http://www.acris.nynhp.org/guide.php?id=7877>. Accessed January 21<sup>st</sup>, 2010.