Cogeneration System at NYC Health + Hospitals/Bellevue Project update August 2023

The NYC Health + Hospitals/Bellevue Energy System Project, a 4MW combined heat and power (CHP) system construction progressed into foundation pour and structure assembly.

In May 2022, before commencing construction work, the hospital obtained permits from the NYC Department of Buildings for General Construction, Structural, Foundation, Earthwork, Plumbing, Mechanical Systems, and Construction Fencing. Environmental permitting for this process is also ongoing. The facility has a State Facility Air Permit with the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC). A modification to this permit to incorporate plans for the new Cogen engines was submitted to NYSDEC in January 2022. This application was later superseded by a renewal and modification application in May 2023, as the facility’s existing 10-year permit was expiring. As part of the NYSDEC permitting process, the facility submitted an application certified by a Professional Engineer, emission calculations, specifications for emission control equipment, and other project specifications. NYSDEC requested an analysis for consistency with New York’s Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act showing that the proposed project will not hinder the State’s goals to reduce greenhouse gas emissions 40% by 2030 and 85% by 2050. The facility submitted an analysis consistent with this request. An Environmental Justice Plan has also been prepared to account for any impacts that the project may bring to vulnerable communities. Communication with NYSDEC for approval of this application is ongoing. In addition, an application for a Permit to Construct an Industrial Source was submitted to NYC Department of Environmental Protection (NYCDEP) in August of 2022. In response to this application, a City Environmental Quality Review (CEQR) was opened. The facility is currently working with NYCDEP to conduct a full Environmental Assessment Statement to ensure the project will bring no adverse environmental impacts to the area. The environmental assessment includes considerations for impacts on air quality, greenhouse gas emissions, energy, hazardous materials, noise, and other potentially effected categories. Communication with NYCDEP regarding this application is ongoing.

Bored concrete piles have been installed and the slab on grade foundation has been poured at south parking lot area where the CHP is being housed. Installation of the breeching system for the Cogen plant has begun and steel erection for the first level of the CHP structure is nearing completion, with level 2 steel erection scheduled to begin September 2023. The generator sets are currently scheduled to arrive on site for installation toward the end of Spring 2024.