Lt. Gen. Todd T. Semonite  
Chief of Engineers and Commanding General of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE)  
441 G Street NW  
Washington, DC 20314-1000

Mr. Bryce W. Wisemiller, Project Manager  
Programs and Project Management Division, Civil Works Programs Branch  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New York District  
26 Federal Plaza, Room 2151  
New York, NY 10279

Dear Lt. General Semonite and Mr. Wisemiller:

I am writing to urge the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to extend the period of public comment on proposals to construct storm-surge barriers in New York Harbor from 30 days to 90, and to hold additional public meetings throughout the entire Hudson Valley.

It is clear to me that a project of this significance must be fully understood by all who would be affected. The opportunity for study and comment has been unnecessarily brief. While I understand that recent storms have prompted a call for urgent action, we must not rush into construction and permanent change to the nature of the river until we have public approval to proceed.

My constituents, and the millions more who live and work along these waters, have only in recent weeks learned about the proposals. Questions include potential dangers in each proposal, and the extent to which long-term environmental studies by well-regarded environmental groups have been taken into account. We must assure that the Corps and municipalities work together to stem the hazards of climate change and to manage public resources.
I appreciate your attention to this matter and looking forward to your response.

Sincerely,

Nita M. Lowey
Member of Congress