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## **Chapter Four: Irreversible and Irretrievable Commitment of Resources**

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## **CHAPTER FOUR: IRREVERSIBLE AND IRRETRIEVABLE COMMITMENT OF RESOURCES**

The purpose of this section is to identify irreversible and irretrievable commitments of environmental resources required to execute the proposed action. The section is divided into construction phase and operation phase of the proposed project.

### **4.1 Construction Phase**

The construction phase of the proposed action will require building materials to be used in the construction of new buildings and associated site work. Materials required include masonry materials such as concrete and stone; metals such as steel, aluminum and copper; petroleum products such as those contained in asphalt and fuel for construction equipment; glass; and synthetics such as contained in insulation. No shortage of materials is anticipated that could result in a negative impact on other projects in the region.

### **4.2 Operating Phase**

The operation of the proposed action will require expenditure of energy and other natural resources such as water and electricity. Energy supplied to the project is permanently lost to the surrounding environment. Potable water is supplied by the Erie County Water Authority, utilized and discharged to the Town of Amherst waste water treatment plant. Resources are expended in purifying the water.

A number of resources will be needed to serve the project. These include water and sewage disposal facilities, solid waste facilities and management procedures, police and fire protection, schools and medical services.

Increased energy expenditures will be used to heat and cool the proposed buildings. The energy consumption will not have a significant effect on the community's fuel sources or be a significant drain on the existing infrastructure to provide utilities to the proposed project. Therefore, shortage of energy supply to the community is not expected to occur as a result of this project.