



My "Resiliency" Experience with NJ TRANSIT and the Department of Defense

Ayesha Dolasa, PE
NJ TRANSIT



When - Friday, March 18, 2016, 3 — 4:00 PM

Where - GWC 573 (PARKING)

Food & Drinks will be provided

Speaker

Ms. Ayesha Dolasa, PE, LEED AP, graduated from Michigan Technological University with a Bachelor of Science in Environmental Engineering in 1997, and continued to University of Massachusetts, Amherst for her Master of Science in the same field. Her career has been focused on site remediation, landfill closures, and brownfield redevelopment for over 15 years. In the last 3 years, she has mainly been involved with transportation projects including post-Superstorm Sandy resiliency for the NJ TRANSIT. In addition, she is now working with the Department of Defense in Alaska to address the impacts of climate change on assets on the Arctic shore. She likes running, playing with dirt, and any other excuse to be outside (when it is warm).

Abstract

Warning about climate change have around for decades, but recent extreme weather events have made it the new "hot topic" in industry. I will highlight my involvement with two clients that have begun to develop resiliency plans for their infrastructure. Post-Sandy, Ms. Dolasa was involved in the development of NJ TRANSIT's resiliency program and will share a new tool under development, the Coastal Storm Surge Emergency Warning System. In Alaska, coastal erosion poses a threat to DoD assets and, she was involved with the development of the risk assessment of select facilities, which led to evaluating shoreline erosion models, and teaming with University of Alaska-Anchorage to develop a better tool for predicting shoreline erosion in the Arctic.