State Environmental Quality Review
NEGATIVE DECLARATION
Notice of Determination of Non-Significance

Project: PSEG Long Island (“PSEGLI”) Cable Installation from the Montauk Substation to the Montauk Energy Storage Center

Date: June 5, 2018

This notice is issued in accordance with Article 8 (State Environmental Quality Review Act) of the Environmental Conservation Law and its implementing regulations at 6 NYCRR Part 617 and 21 NYCRR Part 10052.

The Long Island Power Authority (“Authority”) has determined, based on information provided by PSEG Long Island and the Full Environmental Assessment Form and related documents (the “EA”) prepared by PS&S Engineering, P.C. (PS&S) that the proposed project described below will not have a significant adverse impact on the environment and a Draft Environmental Impact Statement will not be prepared.

Name of Action: PSEG Long Island (“PSEGLI”) Cable Installation from the Montauk Substation to the Montauk Energy Storage Center (the “Proposed Action”)

Location: Shore Road, Industrial Road, and Second House Road, Montauk, Town of East Hampton, Suffolk County, NY

SEQR Status: Unlisted

Conditioned Negative Declaration: No

Proposed Project Description:

This Negative Declaration summarizes the environmental review of the proposed construction of the PSEG Long Island (“PSEGLI”) Cable Installation from the Montauk Substation to the Montauk Energy Storage Center (the “Proposed Action”).

The Proposed Action involves PSEGLI’s installation of two (2) underground (“UG”) feeder cables: (i) from existing utility Pole #2, located 115 feet east of the intersection of Industrial Road and Second House Road, to a new 277/480V transformer that will be installed adjacent to the proposed ESC; and (ii) from the existing Montauk Substation (located on the south side of Industrial Road and the north shore of Fort Pond) to the proposed ESC (see Figure 1). The underground feeder cable between the proposed ESC and the existing utility Pole #2 will extend approximately 0.17 miles along Shore Road, Industrial Road, and Second House Road. This cable will allow LIPA to supply the ESC.
with power for the construction of the ESC and its subsequent operations. The underground feeder cable between the ESC and Montauk Substation will be located along approximately 0.35 miles of Shore Road, Industrial Road, and Second House Road. This feeder cable will allow LIPA to store electric power at the ESC and distribute the stored electricity to the grid during peak demand periods.

The Town of East Hampton Planning Board previously reviewed the proposed five-megawatt ESC pursuant to SEQRA and the implementing regulations at 6 NYCRR 617, and adopted a Negative Declaration on May 17, 2017 concluding that the ESC does not have potential for significant adverse environmental impacts (see Appendix A). At the time that the Town of East Hampton conducted its environmental review of the proposed ESC, the plans and locations for the underground feeder cables that are the subject of this environmental review, were unknown. Thus, this environmental review examines the potential impacts of the Proposed Action as well as the potential cumulative environmental impacts with the proposed ESC in which SEQRA review has already been completed.

The Proposed Action will allow storage of electric power at the proposed ESC that will be available for distribution to the grid during peak demand periods.

Based on review of the Proposed Project’s scope of work by Nelson, Pope and Voorhis, LLC (“NPV”), the EA was prepared.

Reasons Supporting This Determination:

PSEGLI, as agent for LIPA, and in conjunction with NP&V, LLC, reviewed the Proposed Action’s scope of work and undertook a SEQRA assessment to evaluate whether the Proposed Action has the potential for significant adverse environmental impacts. A Full Environmental Assessment (EA) form was prepared.

The EA evaluates the effect of the Proposed Action upon land use, natural resources, visual resources and character of the area, energy use, environmental hazards and human health resources. The EA also evaluates the Proposed Action’s potential cumulative environmental impacts with the proposed ESC. Since the Proposed Action involves the installation of underground cable feeders and the installation of an aboveground transformer adjacent at the proposed ESC property, there will not be any change to land use, community character or human health. There is no potential adverse visual impact because the majority of the Proposed Action will be constructed underground, and the aboveground equipment will be less than 5.5-feet tall, consistent with the other components of the proposed ESC.
The proposed underground feeder cables will be installed along the right of ways (“ROW”) of Shore Road and Industrial Road. Portions of the work areas are within regulated NYSDEC freshwater wetlands adjacent areas associated with Fort Pond, which is located on the south side of Shore Road and Industrial Road. Additionally, there is a small surface water body and associated wetlands on the north side of Shore Road, across from the Montauk Substation. The Proposed Action will be located within the previously disturbed ROWs of Shore Road and Industrial Road. Subsurface conduits will be installed using directional drilling. Limited ground disturbance will be necessary during construction for installation of the necessary splice boxes for the cable installation and will be conducted in accordance with the NYSDEC General Wetlands Permit (Servco/PSEG LI NYSDEC Permit Nos. 1-9901-00011/00026) permit conditions. This General Permit allows PSEGLI to conduct directional drilling and open trenching for underground cable installations (including the excavation of jack pits) located in freshwater wetland adjacent areas, requiring prior notification to the NYSDEC with a copy of the notification submitted to the Town of East Hampton.

Based on the information presented and reviewed, the Proposed Action will not result in any significant adverse environmental impacts. Based on review of the Proposed Action and the Town’s environmental review pursuant to SEQRA, there is no potential for significant adverse cumulative environmental impacts of the Proposed Action with the Proposed ESC.

**For Further Information:**

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/s/ Rick Shansky
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Dated: June 5, 2018