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

Project: Transmission Tower Removal and Pole Installation in Valley Stream

Date: April 23, 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 ("LIPA") has determined, based on information provided by PSEG Long Island ("PSEGLI") and the Environmental Assessment ("EA") prepared by PSEGLI in conjunction with GEI Consultants, Inc., P. C. that the Proposed Action described below will not have a significant adverse impact on the environment and the preparation of a Draft Environmental Impact Statement will not be required.

Name of Action: Transmission Tower Removal and Pole Installation in Valley Stream (the "Proposed Action")

Location: Peninsula Boulevard between Locust Street and Stuart Road, Village of Valley Stream, Town of Hempstead, NY

SEQR Status: Unlisted

Conditioned Negative Declaration: No

Proposed Action Description:

The Proposed Action is located on Peninsula Boulevard between Locust Street and Stuart Road and involves the removal and replacement of a 76-foot tall utility tower (Tower #39) that was damaged as a result of a motor vehicle accident in September 2016. After the accident, the tower was temporarily braced with four (4) temporary poles and the electric cable was transferred to four (4) 90-foot wood poles located approximately 150 feet east and west of the tower. Two 70-foot high poles will be installed to replace the utility tower. The existing tower spans a stream within the median of the westbound and eastbound lanes of Peninsula Boulevard. This segment of Peninsula Boulevard is a county roadway managed by Nassau County Department of Public Works (NCDPW) and is located on the municipal boundary between the Incorporated Village of Valley Stream and the Hamlet of Hewlett, within the Town of Hempstead.

The Proposed Action involves the removal of the steel lattice tower structure, guys and anchors, and four (4) temporary wood poles that were installed, as well as the installation of two (2) 70-foot steel poles and pole foundations. Each of the four tower foundations will be demolished to 2 feet below grade with the remaining concrete to be buried and abandoned in place. The electric cable will be transferred from the temporary wood poles to the new steel poles. The steel poles will be setback approximately 16 feet and 15 feet from the tops of the stream bank in-line with the tower. Prior to start of construction, silt fencing will be installed on both sides of the waterway, mid-slope to toe of slope around the existing foundations and will remain in place until soil stabilization is achieved.

Reasons Supporting This Determination:

An Environmental Assessment and supporting documents (EA) were completed by PSEGLI in conjunction with GEI Consultants, Inc., P. C. and analyzed, reviewed, and supported by PSEGLI. The EA analyzed the potential environmental impacts of the Proposed Action in accordance with SEQRA.

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. Since the project involves the replacement of a utility tower with two monopoles, there will not be any change to land use.

Potential impacts to the surrounding scenic resources and neighborhood character were considered based upon proposed changes in the overhead infrastructure. In place of the 74-foot tall steel lattice tower that has a 19-foot wide base and is 11-feet wide at its top, there will be two (2) 70-foot tall steel monopoles that have a 4-foot 5-inch wide base and are 1-foot 11-inches wide at the top. The 70-foot tall steel poles will be positioned at the top of stream bank compared to the 74-foot tall steel lattice tower, which is located within the stream bank. The height of the proposed poles will be approximately the same height as the existing tower, and the poles will have much smaller girth as compared to the width of the lattice tower. Also, the four (4) wood poles which are temporarily holding the transmission line will be removed after installation of the proposed poles. Given that the poles will have much smaller girth as compared to the width of the lattice tower, the Proposed Action will not result in a significant adverse visual impact.

The Proposed Action is located on a NYSDEC mapped class C stream segment. Class C streams are not state regulated wetlands. However, the stream is regulated by NYSDEC as a navigable waterway and requires a permit for fill and excavation activities. An Article 15 Permit was issued by NYSDEC for the Proposed Action on January 4, 2017 (Permit ID 1-2820-07006/00003). The footings of the existing tower are located within the north and south banks of the stream and the new poles will be located at the top of the stream banks. Direct impacts to the stream for removal of the tower foundations will be minor. The soil will be disturbed only to the limited extent necessary for tower and footings removal, and silt fencing will be installed prior to work activity for soil and erosion control. Areas of temporary disturbance will be restored to previous conditions. No permanent adverse impacts to the stream or floodplain are anticipated.

During installation of the new poles, it is anticipated that groundwater will be encountered while drilling the pole foundations. A review of USGS 2013 data for the Proposed Action area indicates an estimated depth to water below land surface ranging from approximately 1 foot within the stream to 8 feet at the top of the stream bank[1]. During foundation construction, a cased bore hole will be drilled to a 45-foot depth while adding drill slurry, which is a bentonite water mixture. The drill slurry will be removed as the concrete foundation is poured. No dewatering is proposed for this activity; however, any water that comes in contact with drill slurry will be transported off-site and disposed of in accordance with all applicable regulations. Therefore, the Proposed Action is not anticipated to result in significant adverse impacts to groundwater.

The demolition, removal, transport, storage and/or disposal of the tower structure, poles and associated equipment will be in accordance with all applicable regulations. The removal of the

[1] https://ny.water.usgs.gov/maps/li-dtw13/, accessed April 17, 2018.

lattice tower will adhere to all safety standards and procedures required for projects involving lead paints and coatings, as outlined in PSEG Long Island specifications EG-1702, and will comply with all applicable federal and state regulations.

Construction will result in temporary minor increases in air emissions, vibrations, and ambient noise levels typical of demolition and drilling activities for utility structure removal and installation. To minimize noise impacts engineering controls, including installation of sound proof blankets surrounding the work area, will be implemented. The work will take place at night in order to avoid traffic disruptions during the daytime, as per request by the Nassau County Department of Public Works (NCDPW). To minimize light impacts, administrative controls, including re-directing and shutting off light sources when not needed, will be utilized.

Construction activities will temporarily impact traffic on Peninsula Boulevard. Since the work will take place at night, impacts to traffic will be minor. Coordination with the appropriate authorities, including the NCDPW, for approval of staging locations and traffic control will be completed, and required road permits will be obtained prior to construction commencement. An NCDPW-approved detour plan, which includes detour signs to be posted in and nearby the Proposed Action location, will be implemented prior to construction. Eastbound lanes of Peninsula Boulevard will be closed during work on the south side of the tower, and then westbound lanes will be closed during work on the north side. Local residents will be escorted to their blocks located in the work zone.

Based on the information presented and reviewed, the Proposed Action will not result in any significant adverse environmental impacts.

For Further Information:

Contact Person: Daniel Rogers
Manager Estimating, Permitting & Risk Management
PSEG Long Island

Address: 175 E. Old Country Rd., Hicksville, NY 11801

Telephone Number: 800-490-0025

E-mail: http://psegliny.custhelp.com/app/ask

/s/ Rick Shansky
Rick Shansky
Vice President of Operations Oversight

Dated: April 23, 2018