

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

Project: Dune Road Reconductoring Project

Date: October 15, 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 Environmental Assessment (“EA”) prepared by 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: Dune Road Reconductoring (the “Proposed Action”)

Location: Dune Road, Between Post Lane and Road A, Village of Quogue and Hamlet of East Quogue Town of Southampton, NY

SEQR Status: Unlisted

Conditioned Negative Declaration: No

Proposed Action Description:

The Proposed Action involves the reconductoring of approximately 1.12 mile section of existing overhead electric distribution line along Dune Road to ensure adequate and reliable electric service to the surrounding area. The original design included the replacement of 36 utility poles and installation of one new pole to meet current engineering design standards to storm harden the electrical system. As a result of several storms that have occurred since the original design was issued, fifteen of the 36 poles were replaced due to storm damage with poles and equipment consistent with the original design. The remaining 21 poles will be replaced and upgraded in the same respect.

Reasons Supporting This Determination:

An Environmental Assessment and supporting documents (EA) were completed by GEI Consultants, Inc., P. C. and analyzed, reviewed, and supported by PSEG Long Island. The EA analyzed the potential environmental impacts of the Proposed Action as set forth in a NYSDEC-approved form of EA.

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 poles, there will not be any change to land use, community character or human health. As detailed in the Visual Resource Assessment and associated analysis and photosimulations (see attached), there is no potential adverse visual

impact because the replacement poles are wood, like the existing poles, and are not more than 10 feet taller than the poles being replaced. Impacts to wetlands are minimized through the use of silt fence surrounding the work area of each pole, and minimization of disturbance to only that necessary for pole removal and installation.

Based on a site wetland assessment conducted by GEI on January 11, 2017, it was determined that 19 of the 36 poles to be replaced are located within roadside tidal wetlands and 9 poles are located within the state regulated 300-foot wetland adjacent area. The remaining eight poles to be replaced are located outside of the NYSDEC adjacent area as they are within or are separated from the wetland by a roadway that has existed since prior to August 1977. The new pole to be installed is located within the wetland. Proposed work within the jurisdiction of the Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) and New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) will require permit approval. Coverage under USACE Nationwide Permit #12 and an individual NYSDEC Article 25 Tidal Wetland Permit have been secured. The project is also located within a 100-year Floodplain and NYSDOS designated Significant Coastal Fish and Wildlife Habitat Area. NYSDOS Coastal Consistency Concurrence has been obtained.

Direct project impacts to tidal wetlands and wetland adjacent areas would be minimal and limited to an approximately 3-foot-wide area of temporary disturbance. All work would be done from the roadway with necessary traffic control. Staging of equipment would be on paved areas. Soil and erosion control (i.e. silt fence) would be installed around the limit of disturbance for each replacement pole prior to any ground disturbance. All traffic safety requirements of county and local agencies would be complied with.

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

For Further Information:

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Dated: October 15, 2018