

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

Project: Island Park Reliability Project

Date: October 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 LXXXI 10052.

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

Name of Action: Island Park Reliability Project (“the Proposed Action”)

Location: Long Island Rail Road Long Beach Branch Right-of-Way and Long Beach Road, Village of Island Park, County of Nassau, NY

SEQR Status: Unlisted

Conditioned Negative Declaration: No

Proposed Project Description:

The Proposed Action involves the replacement of eight (8) existing wood poles (Pole Nos. 3, 4, 5, 5.5, 6, 7, 8, 86) along the east side of the Long Island Rail Road (LIRR) Long Beach Branch right-of-way (ROW) and two (2) existing wood poles (Pole Nos. 11S and 83) along the west side of Long Beach Road proximate to the Island Park LIRR Station in the Village of Island Park. The Proposed Action addresses system outages caused by conductors making contact on adjacent circuits 22-215 and 33-224 during periods of high wind. The taller poles will provide greater clearances between the circuits, and prevent conductor contact from occurring. The existing wood poles currently range in height from 50 to 65 feet will be replaced with wood poles ranging in height from 65 to 80 feet (see **Table 1 – Proposed Pole Heights**). The largest increase in height will be Pole 5.5, which will increase from 50 feet in height to 80 feet in height. All areas of disturbance are located within previously disturbed rights-of-way and will be restored to pre-construction conditions.

Reasons Supporting This Determination:

Based on a review of the Proposed Action’s scope of work in accordance with the requirements of SEQRA, the Short Environmental Assessment Form (SEAF) was prepared to evaluate potential impacts of the Proposed Action. The Proposed Action is an “Unlisted” Action under SEQRA. The SEAF 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. No potential for a significant adverse impact on the environment, flora, animals, community character or human health has been identified as a result of the construction or operation of the Proposed Action. The visual resources and character of the area have been reviewed based upon changes in the overhead infrastructure as a result of the Proposed Action. Ten wood poles (50 to 65 feet in height) will be removed and replaced with new wood poles, which range from 65 to 80 feet in height (see **Table 1 – Proposed Pole Heights**). The new poles will be consistent with existing character and present

conditions in the area. In addition, these poles will not have a significant impact on scenic resources or other resources of concern. As shown in the Photo Simulations (Attachment B) the poles will not be visible from the waterbody to the south and from recreation areas to the west due to screening provided by existing buildings. The Photo Simulations also demonstrate that within areas to the north and east of the Proposed Action, the replacement poles are consistent in height to other utility poles and structures within the area. Thus, the pole replacements will not have a significant adverse visual impact.

As such, the Proposed Action will not result in any significant environmental impacts.

Table 1 – Proposed Pole Heights

Pole #	Existing Height	Proposed Height
3	55	60
4	60	70
5	60	80
5.5	50	80
6	60	75
7	50	65
8	55	75
83	55	70
84*	60	40
11S	50	65
86T	50	65

*Pole 84 will be topped at distribution wires and will be converted from transmission to distribution.

For Further Information:

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Dated: October 5, 2018