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

Project: Shoreham Facility Training Area and Pole Installation

Date: August 16, 2019

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 Environmental Assessment Form Parts 1, 2 & 3 prepared by PSEG Long Island that the Proposed Action 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: Shoreham Facility Training Area and Pole Installation

Location: Shoreham Facility, LILCO Road, Town of Brookhaven, Suffolk County, New York 11786

SEQRA Status: Unlisted

Conditioned Negative Declaration: No

Proposed Action Description:

The Proposed Action includes various activities on portions of the decommissioned Shoreham Nuclear Power Plant Site (the “Site”). These include: (i) the installation of twenty-two -35’ wood poles with attached security lighting and security cameras; (ii) use of approximately ±27,000 square feet of area in the northwesterly portion of the Site for training PSEG Long Island employees on heavy equipment use and equipment storage (e.g. utility poles, transformers, etc.); and (iii) the repurposing of two existing buildings located on the northwesterly portion of the Site adjacent to the training areas for classroom facilities.

Lighting and Security Cameras

The proposed wood poles will be located along LILCO Road on the west side of the Site and surrounding the decommissioned reactor and associated buildings, as shown on Figure 1. Security lighting fixtures to be installed will be “dark sky” compliant. As such, the light fixtures will not be tilted or aimed upward and are properly shielded to prevent unnecessary up and side-lighting, thereby reducing sky glow. Lighting will operate continuously from dusk till dawn. The lighting and cameras on the wood poles will be connected by one primary wire and a triplex secondary. The proposed lighting and cameras are needed to properly secure the Site. Visual renderings of the proposed poles are shown on Attachment B.

Equipment Training and Storage

The location for the training and storage areas are shown on Figure 1. Training will occur on the Site on an as-needed basis to maintain personnel certifications and will be conducted between 7:30 am and 3:30
pm Monday thru Friday approximately twice a month. Presently, heavy equipment training is contracted to external course providers on an as-needed basis. Equipment to be stored includes utility poles of various sizes, transformers, pit vaults, plastic conduit and other materials required to support the maintenance of the transmission and distribution system. This training and storage will occur within previously disturbed portions of the Site. No further clearing or grading is required.

Classroom facilities

The location for the buildings to be repurposed are shown on Figure 1. All improvements to repurpose these buildings will be internal and limited to the installation of furniture. No additional upgrades are proposed at this time. The classroom facilities will complement the training program, described above, at the Site.

Reasons Supporting This Determination:

In the course of preparing its recommendation, PSEGLI has prepared the Shoreham Facility Training Area and utility pole installation Short Environmental Assessment Form Parts 1, 2 & 3 (“SEAF”). The EAF analyzed the potential environmental impacts of the Proposed Action as set forth in a NYSDEC-approved form of EAF.

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. Tidal wetlands surround the project area on the north, west and east sides of the Site, however, all work is proposed landward of the regulated tidal wetland adjacent area and given the analysis herein there will be no impact to the wetlands. Ground disturbance (installation of poles with security lighting and cameras) will take place within previously disturbed areas associated with the gravel roadway that surrounds the decommissioned reactor as well as the paved roadway immediately to the west. The level of disturbance from the installation of these poles will be minimal. All disturbed areas will be restored in-kind. A detailed Visual Assessment and associated analysis and photosimulations (see Attachment B) of the Proposed Action found that the proposed poles will not be out of character with the existing industrial Site. The proposed poles will be significantly shorter than the on-site overhead transmission line, decommissioned reactor and associated buildings. As such, there will be no significant adverse visual or land use impacts.

No additional structures are proposed as only existing buildings will be repurposed as classroom facilities. All heavy equipment training will occur within the previously disturbed upland areas. Heavy equipment to be utilized within the training area include, but are not limited to, backhoes, dig-its, rear property pole setting equipment and forklifts. No drilling equipment will be utilized. Heavy equipment training will occur on an as-needed basis between 7:30 am and 4:00 pm Monday thru Friday approximately twice a month. As no regular daily training is anticipated, all equipment operation will occur within normal business hours and the nearest residence is greater than 1,500 feet from the training area no significant noise impact will occur. Six (6) associates or “trainers” will be on-site during training to provide instruction and the repurposed classroom will fit groups of approximately twenty (20) persons. No additional sanitary facilities are proposed; existing on-Site facilities associated with the existing structures shown on Figure 1 will be utilized.

The Proposed Action is located within the New York State Coastal Boundary and a Coastal Assessment Form (CAF) has been completed. The CAF identified two NYSDOS Significant Coastal Fish and Wildlife
Habitat (SCFWH) adjacent to the Proposed Action. The SCFWH Herod Point Shoals is adjacent to the north and extends to the east along the Long Island Sound and Wading River March and Beach are located adjacent to the east as shown in Figure 2. There will be no significant adverse impact to the adjacent SCFWH as the Proposed Action is confined to previously disturbed portion of the adjacent upland areas and the Proposed Action will not result in changes to runoff patterns that would result in an impact to these habitats. Per 19 NYCRR Part 600.4, the CAF has been filed with the New York State Secretary.

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. Based on the SEAF and PSEGLI’s recommendation according to the standards as set forth in SEQRA, the Proposed Action will not result in any significant adverse environmental impacts and a Draft Environmental Impact Statement will not be prepared.

For Further Information:

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Dated: August 16, 2019