

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

Project: 4K Hempstead Substation AMI Collector Pole Installation (the “Proposed Action”)

Date: May 12, 2020

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: 4K Hempstead Substation AMI Collector Pole Installation (the “Proposed Action”)

Location: In the northeast corner of the 4K Hempstead Substation, located at 3 Morrell Street, Village of Hempstead, Nassau County, New York

SEQR Status: Unlisted

Conditioned Negative Declaration: No

Proposed Action Description:

The Proposed Action involves the installation of one 60-foot wood Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI) pole, with associated antenna equipment, in the northeast corner of the 4K Hempstead Substation, which is located at 3 Morrell Street in the Village of Hempstead, Nassau County, New York (the “Proposed Action”) (see Figure 1). The pole being utilized is a standard Class H-1 wood distribution pole. The pole will be embedded approximately 10 feet in the ground then extending approximately 50 feet above ground level (agl). Two sets of two antennas (each two feet in length) will be affixed to the pole on antenna arms at heights of 36 and 43 feet agl. Each antenna arm will extend off the pole approximately 30 inches. The antennas will connect to a single router, affixed to the pole at approximately 20 feet agl. A photograph of a typical AMI pole and associated antennae is provided in Figure 2.

The antennas will collect electric usage data from nearby AMI Smart Meters, which are connected to customer’s houses and businesses, and will utilize the router to transmit this data to

a central data server. The Proposed Action will enable PSEG Long Island to analyze electrical usage across its service area, which will allow for more in-depth planning for improvements to existing infrastructure. Additionally, consistent with the AMI installation program, the Proposed Action will allow customers the ability to more closely monitor their electric usage.

Reasons Supporting This Determination:

The Proposed Action is an “Unlisted” Action as defined in SEQRA. An Environmental Assessment (“EA”) was completed by PSEG Long Island. The EA analyzed the potential environmental impacts of the Proposed Action. Based on a review of the Proposed Action’s scope of work in accordance with the requirements of SEQRA, a Short Environmental Assessment Form Parts 1, 2 & 3 (“SEAF”) was prepared. The SEAF evaluated the effect of the Proposed Action upon land use, natural resources, visual resources and character of the areas, energy use, environmental hazards and human health resources. Key findings are outlined below.

- The Hempstead Substation is located in a predominantly commercial and residential area. The Long Island Rail Road (LIRR) Hempstead Train Station and associated tracks are located immediately west and northwest of the Hempstead Substation. Two 75-foot and 80-foot transmission poles are currently located approximately 150 feet and 300 feet north of the substation, respectively (extending to approximately 65 to 70 feet above grade), and a 50-foot lightning mast currently exists within the Hempstead Substation. Given this information, the Proposed Action will be consistent in height and material with utility poles in the vicinity of the site and will be consistent with the character of the area. Therefore, the Proposed Action will not result in significant adverse visual impacts or impacts to land use.
- The Proposed Action is not located within or adjacent to any property listed or eligible for listing on the State or National Register for Historic Places. In addition, the Proposed Action is not located within a New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation (OPRHP) designated archaeologically sensitive area. Therefore, the Proposed Action will not result in any significant adverse impacts to these resources.
- The Proposed Action is not located within any state or federally regulated wetlands or wetland adjacent areas. Therefore, the Proposed Action will not result in any significant adverse impacts to these areas.
- The Proposed Action will not be completed within the 100-year floodplain, nor will it be located within the New York State coastal zone, or any Critical Environmental Area (CEA). Therefore, the Proposed Action will not result in any significant adverse impacts to these areas.
- There are no species of animal, or associated habitats, listed by the State or Federal government as threatened or endangered at the site of the Proposed Action. Therefore,

the Proposed Action will not result in significant adverse impacts to these species or habitats.

- The Proposed Action is not located on or adjacent to any properties that have been the subject of remediation for hazardous waste. It should be noted that several New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) spills were identified in association with the Hempstead Substation; however these spills are reported closed by the NYSDEC. PSEG Long Island's contractor will be required to submit an acceptable Health and Safety Plan (HASP) to PSEG Long Island prior to construction. Proper health and safety protocols will be implemented during soil excavation activities. If necessary, excavation activities will be halted if any unanticipated contamination is identified until proper testing is completed, as warranted. As such, significant adverse impacts to human health are not anticipated during construction or operation of the Proposed Action.
- The AMI equipment does not generate any audible noise. As a result, operation of the Proposed Action will not result in any significant adverse noise impacts.
- The antennas to be installed on the proposed AMI pole will utilize radiofrequencies (RF) ranging between 902.3 megahertz (MHz) and 927.9 MHz and operate within the Federal Communication Commission's (FCC) maximum permissible exposure limit (MPE) for RF power density ranges. Therefore, the operation of the AMI equipment will not result in any significant adverse impacts related to RF exposure.
- The Proposed Action will not cause any significant operational or construction impacts. Short term traffic disruptions may be experienced and will be addressed via traffic control implementation and coordination with local municipalities for work within municipal roadways.
- The Proposed Action will not impact access to residences and businesses.
- Short term impacts to ambient or background noise levels and vibration levels may be experienced during construction for the Proposed Action. However, excavation related to the pole installation is anticipated to last for approximately fifteen minutes, and all construction activities will be temporary in nature and typical for any utility construction project of this of this type. As such, no significant adverse noise or vibration impacts will occur.
- The installation of the proposed AMI pole with associated antenna constitutes essential services pursuant to NYS Executive Order 202.6.

Based on the EA and PSEG Long Island'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 need not be prepared.

For Further Information:

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

Address: 175 East Old Country Road, Hicksville, NY 11801

Telephone Number: (800) 490-0025

E-mail: PSEGLongIslandSEQR@pseg.com

/s/ Rick Shansky

Rick Shansky

Vice President of Operations Oversight

Dated: May 12, 2020