

Name

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Your Comment

My name is Julianne DeSilva, a resident of Kings Park, and a Long Island utility ratepayer.

The updated Options Analysis released by the Long Island Power Authority last month makes clear that terminating the contract with PSEG and moving to a fully municipal authority must happen -- and that process must begin now.

After months of public discourse around PSEG's costly negligence and mismanagement in the aftermath of Tropical Storm Isias it is clear that they are incapable of responding to the challenge of providing and maintaining the resilient electric grid that Long Islanders need and deserve.

Per LIPA's own findings, PSEG lied about its preparedness for the tropical storm, its immediate response to the storm, and the number of upgrades it made after the storm. LIPA determined that management failures were the root cause and that PSEG lacks proactive risk management. Time and time again in public meetings over the past few months, PSEG has continued to obfuscate the truth and avoid accountability. They have demonstrated themselves to be untrustworthy partners in managing our energy system with transparency and public oversight. PSEG can't fix the problem because they are the problem.

This will be the case with all other for-profit vendors that LIPA could hire to manage our system. The public-private partnership is unreliable, unaccountable, and more expensive. Years of these partnerships have removed us further from the root of our needs on Long Island: an energy system in service of people, not profits. The time has come to finally move to full public power.

Public power works. Across the country and on Long Island, publicly owned utilities have proven more affordable and reliable for residential customers. They are more responsive to customer needs, yielding better customer satisfaction. Their shorter outage times safeguard households' food and medicine and improve the productivity of small businesses. PSEG promised LIPA it would be in the top 25% of customer satisfaction, and as of right now, it is dead last nationwide. LIPA has estimated that it can save nearly \$1 billion over the next decade by opting for municipalization. As climate catastrophe looms, these savings can be invested in providing 100% clean, renewable energy on a grid that can handle what is to come.