

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

Project: Garden City Distribution Feeder and Conversion from 4kV to 13kV (the “Proposed Action”)

Date: October 13, 2022

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: Garden City Distribution Feeder and Conversion from 4kV to 13kV (the “Proposed Action”)

Location: Within and extending from the existing East Garden City Substation and the surrounding neighborhoods of the Village of Garden City and the Census-Designated Place of East Garden City, Town of Hempstead, Nassau County, New York

SEQR Status: Unlisted

Conditioned Negative Declaration: No

Proposed Action Description:

The Proposed Action includes the installation of one new 13 kilovolt (kV) underground (UG) distribution exit feeder and associated conduit, and the partial conversion of an existing overhead (OH) distribution circuit from 4kV to 13kV. The location of the Proposed Action is provided on Figure 1.

The new UG 13kV distribution exit feeder will be approximately 800 linear feet and will originate from the LIPA East Garden City Substation (the “Substation”) located on Stewart Avenue, and will extend in a generally northwesterly direction to provide service to a mixed-use apartment building that is being constructed at 555 Stewart Avenue, Garden City, New York (see Figure 2). As shown on Figure 2, the new feeder will originate from a switchgear located within the Substation, and will extend west into an adjacent property owned by LIPA, and then north across Stewart Avenue where it will connect to a riser pole. Pad mounted transformers will be installed at 555 Stewart Avenue, and UG cable connections will be completed in order to connect to the new apartment building. Approximately three manholes will be installed along the feeder and cable installation areas.

Portions of an existing OH distribution circuit located along Stewart Avenue will be converted from 4kV to 13kV. The conversion activities will upgrade the system to operate at a higher capacity, which will increase electric reliability and will support future load growth in the area. This conversion will be achieved by removing approximately 1,700 linear feet of OH 4kV cable, and tapping into an existing OH circuit, which is a 4kV circuit that is rated to operate at 13kV.

The feeder installation and conversion activities will require: (i) the removal of one 45-foot wood pole; (ii) the replacement of approximately five 40 to 45-foot existing wood distribution poles (that currently extend to approximately 34 feet to 38.5 feet in height above grade) with new wood distribution poles that will extend to approximate heights of 38.5 feet above grade; and, (iii) the installation of one new 45-foot wood pole that will extend to an approximate height of 38.5 feet above grade. The new proposed pole will not be more than 10 feet taller than existing poles within the pole alignment, and the replacement poles will not be more than 10 feet taller than the poles they are replacing. Pole-top equipment upgrades or installations (transformers, switches, cable connections, etc.) will be completed along the OH circuits in the surrounding area, as needed.

The Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act (CLCPA) requires State agencies, authorities, and entities to direct funding in a manner designed to achieve a goal for disadvantaged communities to receive 40% of overall benefits of spending on clean energy and energy efficiency programs. The CLCPA directs the [Climate Justice Working Group](#) to establish criteria for defining disadvantaged communities, however until the criteria is established, New York State has identified interim criteria for disadvantaged communities. The Proposed Action is not located in a disadvantaged community as provided for by the interim criteria and does not include funding for clean energy and energy efficiency programs.

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”) were prepared. Key findings are outlined below.

- Installation of the new distribution feeder will be completed UG; associated pad mounted transformers will have a low vertical profile. OH distribution activities will consist of wood to wood pole replacements, resulting in height increases of no more than 10 feet, and one new pole installation which will be comparable in height (within 10 feet) to adjacent poles within the alignment. Therefore, the Proposed Action will not result in any significant adverse visual impacts. Further, the Proposed Action will be completed in areas where existing UG and OH infrastructure exists and therefore does not have the potential to result in significant adverse impacts to land use.
- No portions of the Proposed Action are located within or immediately adjacent to any state or federally regulated wetlands or wetland adjacent areas, floodplains, critical environmental areas (CEAs), or historic/archeologically sensitive areas. In addition, no state or federal threatened or endangered species or habitats are located on or

adjoining the Proposed Action site. Therefore, the Proposed Action does not have the potential for significant adverse impacts to these resources.

- The Proposed Action involves activities within the LIPA East Garden City Substation, which is listed in the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) environmental remediation database (Garden City – Stewart Avenue Holder [Site Codes: V00723/130120]). The LIPA East Garden City Substation is a State Superfund Site, where soil and groundwater contamination has been identified due to historical site operations as a former Manufactured Gas Plant (MGP). A Site Management Plan (SMP) is currently in place for this site, which is implemented by National Grid for the monitoring and management of remaining contamination. PSEG Long Island’s contractor will be required to submit an acceptable Health and Safety Plan (HASP) to PSEG Long Island prior to construction. Work activities within this property will be conducted in accordance with the NYSDEC-approved National Grid SMP. Proper health and safety protocols will be implemented during soil excavation activities and coordination with appropriate regulatory agencies will be conducted, as required. Therefore, significant adverse impacts to human health are not anticipated during construction or operation of the Proposed Action, nor will there be significant adverse impacts to the remediation of this site.

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 Draft Environmental Impact Statement need not be prepared.

For Further Information:

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/s/ Billy Raley

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Long Island Power Authority

Dated: October 13, 2022