

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

Project: Broadway to Hewlett LIRR Crossing Reconfiguration (the “Proposed Action”)

Date: July 5, 2023

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: Broadway to Hewlett LIRR Crossing Reconfiguration (the “Proposed Action”)

Location: Extending from and in the surrounding area of the existing Hewlett Substation located within the hamlet of Hewlett, Town of Hempstead, Nassau County, New York

SEQR Status: Unlisted

Conditioned Negative Declaration: No

Proposed Action Description:

The Proposed Action is located within the existing LIPA Hewlett Substation property located at 1155 West Broadway, and within the immediate surrounding area along West Broadway, Railroad Avenue, Franklin Avenue, Station Plaza, Hewlett Plaza and Broadway, in the hamlet of Hewlett, Town of Hempstead, Nassau County. The location of the Proposed Action is provided on Figure 1.

The Proposed Action area in Hewlett has experienced customer outages due to faults occurring on existing overhead (“OH”) 33kV transmission circuits. The majority of these outages have been the result of distribution and transmission conductors coming into contact, mostly located along West Broadway in the vicinity of the Long Island Rail Road (LIRR) crossing.

The Proposed Action is being completed to alleviate these issues and will include: i) the removal of approximately 550 linear feet of existing OH 33kV transmission conductor along West Broadway, and cutting the associated poles to heights just above distribution components; ii) the installation of approximately 0.5 miles of new underground (“UG”) 33kV transmission cable, which will serve as replacement for the removed OH portion, and the installation of up to two manholes along this route; iii) the replacement of approximately 350 linear feet of

existing OH 33kV transmission conductor along West Broadway; iv) transmission pole installations and replacements and a transmission switch structure installation; and v) the installation or replacement of anchors and guy wires at existing and replacement transmission poles as needed. The UG cable will be installed via open trench and jack and bore.

Specifically, pole activities will consist of the following:

- Installation of one new 65-foot wood transmission riser pole (that will extend to an approximate height of 55 feet) at the end of the new UG transmission cable route.
- Installation of one new 60-foot wood transmission riser pole (that will extend to an approximate height of 48 feet) within the Hewlett Substation property.
- Installation of one new 60-foot wood transmission switch structure (that will extend to an approximate height of 47 feet) within the Hewlett Substation property.
- Replacement of six 50- to 75-foot existing wood transmission poles (that extend to approximate heights of 43 to 65 feet) with six new 60 to 70-foot wood transmission poles (that will extend to approximate heights of 51 to 57 feet).
- Replacement of two 35-foot wood stub poles (that extend to approximate heights of 29 feet) with two new 50-foot wood stub poles (that will extend to approximate heights of 37 and 38 feet).

The specific components of the Proposed Action are depicted on Figure 2.

SEQRA Findings

Based on a review of the Proposed Action's scope of work in accordance with the requirements of SEQRA, the Short Environmental Assessment Form Parts 1, 2 & 3 ("SEAF") were prepared to evaluate potential impacts of the Proposed Action. The Proposed Action is an "Unlisted" Action as defined by SEQRA.

The SEAF evaluated the effect of the Proposed Action upon land use, natural resources, visual resources and community character, energy use, environmental hazards and human health resources. Key findings are outlined below.

- Installation of the new transmission cable will be completed entirely UG. One new transmission riser pole and switch structure will be installed within the existing Hewlett Substation property where existing infrastructure exists, including utility poles that extend to heights of approximately 38 and 43 feet, and lightning masts that extend to heights of approximately 59 feet. In addition, the new riser pole to be installed on Broadway is located in an area where wood transmission poles currently exist that extend to approximate heights of 47 to 65 feet. Therefore, the new transmission poles and switch structure will be located in the vicinity of existing OH infrastructure that is consistent in height. All replacement transmission and stub poles will be within 10 feet in height of the poles they replace, with the exception of one transmission pole replacement which will be 12 feet higher than the pole it is replacing. However, this pole replacement will also be located adjacent to poles that are consistent in height. Given the UG installation of the transmission cable, and the presence of existing OH electric infrastructure located in the immediate vicinity of the pole work that is

comparable in height, the Proposed Action will not have the potential for significant adverse visual or land use impacts.

- 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 is located adjacent to the Peninsula Boulevard Investigation site, which is listed in the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) environmental remediation database under the State Superfund Program (Site Code: 130117). This site includes an approximately 50-acre area within and around a chlorinated solvent groundwater plume that is associated with former dry cleaning facility operations in the area. Proposed Action work activities closest to this site include transmission pole installations and replacements, which will involve relatively small excavation footprints to depths of approximately 10 to 13 feet below grade. The UG cable installation activities will not be located in this area, and will be completed at depths shallower than 13 feet below grade. Based on the United States Geological Survey (USGS) Long Island Depth to Water Viewer, the depth to groundwater in these areas is located at approximately 17 feet below grade or deeper, and therefore will not be encountered during excavation activities. 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, nor will there be significant adverse impacts to the remediation of this site. No potential for a significant adverse impact. 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.
- In the immediate vicinity of construction activity, access to residences and businesses will be temporarily limited, but at no point completely blocked. During work shifts, a worker will be assigned to move protective barriers to allow access to properties. At all times there will be a path for emergency equipment to access all residences and businesses.
- Short-term impacts to ambient or background noise levels and vibration levels may be experienced along the Proposed Action route from construction equipment operation, as well as from mobile sources (i.e., trucks and worker vehicles traveling to and from the work site). These impacts, if any, will be temporary in nature and are typical for any utility construction project of this type. As such, no significant adverse noise or vibration impacts will occur.

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: July 5, 2023