LIPA

NEWSLETTER

Dune of Robert Moses Beach | Babylon, New York

August Edition

Long Island Power Authority's

COMMUNITY ADVISORY BOARD

A MESSAGE FROM OUR CEO

It is both an honor and a privilege to introduce myself to you as the newly appointed Chief Executive Officer of the Long Island Power Authority. Many of you I've had the pleasure of working with over the years in my various public service roles, and I'm grateful for the opportunity to continue that collaboration in this new capacity.

Let me begin by thanking each of you for your continued dedication and service on the Community Advisory Board. Your voice and perspective are essential to LIPA's success. This Board plays a unique and vital role in ensuring that we remain closely connected to the needs and concerns of the communities we serve. Your input makes a difference — every day — and I deeply value the time, energy, and thoughtfulness you bring to the table.

As I step into this role, I want you to know what guides me: I am a Long Islander, through and through. I live in Stony Brook, where I raised my family, and I care deeply about our region — its environment, its people, and its future. My vision for LIPA is one rooted in public service and long-term stewardship: a LIPA that delivers safe, reliable, affordable, and clean electricity while meaningfully partnering with our communities and stakeholders.

I bring to this position over 25 years of experience in government, energy policy, environmental protection, and utility operations — most recently as Director of the Long Island Office of the New York State Department of Public Service. I've also served as Acting Deputy Secretary for Energy and Environment in the Governor's Office and as Chief Sustainability Officer at the Suffolk County Water Authority. I understand how government works at every level, I understand utility regulation and operations, and I understand Long Island.

Three values will shape my leadership at LIPA:

1. **Local Commitment:** I love Long Island, and I believe passionately in its potential.
2. **Partnership:** From LIPA's Board and staff to PSEG Long Island, labor, regulators, and community leaders like you — we succeed together.
3. **Accountability:** We must hold ourselves to the highest standards on behalf of our customers. Every dollar we spend must be in service of the public good.

This is a time of transition and opportunity for LIPA. We're navigating a rapidly changing energy landscape, advancing clean energy solutions, and preparing for major operational milestones such as the extension of the OSA, IT system separation, and Time-of-Day rate migration. At the same time, we must remain vigilant in preparing for peak storm season and improving the everyday customer experience.

I believe in collaborative leadership. That means listening closely to voices like yours, our eyes and ears in the community, and working together to ensure our mission reflects the needs and priorities of the people we serve.

I look forward to partnering with you in the months and years ahead. Thank you for the warm welcome and, most importantly, for your ongoing commitment to the success of LIPA and the future of Long Island.

Sincerely,

Carrie Meek Gallagher

FAREWELL AND THANK YOU
JOHN RHODES

As we welcome new leadership at the Long Island Power Authority, we also take a moment to express our deepest gratitude to John Rhodes, who has served as LIPA's Acting CEO over the past year with integrity, intelligence, and unwavering dedication to the public good.

John stepped into this interim role at a critical moment in LIPA's history. With his extensive experience in energy policy and public service, he provided the steady hand and thoughtful leadership needed to keep LIPA firmly on course. Under his guidance, we continued advancing our mission to deliver safe, clean, and affordable energy to Long Island and the Rockaways—never losing sight of our public service values, even as the energy landscape around us continued to shift.

John brought a spirit of collaboration, a deep commitment to transparency and accountability, and a genuine respect for the communities we serve. He championed important efforts—from improving system resilience and storm preparedness to advancing critical clean energy initiatives—all while ensuring that LIPA stayed focused on long-term value for customers.

As John returns to his role at the New York State Department of Public Service, we thank him for his exemplary service, wise counsel, and steady leadership. His impact will be felt well beyond his time here, and we are better positioned for the future because of his work.

On behalf of the entire LIPA team and the Community Advisory Board, thank you, John, for your leadership, your partnership, and your enduring commitment to public power.

We wish you continued success in your return to DPS and in all that lies ahead.

CAB MEMBER HIGHLIGHT

CHRISTOPHER WILLIAMS

Director of Development
Suffolk County Community College Foundation Inc.

Tell us a little about your organization. What's the most exciting project you're working on right now?

The Suffolk Community College Foundation's mission is to support student access to quality education and workforce training by providing scholarships, emergency student loans and funding for academic program development. The Foundation awards hundreds of thousands of dollars in scholarships each year, including the LIPA Community College Scholarships in partnership with United Way of Long Island! Additionally, the Foundation seeks to engage alumni to maintain their connection to the college, to support foundation events, philanthropy, student mentorship and internship opportunities.

Under the leadership and guidance of the College's seventh President, Dr. Edward Bonahue, we recently launched the Education Without Limits fundraising campaign focused on advancing student scholarships, hardship funds, naming opportunities across three thriving suburban campuses and fostering growth throughout our vital academic programs.

As a leader on LIPA's Community Advisory Board, what opportunities or initiatives do you believe are critical to reaching New York's clean energy goals?

Suffolk's students are learning about expanding renewable energy sources like offshore wind and solar, investing in energy storage, and improving transmission infrastructure to deliver clean energy to where it's needed. Our student Environmental Club recently acquired a Solar Tree and "planted" it on Veterans Plaza on the Ammerman Campus in Selden where it serves as a rapid charger for student electronic devices and an energy source that returns power to the grid. Suffolk also offers a highly regarded and award-winning Cyber Security program in which students learn to protect our community's information technology networks and assets, like securing our power grid ensuring a safe and uninterrupted power supply to our families, businesses and neighbors!

What's something about you that might surprise people — any unique hobbies or hidden talents?

A former criminal prosecutor and investigative attorney, I realized that helping students along their higher education journeys saves lives, keeps families together and launches meaningful careers. While this is a serious business, students need music too! Over the past thirty-two years as a practicing attorney, college professor and administrator, I've also played the keyboards in a number of local Long Island bands, keeping classic rock and roll, roots and reggae music at the forefront of Long Island's live music scene!

CLEAN, RELIABLE, AFFORDABLE

Battery Storage in New York Gets a Boost

On July 28, Governor Hochul announced the first bulk energy storage request for proposal solicitation as part of New York's Energy Storage Roadmap. The RFP is intended to procure 1 GW of utility scale battery energy storage in the state, with a goal of 6 GW by 2030.

The solicitation comes on the heels of the New York State Fire Prevention and Building Code Council's vote in July to adopt the proposed storage safety recommendations from the New York State Inter-Agency Fire Safety Working Group (FSWG) into Uniform Code.

NYSERDA will administer the RFP, and will be working collaboratively with utilities, developers, and local governments across the state to ensure the safe deployment of bulk battery storage projects. Governor Hochul said, "Today's action is another example of New York's ongoing commitment to strengthening our grid, ensuring the state continues to have a more affordable and reliable electricity system now and well into the future."

LIPA CEO on Power & Politics Speaks on Affordability

In July, LIPA's CEO Carrie Meek Gallagher was invited on News12 Power and Politics to speak on her early experiences as LIPA's new CEO, LIPA's contract extension with PSEG Long Island, Time-of-Day Rates, and LIPA's top priorities moving into 2026.

Ms. Gallagher said, *"Affordability is front and center of every decision we are making, every dollar that we spend comes directly from rates that we charge to customers. We are a non-profit public utility, so they expect us to keep the lights on, and spend their money wisely. Any dollar that we can save also gets passed right on to the ratepayers."*

Finance & Budget teams from both LIPA and PSEG Long Island are currently working diligently on its 2026 budget, with the top focus of keeping the budget flat across all functions and operations in 2026.

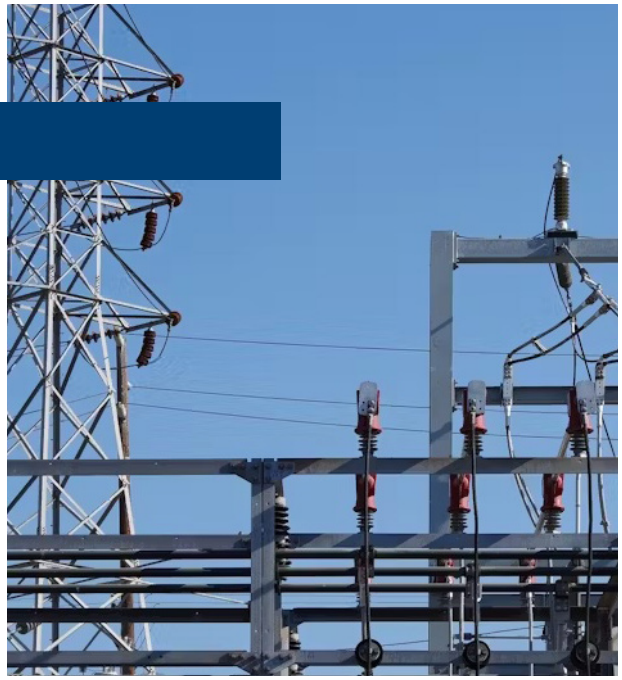
Watch the entire segment here.

Migration to Time-of-Day Rates Shows Positive Early Signs

Early signs of LIPA & PSEG Long Island's Time-of-Day rates are positive, as PSEG Long Island has seen a 98% retention rate amongst over 500,000 migrations and opt-ins. Currently, TOD rate migration is on a summer pause. A recent Newsday article reported that customer adoption and cost savings are on track to meet projections on both the operational and customer side.

LIPA is the first utility to introduce Time-of-Day Rates as its standard rate, and its rollout is being carefully monitored by other utilities for potential future adoptions of this rate structure across the state.

PSEG Long Island Summer Capital Projects



Below is a list of summer capital projects either completed or in progress:

- Belmont to Whiteside New 69 kV underground circuit
- Holbrook - Substation expansion to accommodate one 138 kV gen tie for Sunrise Offshore Wind Project
- Belmont – Install one 69/13kV Transformer Bank
- Hauppauge and Elwood - 138 kV Bus Upgrades
- Hither Hills - 23kV to 33kV Conversion
- Elwood and Stewart Avenue - Switchgear Replacements
- Elwood - New Feeder and Reinforcements
- Locust Grove and Woodmere - Feeder Reinforcement and Extension
- South Shore Mall - Network Protector Transformer Replacement

PROPEL NY: A SMART INVESTMENT FOR LONG ISLAND'S ENERGY RELIABILITY

LONG ISLAND BUSINESS NEWS

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OPINION

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Long Island knows what it means to live at the edge—of the ocean, of extreme weather and of a growing demand for electricity that keeps our homes, hospitals and businesses running. That's why the Propel NY transmission upgrades—a joint development between the New York Power Authority and NY Transco—are not just timely, they're essential. This is not about partisan energy policy or symbolic gestures. This is about keeping the lights on and doing it smarter and more affordably for Long Island ratepayers.

Long Island is at the end of the transmission line. What that means in practice is simple: When energy demand spikes or storms hit, we're often the first to feel the strain. That's why the Propel NY transmission project is, at its core, a reliability project.

These upgrades will modernize our infrastructure, reduce transmission congestion, and ensure redundant, storm-resilient power pathways, most of them underground, a clear policy priority of LIPA's Board of Directors. That translates into fewer outages, faster recovery after storms, and lower long-term maintenance costs. As last month's heat wave demonstrated, the grid is increasingly being tested by high temperatures and sustained peak demand.

This wasn't handed to us; we fought for it. A few years ago, the Long Island Power Authority (LIPA) successfully advocated for a fair load-share cost allocation in the state's transmission planning process, and the Department of Public Service issued an order that secured Long Island's place in this upgrade effort, whereby LIPA customers pay around 13 percent of the total project cost.

Because of that order, we're now positioned to receive a significant investment in our transmission system–dollars that would have gone elsewhere without LIPA's efforts. That's not ideology, that's smart advocacy for Long Island.

Propel NY includes major underground transmission routes. That means less exposure to wind, ice and tree limbs, which can cause disruptions. It also means a stronger grid that costs less to repair after a storm–the kind of practical, long-term thinking every taxpayer and ratepayer should support.

Undergrounding also aligns with what the LIPA board has heard from town supervisors, county executives and civic leaders: We need infrastructure that holds up under pressure.

NYPA and Transco, the project developers, have made clear their commitment to working with local communities, adjusting construction schedules, minimizing neighborhood impact and responding quickly to concerns.

There's been talk that New York State and Washington, D.C., aren't aligned on energy policy. That may be true. But this project stands on its own merits, and everyone agrees we need reliable energy infrastructure. Propel NY doesn't pick winners, it strengthens the whole system so that whatever energy sources power our future, Long Island isn't left in the dark.

We all want dependable service and protection from increasingly severe storms. This is a concrete investment in grid reliability, paid for through a process that secured real value for Long Island.

This is infrastructure that works. This is an energy policy that makes sense. And this is a project that deserves bipartisan support, for the good of Long Island families, businesses and the economy.

Opinion piece in Long Island Business News by Tom Locascio, Vice President of Corporate Affairs & Chief of Staff

FOR ENERGY RELIABILITY, NYS NEEDS BOTH GAS AND RENEWABLES

Newsday

Much has changed since the 2019 passage of New York's ambitious Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act. Offshore wind development has been significantly delayed, increasing its costs and the reliance on existing gas-powered generators. The state's Public Service Commission last week halted its approval process for new construction of transmission lines needed to bring offshore wind power to the region because the Trump administration refused to allow new turbines to be built offshore.

While it is important to continue to move forward on renewable energy sources to meet our needs and improve the environment, it is essential to continue to focus on reliability of the energy delivery system.

That's what makes the recent flashing warning signs from the New York Independent System Operator, the nonprofit running the state's electric grid, about a thinning energy reliability margin so dire. Renewable energy sources needed to achieve the state's aggressive climate goals have not scaled up as needed to meet what the NYISO forecasts as a "dramatic" increase in demand. NYISO's 2025 Power Trends Report says a reliance on fossil-fired generation includes potentially repowering aging plants with lower-emission generation technology as part of an all-of-the-above approach that utilizes all available energy sources.

Currently, six in 10 New Yorkers heat their homes with natural gas; switching them all over to electric heating systems requires both extraordinary infrastructure upgrades and the ability to produce sufficient power. More than half the state's installed electric generation capacity comes from natural gas and so-called dual fuel-gas coupled with dirtier oil as a backup — with 86% of downstate generation reliant on those sources.

The trouble is that the gas supply itself is facing significant constraints. On the coldest days, utilities prioritize household heating needs, which lessens the supply available for equally essential electric generation.

New proposed gas pipelines — the Constitution Pipeline upstate and the Northeast Supply Enhancement project downstate — will help ease these constraints and deserve a fair hearing as they move through state-level reviews.

Much has changed since these projects were first proposed and roundly debated. Over the last decade , necessary state permits were rejected, in part due to politics driven by idealistic theories of how New York's energy systems should be built. The outlook for renewable generation also was rosier. But with the latest energy supply and demand data providing such a stark wake-up call, we must decide if we're willing to jeopardize reliability.

Lapses in energy most certainly would put a damper on the economic goals set by the state, from the buildout of high-tech manufacturing megaprojects to growth in data centers necessary to position New York as a leader in artificial intelligence. The same goes for affordable housing goals, which are running up against impending all-electric building requirements. Even by abstaining from using gas for cooking and heating, all electric homes still clearly will require electrons generated by natural gas to power up for the foreseeable future.

Ensuring sufficient natural gas is available does not need to come at the expense of renewables. An all-of-the-above approach to energy that includes wind, solar, hydro, nuclear and, yes, gas where necessary, is what we need for a cleaner and reliable future as a state. The alternative, ignoring the clear needs right in front of us, will quite literally put New York on a dark path forward.

Guest essay in Newsday by Bob Catell, Chairman of the Advanced Energy Research Technology Center at Stony Brook University

PREPARING FOR THE 2025 STORM SEASON

The 2025 Atlantic hurricane season started on June 1 and runs through November 30. To date, there has been 1 tropical storm (Tropical Storm Chantal) to make landfall in the United States. The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Agency (NOAA) predicts a 60% chance of an above-normal season, with projections of 13-19 named storms, and 6-10 hurricanes. While the beginning of the 2025 storm season on Long Island has been slow, historically, August, September, and October produce the majority of the storms that result in major damage on the East Coast.

LIPA and PSEG Long Island are proactively preparing for the 2025 storm season, having completed 9 storm exercises through July, as shown below. In addition, PSEG Long Island has or is in the process of completing numerous summer reliability projects which include inspections and repair of circuits, capacitor banks, and substations, as well as tree trimming of primary transmission and distribution circuits. Concurrently, PSEG Long Island is working on a number of capital projects to be completed by summer 2025 that will further enhance the LIPA system's resiliency against major storm events.

For summer 2025, PSEG Long Island projected under normal weather conditions, a peak load of 5,241 MW, and 5,617 MW assuming extreme weather. **LIPA's peak summer load reached 5,543 MW in June** due to higher than normal temperatures.

In terms of supply, PSEG Long Island projected sufficient margins for all major contingencies under the 2025 forecast. The figures below outline the available summer capacity with a 1,382 MW margin under normal conditions and a 988 MW margin under extreme weather conditions.

System Demand & Capability (MW)

	Base	Extreme Weather
Generation	4,367	4,349
Inter-ties	2,074	2,074
Total Supply	6,441	6,423
Peak Load	5,241	5,617
Load Reduction + Load Modifiers	-182	-182
Net Load	5,059	5,435
Margin	**1,382**	**988**

PSEG Long Island Major Restoration Exercises

Date	Exercise
April 7	Restoration Contingency Functional Exercise - Loss of Critical Systems
April 3 & 10	Division Operations Functional Exercises
May 1	Alternate Control Center Drill
May 13	Annual Hurricane Tabletop Exercise
May 14	Loss EMS (SCADA) Exercise
May 21	Load Shed/COMMIT Tabletop Exercise
June 13	Logistics & Foreign Crew Management Functional Exercise
July 9	Communications Tabletop Exercise

LIPA and PSEG Long Island are working collaboratively to ensure the system is prepared for a major weather event. As we've seen record high temperatures on Long Island this summer, PSEG Long Island has been communicating with our customers on ways to reduce usage, sharing energy efficiency tips, and opportunities to save during peak hours.

Visit **PSEG Long Island's website**, to learn more on how we're preparing customers for storm season.

POWER

SOUTH FORK WIND WINS POWER MAGAZINE'S PLANT OF THE YEAR

Winning POWER's highest honor, South Fork Wind — the first commercial-scale offshore wind farm in U.S. federal waters—stands as a beacon for the power sector's ambition to forge new industries in the face of adversity. Commissioned in July 2024 as offshore wind projects faltered nationwide, South Fork proved that labor, permitting, engineering, and grid integration can align to deliver complex infrastructure at scale. While the project lays out new bedrock for the nation's carbon-free prospects, it offers the entire industry a proof point for resilience, technical rigor, and what it takes to build the next generation of power.

Awarding POWER's highest honor is never easy. This year, the decision was especially fraught, as surging electricity demand collided with a volatile mix of policy reversals, brittle supply chains, and inflationary shocks that upended project economics across the global power sector. Even as the drumbeat to build cleaner, smarter, and more extensive infrastructure grew louder, utilities scrambled to shore up reliability, and developers recalibrated risk in real time. In 2025, the bar for excellence was defined by resilience under pressure, precision across disciplines, and the rare ability to deliver complex infrastructure amid mounting uncertainty.

Enter South Fork Wind, a 132-MW offshore wind farm anchored 35 miles east of Montauk Point, New York, developed by Danish energy giant Ørsted and utility Eversource under a joint venture (with infrastructure investor Global Infrastructure Partners acquiring Eversource's stake in September 2024). Fully commissioned in July 2024, South Fork became the first utility-scale offshore wind project in U.S. federal waters, delivering clean power to approximately 70,000 Long Island homes under a pioneering 20-year power purchase agreement (PPA) with the Long Island Power Authority (LIPA), a municipal utility serving 1.2 million customers and responsible for Long Island's electric transmission and distribution. The PPA averages 14.1¢/kWh, blending an initial 16¢/kWh for 90 MW and 8.6¢/kWh for an expanded 40 MW.

Read the whole article here.

LIPA

THE FUTURE OF BATTERY STORAGE IN NEW YORK

On July 25, 2025, the **NY State Fire Prevention and Building Code Council** adopted the updated fire safety regulations for battery energy storage systems (BESS). The new regulations are now among the most stringent in the country, relying on facts and expert assessments when deploying BESS in communities.

As you know, battery energy storage systems (BESS) are no longer optional — they are essential. These systems will play a pivotal role in ensuring the stability and reliability of our electric grid, especially as we transition away from fossil fuels and increase our reliance on renewable energy sources such as solar and wind. Battery storage is important because it allows us to store excess energy generated during periods of low demand and deploy it when demand peaks, reducing stress on the grid and enhancing reliability. It enables the integration of intermittent renewable resources, mitigates power outages, and helps avoid costly infrastructure upgrades. Importantly, battery storage supports decarbonization goals by reducing dependence on fossil fuel-powered peaker plants, which are often the most polluting and expensive to operate.

Governor's Fire Code Reforms

We fully acknowledge that public concerns about fire safety and the siting of battery energy storage systems are valid and must be addressed directly. That's why Governor Kathy Hochul's administration has taken critical steps to adopt new regulations that will strengthen safety standards and give municipalities and the public confidence to move forward. These updates, which reflect the most current national safety standards, directly respond to the concerns expressed by communities, fire departments, and local officials. The new codes:

- Mandate rigorous fire detection, suppression, and containment systems
- Require site-specific safety plans and clear emergency response protocols
- Define spacing, ventilation, and setback requirements to reduce fire risk
- Ensure all storage projects are accessible and serviceable by first responders
- Establish consistent procedures for local review and permitting

These changes are not just technical — they are foundational to restoring public trust. They show that battery storage can be developed responsibly, with the highest standards for safety and transparency.

Why Long Island Needs Battery Storage Now

Long Island's energy system faces unique challenges — geographic constraints, increasing electric demand, and the urgent need to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. The region is also at the forefront of New York State's climate leadership, with the LIPA committed to delivering 70% renewable electricity by 2030 and achieving zero emissions by 2040. To reach these goals while maintaining reliability, Long Island must expand its battery storage capacity. Delays caused by local moratoriums and public misunderstandings threaten not only our ability to meet state climate mandates but also our capacity to deliver affordable, resilient power to Long Island families and businesses.

A Turning Point for Local Governments
Many towns on Long Island have implemented temporary moratoriums on battery storage development while awaiting state action on safety. With the Governor's newly approved fire code in place, LIPA believes that those towns now have the clarity and regulatory framework they need to move forward confidently and responsibly. The tools and protections are now in place to allow local governments to lift moratoriums and begin evaluating battery projects on their benefits — supported by this new set of safety standards and public oversight.

Community Advisory Board Members: Your Role Is Crucial

As trusted voices in your communities, your leadership is essential to achieving our energy goals. We are calling on you to help facilitate informed, respectful conversations around battery energy storage. Urgent action and strong partnerships across all levels — state, utilities/municipalities, local government, and community are vital to our success. That means helping to explain why these systems are necessary, how safety is being addressed at the state level, and why the time to act is now. We must not allow uncertainty or misinformation to delay the infrastructure that will secure our energy future.

With your support, Long Island can move forward with battery storage systems that are clean, reliable, and above all — **safe**.


LIPA
lipower.org/community-advisory-board