

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

Project: Reconductor Reynolds Channel Submarine Cable (the “Proposed Action”)

Date: July 17, 2026

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: Reconductor Reynolds Channel Submarine Cable (the “Proposed Action”)

Location: Within the Park Place Substation, along Water Street, Riverside Boulevard, Park Place, City of Long Beach, below Reynolds Channel, and along Railroad Place, Village of Island Park, Town of Hempstead, Nassau County, New York

SEQR Status: Unlisted

Conditioned Negative Declaration: No

Proposed Action Description:

The Proposed Action includes the partial replacement of a transmission circuit located between the existing Park Place Substation (the “Substation”) in the City of Long Beach to the south, and Railroad Place in the Village of Island Park to the north. This portion of the transmission circuit is primarily underground and crosses below Reynolds Channel. It warrants replacement, as it has reached the end of its service life. The new cable will have greater ampacity to allow for future load growth and improved electrical contingency performance. The Proposed Action location is depicted in Figure 1.

The Substation is located along Park Place in the City of Long Beach. The existing transmission circuit extends overhead from the Substation and transitions underground just northeast of the Substation, where it then continues underground below Reynolds Channel to the north. The existing underground transmission cable below Reynolds Channel will be abandoned in place. New conduit and 69kV-rated transmission cable will be installed. Cable being installed will operate at 33kV; however, 69kV-rated cable is being installed to avoid the need for re-excavation and installation should future load growth warrant additional upgrades to the

system. Cable will extend overhead from the Substation and connect to a new 50-foot-tall riser pole that will be installed just northeast of the Substation. The cable will transition underground at this pole and continue south through the Substation, west along Park Place and north along Riverside Boulevard. The cable will cross below Reynolds Channel and onto Railroad Place in the Village of Island Park, where it will continue to the northeast, connecting to a new 56-foot-tall riser pole that will be installed at the corner of Railroad Place and Long Beach Road. Two spare conduits will be installed below Reynolds Channel for potential future use. One splice vault will be installed along the underground cable route on Railroad Place. One existing transmission pole will be removed from the bayfront in Island Park, and one riser will be removed from an existing transmission pole along the bayfront in Long Beach. Underground transmission cable crossing below Reynolds Channel will be accomplished via horizontal directional drilling (HDD). All other portions of the underground transmission cable will be installed via open trench and/or HDD.

In total, the Proposed Action will require approximately 0.21 acres of disturbance, which encompasses 0.10 acres of borehole disturbance, 0.10 acres ground disturbance in paved or dolomite areas, and 0.01 acres of ground disturbance in vegetated or earthen areas.

Coordinated review has been undertaken with agencies that have discretionary decision making for the Proposed Action, including United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) for coverage under Nationwide Permit (NWP) #57, New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) for acquisition of a Long Island Well Permit, and New York State Department of State (NYSDOS) for federal permit coastal consistency concurrence.

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.

- The Proposed Action primarily consists of underground cable/conduit and splice vault installations. Aboveground installations will be limited to two new wood transmission riser poles that will measure approximately 50 and 56 feet in height and associated overhead cable. Transmission poles currently exist in the immediate vicinity of the two proposed riser poles (38 feet tall and 56 feet tall near the Substation, and 43 feet tall at the corner of Railroad Place). Additionally, the riser pole to be installed near the Substation is in an industrial area where electrical infrastructure exists. Both new riser poles will be installed within existing transmission pole alignments and therefore will not be visually different from what currently exists. As such, the Proposed Action will not have the potential for significant adverse impacts on land use or visual resources.
- The Proposed Action will be completed below Reynolds Channel (see Figure 2), a regulated wetland/water body. Cable installation below Reynolds Channel will be completed via HDD and will not involve physical excavation of material, nor the deposition of material into the waterbody. Work activities will be completed in accordance with the requirements of applicable wetland permits, including PSEG Long Island's NYSDEC Wetland Maintenance Permit (Permit #1-9901-0011/00037) for work in the regulated tidal wetland adjacent areas of Reynolds Channel, and United

States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) Nationwide Permit #57 for work activities within the limits of Reynolds Channel. Appropriate sediment and erosion controls and best management practices will be implemented during construction activities. Additionally, a frac-out contingency plan will be implemented to prevent any potential impacts to Reynolds Channel from the HDD. Therefore, the Proposed Action will not have significant adverse impacts to wetlands or water resources.

- The NYSDEC Environmental Resource Mapper listed the following significant natural communities in the vicinity of the Proposed Action: High Salt Marsh, Salt Panne, and Low Salt Marsh. These communities are associated with the Hempstead Bay Wetlands. The NYSDEC Environmental Assessment Form Mapper documented Loggerhead Sea Turtle (*Caretta caretta*), Kemp's Ridley Sea Turtle (*Lepidochelys kempi*), Green Sea Turtle (*Chelonia mydas*), Leatherback Sea Turtle (*Dermochelys coriacea*) and Atlantic Sturgeon (*Acipenser oxyrinchus oxyrinchus*) as occurring at or near the Proposed Action. The Kemp's Ridley Sea Turtle and Leatherback Sea Turtle are state and federally endangered species. The Green Sea Turtle and Loggerhead Sea Turtle are state and federally listed as threatened species. The New York Bight, Chesapeake Bay, Carolina, and South Atlantic Distinct Population Segment (DPS) of Atlantic Sturgeon are listed as endangered species. A Threatened and Endangered Species Assessment was conducted by GEI Consultants, Inc., P.C. ("GEI") (see Attachment A) to assess potential impacts to these species. As discussed in Attachment A, the Proposed Action is not likely to adversely affect sea turtles or sturgeon. Any turtles or sturgeon in the area are expected to be rare or transient. Short-term impacts are expected to be limited to behavioral responses with any species present avoiding the disturbance area. No long-term negative impacts are expected to occur as a result of the Proposed Action. Additionally, no impacts will occur to significant natural communities. The cable will be installed below Reynolds Channel's surface via HDD and no direct disturbance to these communities will occur.
- The Proposed Action is not located on or adjacent to any properties that are listed or eligible for listing in the State or National Register of Historic Places. The Proposed Action adjoins an archaeological buffer area (see Figure 3). A consultation request was submitted to the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation (OPRHP) on October 10, 2025, and OPRHP responded in a letter dated October 15, 2025, indicating that the Proposed Action would have no impact on historic properties, including archaeological and/or historic resources (see Attachment B). Therefore, the Proposed Action will not result in any significant adverse impacts to these resources.
- As the Proposed Action is located within a New York State coastal zone, a NYSDOS Coastal Assessment Form (CAF) was completed (see Attachment C) and submitted to NYSDOS. The Proposed Action will be consistent with and will not substantially hinder the achievement of any of the coastal policies set forth in 19 NYCRR Part 600.5. Additionally, as the Proposed Action is located within a New York State coastal zone and involves a federal permit, a Federal Consistency Assessment Form will be submitted to the NYSDOS for coastal consistency concurrence.
- Due to the shallow depth of groundwater in the vicinity of the Proposed Action (anticipated to be encountered at depths as shallow as 3 feet below ground surface based on the United States Geological Survey Long Island Depth to Water and Hydrologic Conditions Viewer), dewatering will be required during construction. Fixed groundwater dewatering wells are proposed to be installed as needed, and a NYSDEC Long Island Well Permit will be obtained prior to the installation/operation of well

points. Groundwater dewatering and discharges will be completed in accordance with the requirements of the permit and will either be completed under a determination of no jurisdiction from NYSDEC for State Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (SPDES), or under a SPDES permit, dependent on the quality of the groundwater. Discharges to storm conveyance systems or surface waters will meet applicable water quality standards and effluent limitations. Alternatively, groundwater may be containerized for subsequent off-site transportation and disposal at a PSEG Long Island approved disposal facility in accordance with state and federal regulations. As such, the Proposed Action will not result in any significant adverse impacts as a result of groundwater dewatering.

- The Proposed Action is located within the 100-year floodplain (*see* Figure 4). With the exception of pole installations which will result in negligible additions to impervious surface area (<5 square feet), the Proposed Action will not increase impervious surface and does not involve changes to grade. Upon completion of construction, all areas of land disturbance will be restored (with seed/sod, concrete, dolomite, or asphalt, as found prior to construction). Given the negligible increase to impervious areas and that no changes to the grade of ground surface is proposed, the Proposed Action will not result in significant adverse impacts to flood levels, flood risk, or the flow of floodwaters on the Proposed Action site or within the project vicinity.
- The Long Beach Recycling Transfer Station (active transfer facility located at One City Hall) is located immediately south of Park Place, adjacent to where underground cable will be installed. Based on available documentation, this facility accepts construction and demolition debris and mixed municipal solid waste. Given that this facility is not listed to receive petroleum or hazardous wastes, and as project activities adjacent to this site will consist of shallow trench excavation within the roadway, no impacts from this facility are anticipated.
- The Proposed Action is located within the “K – Long Beach Holder” site (Site Code 130122), a NYSDEC State Superfund Program site, with a classification of “C” (Completed) and NYSDEC Brownfield Cleanup Program site, with a classification of “N” (No further Action at this Time). Based on information provided in the NYSDEC Environmental Remediation Database, this site historically operated as a gas holder station from approximately 1922 through 1966. A remedial investigation was completed in 2008, and no field evidence of manufactured gas plant-related contamination was detected; no further investigation or remediation action is required for this site. PSEG Long Island’s contractor will be required to submit an acceptable Health and Safety Plan (HASP) to PSEG Long Island prior to construction, and proper health and safety protocols will be implemented during soil excavation activities. Given these practices, in addition to the lack of contamination observed at this site, significant adverse impacts to human health are not anticipated during construction of the Proposed Action.
- The Proposed Action is located within a disadvantaged community (DAC) (*see* Figure 5) that is identified by the Disadvantaged Community Assessment Tool as having comparatively higher burdens or vulnerabilities. Potential impacts that may occur within the DAC include: groundwater discharges associated with construction dewatering; inadvertent discharges of HDD drilling fluid; noise and air emissions from equipment/vehicles during construction activities; and solid waste generation (ex: pole components, or excess or unsuitable soil/fill that cannot be re-used) during construction activities. All these potential impacts will be temporary in nature during construction

of the Proposed Action and none of these will exist upon project completion. Groundwater extraction and discharges will be completed in accordance with the requirements and applicable water quality standards and effluent limitations of NYSDEC Long Island Well and/or SPDES permits to ensure no contaminants above regulatory thresholds are discharged. In the event extracted groundwater does not meet water quality standards and effluent limitations, it will be treated accordingly prior to discharge or will be transported off-site for disposal at a PSEG Long Island-approved facility authorized to accept such waste. HDD drilling fluid will be used during HDD operations to keep the borehole open before insertion of the cable casing. HDD drilling fluid consists of water and inert, non-hazardous materials (e.g., naturally occurring bentonite clay), which would not pose a significant threat to groundwater resources. The HDD drilling fluid will be recycled. Excess wastewater generated during drilling activities will be collected in frac tanks, transported, and disposed of at an approved disposal facility licensed to accept this type of waste. In the event of a frac out during drilling activities, a Frac Out Contingency Plan will be in place that establishes specific protocols to minimize the potential for any such release of drilling fluid and to minimize impacts if a release does occur. Additionally, any solid waste generated from the Proposed Action will be transported off-site for disposal at a PSEG Long Island-approved facility authorized to accept such waste. Noise and air emissions from construction operations will be intermittent, temporary in nature, and are typical for any utility construction project of this type. No air pollution control permits are required for construction emissions. Therefore, the Proposed Action will not have a significant adverse impact on the DAC.

- The Proposed Action is not located within or adjoining any Critical Environmental Area (CEA). Therefore, the Proposed Action will not have the potential for significant adverse impacts to any CEA.
- Portions of the Proposed Action are in proximity to the Long Island Rail Road (LIRR) right-of-way. All necessary access and approvals from LIRR will be obtained prior to commencement of construction.

No potential for a significant adverse impact on the environment, flora, fauna, community character or human health has been identified as a result of the Proposed Action.

For Further Information:

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