

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

Project: Further Lane Conversion

Date: October 26, 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 Short 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: Further Lane Conversion (the “Proposed Action”)

Location: Main Street (NYS Route 27, POW/MIA Memorial Highway), Pantigo Road, Egypt Lane, Methodist Lane, Cross Highway, Railroad Avenue, Accabonac Road, Hook Mill Road, Hunting Lane, Therese Court, Hither Lane, Further Lane; Village of East Hampton and Town of East Hampton, Suffolk County, New York

SEQR Status: Unlisted

Conditioned Negative Declaration: No

Proposed Action Description:

The overall Further Lane Conversion project consists of two phases, which will collectively convert the Village of East Hampton electric distribution circuits from 4 kilovolt (kV) to 13kV. Phase I of the project (the “East Hampton 4kV to 13kV Conversion Project”) included the installation of new underground (UG) distribution cable, reconfiguration of existing UG distribution cable, and conversion and reinforcement activities in the Town and Village of East Hampton, Suffolk County, New York. A separate SEQRA was prepared pursuant to 6 NYCRR 617.3(g)(1) for Phase I activities, and a Negative Declaration was issued by LIPA on October 15, 2024. At that time, engineering and design for Phase II was not established. This SEQRA has been prepared for Phase II activities of the project, including a cumulative analysis of Phase I and Phase II. Completing a separate environmental review under SEQRA for the Phase II work is no less protective of the environment. The Proposed Action is being constructed to sustain additional load growth in the surrounding area.

The Proposed Action includes the conversion of distribution feeders from 4 kV to 13kV. The project components are discussed in detail below and are depicted in Figures 1 through 8.

Conversion activities will include the replacement of approximately 13,000 linear feet of UG distribution cable along Main Street (NYS Route 27, POW/MIA Memorial Highway), Pantigo Road, Egypt Lane,

Cross Highway, Railroad Avenue, and Further Lane, and the overhead (OH) to UG conversion of approximately 3,600 linear feet of distribution primary and secondary along Hither Lane, in order to convert the existing primary circuits from 4kV to 13kV. Additionally, the Proposed Action includes the installation of approximately 4,000 linear feet of new UG distribution cable and will extend along Accabonac Road, Hook Mill Road, and Hunting Lane, and the overhead cable replacement of approximately 4,000 linear feet of distribution primary wire along Therese Court and the Long Island Rail Road (LIRR) right-of-way (ROW). Finally, the Proposed Action will include the installation of thirteen new manholes, the installation of five new composite boxes, the installation of seven new below grade transformers, the replacement of one pad-mounted switchgear (PMH), and the removal of one manhole. Cable installation will be completed via a combination of open trench and horizontal directional drilling (HDD).

OH distribution upgrades will also be completed as part of the Proposed Action, including the replacement of approximately 4,000 linear feet of OH distribution primary along Therese Court and the LIRR ROW, the removal of twenty-seven existing wood distribution poles along with associated OH distribution wire on Hither Lane, and the replacement of two existing wood distribution poles on Main Street.

Portions of the Proposed Action area are adjacent to the LIRR tracks; including a portion of the UG cable along Accabonac Road that will cross below a LIRR overpass; a PMH located on Accabonac Road will be replaced adjacent to the LIRR tracks; and the replacement of OH distribution primary along Therese Court is adjacent to the LIRR tracks. All required permits and approvals have been obtained from the LIRR, and they have been informed of and are aware of the project.

In total, the Proposed Action will require approximately 0.35 acres of ground disturbance, the majority of which will occur within paved asphalt or concrete areas with some portions occurring within grass roadside areas. The Proposed Action is located within a developed suburban area.

Additional future work related to the 4kV to 13kV conversion may be proposed within the Village and Town of East Hampton as load growth necessitates added electrical capacity, including within the area of the Proposed Action. However, the definitive plan and scope for these activities has not been confirmed, and engineering for additional phases has not been completed. A separate SEQRA will be prepared pursuant to 6 NYCRR 617.3(g)(1) for future phases of work related to the Proposed Action. Completing a separate environmental review under SEQRA for future activities will be no less protective of the environment than a SEQRA review encompassing the Proposed Action and future phases of work. A cumulative review will be completed as part of the SEQR analyses that will be conducted for future work phases.

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) was prepared to evaluate potential impacts of the Proposed Action.

The SEAF evaluates 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 distribution cable installation will be UG in areas where subsurface utilities exist. The two pole replacements along Main Street will be similar in height (within 10 feet) to the poles they are replacing and will be located within an existing utility pole alignment. Abundant OH infrastructure exists in this area, including existing utility pole alignments of similar heights. Therefore, the Proposed Action will not result in any significant visual or land use impacts.
- The northernmost portion of the Proposed Action is located within the Central Suffolk Special Groundwater Protection Area (SGPA) Critical Environmental Area (CEA) (*see* Figure 9), an area designated to protect groundwater. Depth to groundwater in this area is anticipated to be encountered at approximately 5 feet below grade¹; excavation activities in this area are planned to be completed to depths of less than 5 feet below grade. Work activities in this area will not involve the introduction of any hazardous substances to the subsurface, and extraction of groundwater in this area is not anticipated. In the event dewatering is required in these areas and extracted groundwater requires discharge to the sewer system, best management practices (filter bags and inlet protection) will be implemented to protect these resources. Given this information, the Proposed Action will not result in significant adverse impacts to this CEA.
- As the Proposed Action is located within the New York State coastal zone, a New York State Coastal Assessment Form was completed and submitted to the New York State Department of State (NYSDOS) on September 2, 2026 (*see* Attachment A). 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, the Proposed Action is partially located within the Town of East Hampton's Local Waterfront Revitalization Program (LWRP). PSEG Long Island submitted a determination to the Town of East Hampton that the Proposed Action is consistent with the Town of East Hampton's LWRP and on October 9, 2026, the Town of East Hampton responded with an email stating no objection to PSEG Long Island's determination (*see* Attachment B).
- The Proposed Action is partially located within the Pantigo Road Historic District, East Hampton Village Historic District, North Main Street Historic District, and Egypt Lane Historic District. All four districts consist of multiple buildings that are listed on the State and National Register of Historic Places. In addition, there are two buildings that are eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places (Terian Residence and Eldrege House) located adjacent to the Proposed Action. Due to the nature of the work activities described above, the Proposed Action will not result in a significant adverse visual impact to these properties. Utility infrastructure exists in all areas of the Proposed Action, including within or adjacent to the districts and properties mentioned above. In addition, the Proposed Action is located within a New York State Office of Parks, Recreation, and Historic Preservation (OPRHP) designated archaeologically buffer area. A consultation request was submitted to OPRHP on June 25, 2026, and OPRHP responded with an email on July 16, 2026 and a letter dated July 23, 2026, that the Proposed Action would have no impact on historic properties, including archaeological and/or historic resources, with one condition (*see* Attachment C). The condition is as follows; "Develop and implement a construction protection plan when working within 90 feet of all listed and eligible historic structures. Use gentle methods, provide for structure monitoring, stabilize structures as needed, and avoid excessive vibration that could harm historic structures." In these areas, construction activities would primarily utilize horizontal directional drilling (HDD). No pile driving or other significant vibration-generating activities are proposed. While short-term,

¹ [Long Island Depth to Water and Hydrologic Conditions Viewer \(https://ny.water.usgs.gov/maps/li-dtw/\)](https://ny.water.usgs.gov/maps/li-dtw/)

localized vibration may occur immediately adjacent to active construction areas, conduit installation activities are not anticipated to result in significant adverse vibration impacts. At this time, no work areas have been identified within 90 feet of a listed or eligible historic structure. However, due to the project being partially located in several historic districts, if construction is proposed within 90 feet of a listed or eligible historic structure, existing foundation and visible exterior conditions will be documented prior to construction. Additionally, construction activities will be conducted in a manner that minimizes vibration and avoids adverse impacts to adjacent historic resources. Therefore, the Proposed Action will not result in any significant adverse impacts to the aforementioned areas.

- Several portions of the Proposed Action are located within the 100-foot regulated freshwater wetland adjacent area (*see* Figures 10 through 10A-C). Work activities within the regulated adjacent area are authorized under PSEG Long Island's New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) Maintenance Permit #1-9901-00011/0035 and will be conducted in compliance with the requirements of this permit. Best management practices will be implemented for work in these areas, and appropriate sediment and erosion protection will be installed to protect the wetland areas. The Proposed Action will not encroach on the physical boundaries of the regulated wetlands. Therefore, the Proposed Action will not result in any significant adverse impacts to wetlands.
- The following rare, threatened, or endangered animal species were identified as being potentially located in the vicinity of the Proposed Action: the least tern (state listed threatened, federally listed endangered (interior only, not on coast)), the piping plover (state listed endangered and federally listed threatened) and the northern long-eared bat (state and federally listed endangered).

Habitats associated with the threatened/endangered animal species are discussed below.

Least terns nest on open sand of ocean beaches, sand flats, barrier islands, and dredges. They typically use barren and relatively homogenous habitats. A small amount of vegetation may be useful for chicks to gain shelter once they hatch. Least terns are threatened by human disturbance, increased numbers of predators associated with human development, beach driving, and vegetative succession of their limited remaining habitat. Least terns nest in colonies with other least terns often near piping plovers².

Piping plovers nest on open, sparsely-vegetated beaches and sand flats between the primary dune and high tide line. They typically use beaches with ephemeral pools and bay tidal flats for brood-rearing. A small amount of vegetative cover may be used to protect chicks from exposure to the sun and wind. During winter, piping plovers use both coastal and inland beaches, algal bay flats, mudflats, and sand flats³.

Northern long-eared bats (NLEB) spend winter hibernating in caves and mines, called hibernacula. They typically use large caves or mines with large passages and entrances, constant temperatures, and high humidity with no air currents. NLEB roost underneath bark, in cavities, or in crevices of trees during summer. Males and non-reproductive females may also roost in cooler places, like caves and mines. They have also been found, rarely, roosting in structures like barns and sheds⁴.

² <https://guides.nynhp.org/least-tern/>

³ <https://guides.nynhp.org/piping-plover/>

⁴ <https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9045>

The Proposed Action will not be completed on or adjacent to open beaches or coastline, and therefore, is not located in an area that would be suitable habitat for least terns or piping plovers.

No tree removals are proposed to be completed. Minimal tree trimming is needed within the OH segments. However, based on geographical information obtained from the New York Natural Heritage Program (NYNHP) as part of ongoing PSEG Long Island conservation plans, no NLEB roost sites have been identified within 3 miles of the Proposed Action. Therefore, the Proposed Action is not expected to adversely impact the NLEB.

- Portions of the Proposed Action are located within the 100-year flood plain. UG cable installations will be within impervious roadways, with no changes to grade. Therefore, the Proposed Action will not result in significant adverse impacts to the 100-year flood plain.

Cumulative Review of Phase I and Phase II Activities

A combined review of both phases of the project was conducted in order to assess the overall cumulative impact of the project.

Although Phase I and Phase II of the Proposed Action are located in the same general area. The UG cable installation work performed as part of Phase I was completed mainly between Main Street (NYS Route 27) and Egypt Lane within the Village of East Hampton, with minimal pole replacement and UG work areas to the east of Egypt Lane. The Phase II work activities will be in similar locations to Phase I and will extend east and be limited to Therese Court, Hither Lane, and Further Lane.

The Phase II activities will not impact, nor result in any increased impacts to any resources previously identified and evaluated in the Phase I SEQRA documents. The Phase I was determined to have no potential for significant impacts to the environment. Consequently, the Phase II activities will not result in any significant increase to any impacts evaluated under this SEQRA.

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.

Thus, Phase II will not increase any impacts already evaluated under Phase I to a level that would be considered significant. Therefore, cumulative construction impacts associated with both phases will not be significant.

Based on the SEAF and PSEG Long Island's recommendation according to the standards as set forth in the SEQRA, the Proposed Action will not result in any significant adverse environmental impacts and a Draft Environmental Impact Statement will not be prepared.

For Further Information:

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