



Commission Meeting of November 20, 2019
Brookhaven Town Hall, Farmingville

**Amendment Resolution Riverhead to Canal
Underground Electric Transmission Line
Core Preservation Area of the Central Pine Barrens
PSEG LI as agent for Long Island Power Authority (LIPA)**

Present: Ms. Gallagher, for the Governor of the State of New York
Mr. Freling, for the Suffolk County Executive
Ms. Pines, for the Brookhaven Town Supervisor
Ms. Jens-Smith, Riverhead Town Supervisor
Mr. Schneiderman, Southampton Town Supervisor

Carrie Meek Gallagher
Chairwoman

Steven Bellone
Member

Laura Jens-Smith
Member

Edward P. Romaine
Member

Jay H. Schneiderman
Member

Whereas, on January 26, 2000, the Central Pine Barrens Commission issued to the Long Island Power Authority a core preservation area hardship exemption based on compelling public need authorizing the development of a 16 mile underground electric transmission line connecting LIPA substations in Riverhead to Southampton, with 13.5 miles in the Core Preservation Area and 0.8 mile in the Compatible Growth Area (the Project),

Whereas, the Project consisted of the underground installation of two sets of cable conduits, each containing three 8-inch high-density polyethylene conduits and 31 splice boxes along the route, allowing for the installation of two 138kV circuits, and

Whereas, within each conduit is an individual solid dielectric cable wire, that is manufactured in 2,250 foot lengths that is the same distance the splice boxes are apart, and in each splice box, the cable wire within each conduit is spliced to the next length of cable to create a continuous cable within each individual conduit, resulting in a 138kV circuit, and

Whereas, LIPA originally proposed locating each circuit within the same splice box, and

Whereas, in 2000 LIPA installed the conduit and splice boxes and in 2005 LIPA installed a 138kV circuit in the first set of conduit, and

Whereas, PSEG LI, as agent for LIPA, proposes to revise the Project by installing a second set of splice boxes to isolate the circuits from each other for worker safety and redundancy purposes and to comply with current electric utility industry and occupational safety and health standards, for as designed, both circuits would need to be de-energized if a worker needed to work within a splice box on either circuit and because a failure within a splice box would compromise both circuits, and

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Whereas, this modification requires additional clearing and disturbance of Pine Barrens habitat above that approved by the Commission in 2000, and

Whereas, on October 9, 2019 and November 8, 2019, PSEG LI applied to the Commission for the modification, hereinafter the “Modified Project,” and

Whereas, the Modified Project requires removal of a limited amount of secondary growth vegetation, approximately 1.71 acres, within the road rights of way, including a 25 foot wide, 1,000 foot long path that is required for PSEG LI to access Sunrise Highway from Speonk-Riverhead Road for PSEG LI to construct and provide continued maintenance of the Project, as directed by the New York State Department of Transportation (NYSDOT), and

Whereas, on October 29, 2019, Commission staff met with representatives of PSEG LI at the Commission office to review the Project, and

Whereas, the Commission has considered all materials submitted in connection with the application, now, therefore, be it

Resolved, that the Commission amends its January 2000 Resolution to include the Modified Project, and be it further

Resolved, a revegetation plan will be submitted by PSEG LI to the Executive Director identifying tree and shrub plantings to restore the Project route in the Central Pine Barrens, and be it further

Resolved, vegetation proposed for removal shall be either transplanted or subject areas shall be planted with native vegetation as per the agencies having jurisdiction.

Resolved, that this approval shall expire five (5) years from the date of this Resolution.

Motion by: Ms. Jens-Smith

Second by: Ms. Pines

Ayes: Ms. Gallagher, Mr. Freleng, Ms. Pines, Ms. Jens-Smith and Mr. Schneiderman

Nays: None

Abstentions: None

Absent: None