



July 15, 2026

Kelly Risotto
Principal
Land Use Ecological Services Inc.
570 Expressway Drive South, Suite 2f
Medford, NY 11763

RE: PSEGLI FEMA Pole Replacements Project
Central Pine Barrens Core Preservation Area

Dear Ms. Risotto:

On June 25, 2026, the Central Pine Barrens Commission received materials on the referenced proposal. The submission included a letter, maps and photographs of pole replacement locations for 12 existing timber utility poles in Calverton. Supplemental material received on July 14 requested to replace five additional poles.

Ryan P. McGarry
Chairman

Jerome Halpin
Member

Maria Z. Moore
Member

Daniel J. Panico
Member

Edward P. Romaine
Member

The Proposed Action involves the replacement of 17 timber utility poles in the Core Preservation Area on Wading River Road, Line Road, Oakwood Road, River Road and Schultz Road.

Existing and new poles are timber. Poles range in height from 30 to 50 feet. A new pole will be no taller than 10 feet above its present height. Pole diameter will not increase more than 2 to 3 inches wider.

Poles are located in the mowed grass roadside right of way. The referral material states no trees will be removed. The activity is part of the Power On Storm Hardening Project. The material indicates that underground installation is not feasible due to cost and logistics.

As proposed, the activity appears to constitute "non-development" pursuant to New York State Environmental Conservation Law Article 57 Section 57-0107.13(ii) which states, "Work by any utility not involving substantial engineering redesign for the purpose of inspection, maintenance or renewal on established utility rights of way or the likes,"... No further review from this office is required.

If the proposed activity changes, including the need to remove trees, please notify this office and forward the updated information for Commission review prior to implementation as the revised project may constitute development.

It is encouraged that, where possible, the new pole heights remain within the heights of surrounding trees to maintain the character of the Core and CGA.

Thank you for your attention, and if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at (631) 218-1192.

Sincerely, 
Julie Hargrave
Interim Executive Director

cc: John C. Milazzo, Counsel

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