

A. INTRODUCTION

The Hempstead Substation, Transmission Lines and Distribution Lines Upgrade Project, located in the Village of Hempstead; and various locations throughout the hamlets of East Meadow, West Hempstead and Uniondale, Town of Hempstead, Nassau County, New York, is being completed in two Phases, referred to as Phase I and Phase II. PSEG Long Island (“PSEG LI”), as Agent for Long Island Power Authority (“LIPA”), previously completed Phase I of the Hempstead Substation, Transmission Lines and Distribution Lines Upgrade Project. A State Environmental Quality Review Act (“SEQRA”) review was undertaken for Phase I and LIPA issued a negative declaration for Phase I on March 22, 2018. (Phase I inadvertently was defined in the March 2018 SEQRA as the “Proposed Action”). PSEG LI is now proposing Phase II of the Hempstead Substation, Transmission Lines and Distribution Lines Upgrade Project. This SEQRA addresses Phase II of the Hempstead Substation, Transmission Lines and Distribution Lines Upgrade Project. The project in its entirety, which includes Phase I and Phase II, is herein defined as the “Proposed Action”.

Phase II of the Proposed Action is subject to review under the SEQRA as an Unlisted Action. SEQRA is codified at Article 8 of the New York Environmental Conservation Law (“ECL”), as well as the implementing regulations, promulgated at Part 10052 of Title 21 of the New York Codes, Rules and Regulations (“N.Y.C.R.R.”), which set forth the requirements for the State Environmental Quality Review (“SEQR”) process for Phase II of the Proposed Action. This Environmental Assessment is consistent with SEQRA.

At the time of the SEQRA review of Phase I, the Phase II portion of the project was still in the planning stage, and engineering details necessary for the evaluation of potential impacts were not available. This SEQRA review evaluates the potential impacts of Phase II, as well as potential cumulative impacts of Phase I and II, where applicable. Phase II construction is scheduled to commence in July 2019.

Pursuant to 6 NYCRR 617.3(g)(1), this separate SEQRA review for Phase II is no less protective of the environment than a combined SEQRA review of Phase I and Phase II. Phase II involves work within the existing Hempstead Substation property as well as upgrading a portion of the existing overhead transmission and overhead and underground distribution circuits. As discussed herein, Phase II is anticipated to result in only small land, noise, visual and public health (i.e., electromagnetic field) impacts. Based only on the completed SEQRA review, the cumulative impacts of Phase I and Phase II, are not expected to result in the potential for a significant adverse impact to the environment that would require the preparation of an environmental impact statement (EIS).

B. PHASE II NEED AND DESCRIPTION

Phase I was completed in the summer of 2018 and consisted of work at the Hempstead Substation, located at 115 West Columbia Street (the “Substation Property”), as well as along roadways in the surrounding neighborhood for the transmission line and distribution line portions of Phase I. Specifically, Phase I consisted of the following: 1) installation of new 69kV substation equipment at the Hempstead Substation; 2) installation of a new 69kV underground transmission circuit; 3) upgrade and conversion of two existing 4kV distribution feeders to a 13kV feeder using existing conduit, 4) the replacement of overhead distribution poles and upgrade of pole-top equipment and primary distribution wire.

Phase II is proposed to commence in July 2019 and will involve work at the Substation Property, as well as along roadways in the immediate neighborhood for the overhead transmission line and underground distribution line portions of Phase II. Overhead distribution pole replacements, installations and pole-top equipment and distribution wire upgrades will be completed in areas near the Substation Property, as well as along roadways in adjacent neighborhoods. Phase II will include the following activities: 1) de-energizing and removal of two sets of existing 23kV substation equipment; 2) installation of one set of 69kV substation equipment in the approximate location of the former 23kV equipment; 3) upgrade an existing 23kV overhead transmission circuit to 69kV from the Hempstead Substation to where the 23kV transmission circuit currently intersects the 69kV circuit; 4) upgrade and conversion of two remaining 4kV distribution feeders to 13kV feeders using existing spare conduit, and 5) replacement and installation of overhead distribution poles and replacement and installation of pole-top equipment and overhead distribution wire.

Phase II will increase the capacity necessary to provide sufficient and reliable electric supply in order to minimize the risk of localized electrical shortages during peak summer conditions. If Phase II is not constructed temporary generation would be required to meet projected peak electrical demand.

Hempstead Substation Upgrade

Phase II upgrades include de-energizing and removing two sets of existing 23kV substation equipment and installing one set of 69kV substation equipment approximately within the current footprint of the two sets of the 23kV equipment. All of the work associated with Phase II will be completed within the northern portion of the existing Substation Property, which is approximately 0.24-acres in size and surrounded by fencing. Figure 1 depicts the location where Phase II activities will be completed with respect to the overall Substation Property. The existing control house located in an approximate 0.03-acre area in the northwest corner of the Substation Property will remain in-place. Therefore, the area of disturbance in the northern portion of the Substation Property associated with Phase II is approximately 0.21 acres.

Distribution Feeders and Distribution Pole Upgrades

Phase II will include upgrading and converting the two remaining 4kV distribution feeders to 13kV that were not converted during Phase I. The 4kV to 13kV distribution feeder upgrades consist of replacing underground exit feeder cable using existing spare conduit, and associated overhead conversion and reconductoring (C&R) work, which includes replacement or installation of pole-top equipment and overhead wire.

One underground distribution exit feeder will exit the east side of the Substation Property and will extend approximately 25 feet east across Morrell Street; approximately 125 feet north on Morrell Street and approximately 35 feet east on Webb Avenue, terminating at a riser on existing Pole #0.5. The second underground distribution exit feeder will exit the east side of the Substation Property and will extend approximately 25 feet east across Morrell Street; approximately 150 feet south on Morrell Street; approximately 300 feet east on West Columbia Street, terminating at a riser on existing Pole #13.5.

One new underground distribution bypass will be installed. The bypass will originate at a riser on replacement Pole #2 located on Elk Street; and will extend approximately 160 feet east on Elk Street and approximately 85 feet south on Bennett Avenue, where it will connect to a new manhole to be installed. The bypass will extend approximately 390 feet northeast on Pennsylvania Avenue from the new manhole; then approximately 75 feet south on Tennessee Avenue, terminating at a riser on replacement Pole #4.

Phase II aboveground distribution work includes the in-kind replacement (replacement of poles 10 feet taller or less, and within 10 feet of their original locations or within the existing overhead alignment) of 76 distribution poles, ranging in heights from 40 to 45 feet, the installation of five new distribution poles ranging in heights from 40 to 45 feet, the in-kind replacement of one distribution pole that is 65 feet in height and the replacement of one 30-foot distribution pole with a 45-foot distribution pole. These pole replacements will allow for the upgrade of associated aboveground pole-top equipment and overhead primary distribution wire..

All pole replacement and installation work areas will be restored upon completion of work.

69kV Aboveground Transmission Circuit and Pole Upgrades

Phase II will include upgrading existing aboveground 23kV transmission circuit to a 69kV transmission circuit, which will require the replacement of 28 transmission poles over a distance of approximately 3,340 linear feet. These upgrades will generally be completed between the Substation Property and existing Pole #33, located near the intersection of Atlantic Avenue and Hilton Avenue, where a 69kV transmission circuit currently exists. As part of this work, 27 utility poles will be installed within 10 feet of their existing pole locations and one pole will be relocated within the existing overhead alignment, approximately 18 feet south of its former location. In addition, two of these wood poles will be replaced with steel poles.

Figure 1 depicts the location where Phase II transmission circuit and pole work will be completed. A summary of the pole work by location is provided below:

- West side of Morrell Street, between Webb Avenue and Substation Property: Two wood poles measuring 55 and 65 feet in height, will be replaced with wood poles measuring 80 and 75 feet in height, respectively. Work will occur over a distance of approximately 280 linear feet.
- North side of Bedell Street between the Substation Property and Franklin Avenue: Eight wood poles, ranging in height from 50 to 70 feet will be replaced with wood poles ranging in height from 80 to 85 feet. Work will occur over a distance of approximately 1,150 linear feet.
- Along West and East sides of Franklin Avenue: Two wood poles, measuring 40 feet in height will be replaced with wood poles measuring 60 feet in height, and one wood pole measuring 55 feet in height will be replaced with a wood pole measuring 80 feet in height and relocated approximately 18 feet south of its former location. In addition, two wood poles measuring 55 and 60 feet in height, will be replaced with steel poles measuring 80 feet in height. Equipment alterations will also be completed on one existing pole to remain in-place. Transmission services will be removed from existing Pole #16, and the pole will be cut down to the height of the distribution services. Work will occur over approximately 500 linear feet.
- North side of Atlantic Avenue between Franklin Avenue and Hilton Avenue: Thirteen wood poles, ranging in height from 50 to 70 feet, will be replaced with wood poles measuring 80 feet in height. In addition, equipment alterations will be completed on one pole. Work will occur over approximately 1,410 linear feet.
- West Side of Hilton Avenue, just south of Atlantic Avenue: A riser will be installed on existing Pole #34.

Pole-top equipment installations and/or modifications will be completed at select pole locations along the transmission circuit in addition to the above-listed pole work. All pole replacement and relocation work areas will be restored upon completion of work.

Table 1.1 provides a summary of the Phase II transmission pole work and Figure 1 depicts the approximate locations of the proposed Phase II transmission pole work.

C. SITE SETTING

The Hempstead Substation is located north of West Columbia Street and west of Morell Street in the Village of Hempstead, Nassau County, New York. The Substation Property is bounded to the west and north by the Long Island Rail Road Hempstead Train Station and associated parking area. The Hempstead Transit Center is located immediately south of the Substation Property, on the south side of West Columbia Street. A four-story residential apartment

building and an associated parking area are located immediately east of the Substation Property, on the east side of Morrell Street. In addition, a single-family residence is located immediately northeast of the Substation Property, on the east side of Morrell Street. With the presence of the Long Island Rail Road Hempstead Train Station, Hempstead Transit Center and the existing substation facility, the immediate area includes significant industrial type infrastructure.

The existing substation equipment (including Phase I equipment) occupies a footprint that generally encompasses the entirety of the Substation Property's 0.45-acre lot. During Phase I, new substation equipment was installed in the southern portion of the Substation Property, which was previously undeveloped. With the exception of one lightning mast with a height of 50 feet, and one substation take-off structure (a metal-framed structure which supports the transmission line that is connected to other substation equipment) measuring approximately 42 feet in height, the maximum height of the Phase I substation equipment is 17 feet. The lightning mast and take-off structure that were installed are of a similar height to the existing distribution poles located outside of the Substation Property. Although the Phase I portion of the Substation Property was previously undeveloped, those changes were consistent with the existing visual character of the Substation Property and its immediate surrounding area.

The Phase II replacements of certain existing equipment in the northern portion of the Substation Property similarly will not change existing conditions. With the exception of three lightning masts with heights of 50 feet, and one take-off structure measuring approximately 42 feet in height, the maximum height of the Phase II substation equipment is also 17 feet. The lightning masts and take-off structure that will be installed are of a similar height to the existing distribution poles located outside of the Substation Property. Existing substation equipment located in the Phase II portion of the substation property that is planned for removal has a maximum height of approximately 21.5 feet.

Land uses immediately adjacent to the proposed transmission pole replacements vary along the 3,250 linear foot route. Land uses along Bedell Street and North Franklin Street, west of the Substation Property, primarily consist of commercial use, with many auto-related facilities and associated open paved parking areas. In addition, various institutional facilities exist along North Franklin Street, including a charter school located southwest of the North Franklin and Bedell Street intersection and a multi-story Town of Hempstead government building located northeast of the Atlantic Avenue and North Franklin Street intersection. Land uses along Atlantic Avenue, to the west of North Franklin Street, consist primarily of residential and commercial use and associated open paved parking areas. In addition, Mirschel Park is located on the south side of Atlantic Avenue. A complete inventory of facilities serving children, the elderly, or people with disabilities within 1,500 feet of the substation and transmission components associated with Phase II are presented below in Table 1.2. As the distribution components associated with Phase II are either being completed underground or consist of the in-kind replacement of existing distribution poles or installation of new poles in-line with existing poles, there will be no impact to sensitive receptors. The land uses along the areas of

the proposed distribution pole replacements and installations are predominantly residential, however; also include some institutional, commercial, and recreational uses.

Table 1.1: Phase II Transmission Pole Work Summary						
Count	Pole #	Existing Height (feet)	Proposed Height (feet)	Increased Height (feet)	Proposed Location	Street
1	2	65	75	10	Current	Morell St.
2	3	55	80	25	Current	Morell St.
3	4	55	85	30	Current	Bedell St.
4	5	65	80	15	Current	Bedell St.
5	6	65	80	15	Current	Bedell St.
6	7	50	80	30	Current	Bedell St.
7	9	55	80	25	Current	Bedell St.
8	10	70	80	10	Current	Bedell St.
9	11	55	80	25	Current	Bedell St.
10	12	55	80	25	Current	Bedell St.
11	14	55	80	25	9 ft. east of current	N Franklin St
12	116	40	60	20	6 ft. west of current	N Franklin St.
13	7	40	60	15	Current	N Franklin St.
14	17	55	80	25	18 ft. south of current	N Franklin St.
15	18	60	80	20	Current	N Franklin St.
16	19	55	80	25	Current	Atlantic Ave.
17	20	50	80	30	Current	Atlantic Ave.
18	21	65	80	15	Current	Atlantic Ave.
19	22	65	80	15	Current	Atlantic Ave.
20	23	50	80	30	Current	Atlantic Ave.
21	25	65	80	15	Current	Atlantic Ave.
22	26	65	80	15	Current	Atlantic Ave.
23	27	50	80	30	Current	Atlantic Ave.
24	28	65	80	15	Current	Atlantic Ave.
25	29	65	80	15	Current	Atlantic Ave.
26	30	60	80	20	Current	Atlantic Ave.
27	31	70	80	10	Current	Atlantic Ave.
28	32	60	80	20	Current	Atlantic Ave.

Table 1.2: Phase II Sensitive Receptor Inventory

Facility	Distance (feet)	Direction	Direction Originating From
The Academy Middle School	0	Southwest	Intersection of Bedell St./N. Franklin St.
The Academy Elementary School	0	Southwest	Intersection of Bedell St./N. Franklin St.
Church of God	300	South	Intersection of Bedell St./Main St.
Hempstead First Baptist Church	420	South	Intersection of Bedell St./N. Franklin St.
Church of Christ	450	South	Bedell Street
Faith Baptist Church	450	South	Intersection of Bedell St./N. Franklin St.
Harbor Child Care Center	500	South	Bedell Street
Faith Baptist Church Hempstead	600	East-Southeast	Substation Property
Apostolic Faith Church	620	South	Bedell Street
Hempstead Community Health Center	750	South	Intersection of Bedell St./Main St.
Washington School	800	Northeast	Morrell Street
Hempstead Public Library	830	Southeast	Substation Property
Iglesia Presbyterian Hispana Church	1,050	Southeast	Substation Property
St. Paul Greek Orthodox Church	1,200	Southwest	Substation Property
Helen Keller Services for the Blind	1,300	South	Substation Property
Second Home Adult Dare Care Center	1,300	South	Substation Property
Hempstead Spanish Seventh Day Church	1,300	North	Intersection of Bedell St./Main St.
Unity Church of Hempstead	1,350	South	Substation Property
Miracle Christian Center	1,400	South	Substation Property
Suburban Technical School	1,470	Southwest	Intersection of Bedell St./N. Franklin St.