PSEG LONG ISLAND LLC

On Behalf of and as Agent for the LONG ISLAND LIGHTING COMPANY d/b/a LIPA

Southampton to Deerfield Transmission Project

Appendix B — AGENCY CORRESPONDENCE

APPENDIX B: AGENCY CORRESPONDENCE

Enclosed:

- NYNHP Response to Amended Consultation Letter (10/31/2023)
- Amended Consultation Letter to NYNHP (10/25/2023)
- NYNHP Response to Online Data Request (9/12/2023)
- NYNHP Online Data Request Receipt Confirmation (8/1/2023)
- NYSDEC Response to Project Consultation Letter (1/24/2024)
- Request to NYSDEC for Project Consultation (10/25/2023)
- OPRHP Response to Project Consultation Letter (10/26/2023)
- Request to OPRHP for Project Consultation (10/12/2023)
- USFWS Response to Project Consultation Letter (1/16/2024)
- Request to USFWS for Project Consultation (10/25/2023)
- USACE Response to Project Consultation Letter (11/14/2023)
- Request to USACE for Project Consultation (10/25/2023)

NYNHP Correspondence

NYNHP Response to Amended Consultation Letter

Ashley Marciszyn

From: dec.sm.NaturalHeritage < NaturalHeritage@dec.ny.gov>

Sent: Tuesday, October 31, 2023 2:07 PM

To: Ashley Marciszyn

Subject: RE: Southampton to Deerfield Transmission Project

Ashley,

The September 12, 2023 letter and report from our office is still valid and does not need to be updated.

In general, we recommend a re-review if a project site is still active a year after our original review.

Sincerely, Heidi

Heidi Krahling (she/her)

Environmental Review Specialist | New York Natural Heritage Program

SUNY College of Environmental Science & Forestry 625 Broadway, 5th Floor, Albany, NY 12233-4757 518-402-8935 heidi.krahling@dec.ny.gov www.nynhp.org

From: Ashley Marciszyn <AMarciszyn@nelsonpope.com>

Sent: Wednesday, October 25, 2023 6:22 PM

To: dec.sm.NaturalHeritage <NaturalHeritage@dec.ny.gov> **Subject:** RE: Southampton to Deerfield Transmission Project

Thanks for getting back to us so quickly. The project is subject to an Article 7 of the NYS Public Service Law. So we needed a formal submission in writing and your confirmation that the Sept. response remains valid for the route (unchanged).

In this submission, we noted that disturbances associated with the Project are mainly within paved areas of the roadway and road shoulder. Limited tree clearing may be necessary along very limited areas of the ROW and within the two substation properties that may provide potential habitat for Northern Long-eared Bat. However, PSEG Long Island is committed to restricting tree clearing associated with the proposed Project to the permissible clearing window between December 1 to February 28 of any given year to prevent impacts to possible Northern Long-eared Bats in the area. Coordination with NYSDEC will be conducted, as required, prior to clearing.

Thank you, Ashley



Ashley Marciszyn Administrative Assistant o: 631.427.5665 x215 From: dec.sm.NaturalHeritage < NaturalHeritage@dec.ny.gov>

Sent: Wednesday, October 25, 2023 5:55 PM

To: Ashley Marciszyn < <u>AMarciszyn@nelsonpope.com</u>> Subject: FW: Southampton to Deerfield Transmission Project

Ashley,

Your attachment indicates that we reviewed this project site and responded with a letter and report on September 12, 2023 so I'm not sure what additional information you are requesting from us at this time. Please clarify and hopefully we can continue to be of assistance.

Sincerely,

Heidi Krahling (she/her)

Environmental Review Specialist | New York Natural Heritage Program

SUNY College of Environmental Science & Forestry 625 Broadway, 5th Floor, Albany, NY 12233-4757 518-402-8935 | heidi.krahling@dec.ny.gov www.nynhp.org

From: Ashley Marciszyn < AMarciszyn@nelsonpope.com>

Sent: Wednesday, October 25, 2023 9:54 AM

To: dec.sm.NaturalHeritage < NaturalHeritage@dec.ny.gov >

Cc: Brianna Sadoski

bsadoski@nelsonpope.com>

Subject: Southampton to Deerfield Transmission Project

Hello,

Please see the attached correspondence sent to you per Carrie O'Farrell's request.

Thank you,

Ashley Marciszyn Administrative Assistant



NELSON POPE VOORHIS

Hudson Valley: 156 Route 59, Suite C6, Suffern, NY 10901

Long Island: 70 Maxess Road, Melville, NY 11747

o: 631.427.5665 x215

amarciszyn@nelsonpopevoorhis.com

nelsonpopevoorhis.com

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recipient's employee or agent, you are hereby notified that any dissemination, copy or disclosure of this communication is strictly prohibited and to notify the sender immediately.
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NYNHP Correspondence Amended Consultation Letter to NYNHP



October 25, 2023

VIA EMAIL: NaturalHeritage@dec.ny.gov Information Resources New York Natural Heritage Program 625 Broadway, 5th Floor Albany, NY 12233-4757

RE: Rare or Listed Species and Significant Natural Communities Data Request Southampton to Deerfield Transmission Project
Town of Southampton, Suffolk County, New York

Dear Information Resources:

On behalf of PSEG Long Island LLC (PSEG Long Island), operating through the Long Island Power Authority (LIPA), Burns & McDonnell Engineering, Inc. (Burns & McDonnell) and Nelson, Pope & Voorhis, LLC (NPV) request New York Natural Heritage Program (NYNHP) data to be utilized in the siting of a new underground electric transmission line within the Town of Southampton, Suffolk County, New York, titled the Southampton to Deerfield Transmission Project (Project). Project construction activities will occur primarily within public roadway rights-of-way (ROW) for a total distance of approximately 4.5 miles. A Project area location map is included as **Figure 1**. Land use immediately adjacent to the Project area include commercial, residential, agricultural, and open space land use (see **Figure 2**). The project will be subject to Article VII of the New York State Public Service Law. Photographs of the Project Area are included in **Attachment A**.

PSEG Long Island is proposing a new underground electric transmission project to increase the load capacity and reliability of the electric transmission system on the South Fork of Long Island. The principal component of the Project is the installation of a new underground 138 kilovolt transmission line between the existing Southampton Substation (located in the Village of Southampton at the intersection of North Sea Road and West Prospect Street) and the existing Deerfield Substation (located in the Hamlet of Watermill, on Water Mill Towd Road) primarily along public roadway ROW. The Project is the most cost-effective solution to meet the increasing electrical demand in the South Fork and need for reliable electrical service while minimizing disruptions to the community. The Project also is consistent with and further the goals of New York's Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act by supporting the transmission of wind energy on Long Island.

On behalf of PSEG Long Island, NPV and Burns & McDonnell have requested records, via the NYNHP online information management system, for federal and/or state listed threatened or endangered species, rare species, species of special concern, habitats of special concern, and significant natural communities within the area of the Project (see **Figure 1**). This request was

submitted to and confirmed received as "Submission ID 8316" by NYNHP on July 25, 2023. This letter and attached materials (see **Attachments B** and **C**) provide additional information related to the project.

Disturbances associated with the Project are mainly within paved areas of the roadway and road shoulder. However, limited tree clearing may be necessary along the ROW and within the two substation properties that may provide potential habitat for Northern Long-eared Bat. PSEG Long Island is committed to restricting tree clearing associated with the proposed Project to the permissible clearing window between December 1 to February 28 of any given year to prevent impacts to possible Northern Long-eared Bats in the area. Coordination with NYSDEC will be conducted, as required, prior to clearing.

The information provided by the NYNHP will be used to evaluate the Project and potential alternative routes within the Project area. Information on the specific locations of species of various concerns identified by the NYSNHP will also be used to focus future field surveys and guide the project design in an effort to avoid, minimize, or mitigate.

Please send the requested information to me at the address indicated below:

Nelson, Pope & Voorhis, LLC 70 Maxess Road Melville, NY 11747

Email: cofarrell@nelsonpope.com

If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact me at (631) 427-5665 (ext. 214). Thank you for your assistance with this review.

Sincerely,

Nelson, Pope & Voorhis, LLC



anie Fred



NYNHP Correspondence NYNHP Response to Online Data Request

NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION

Division of Fish and Wildlife, New York Natural Heritage Program 625 Broadway, Fifth Floor, Albany, NY 12233-4757 P: (518) 402-8935 | F: (518) 402-8925 www.dec.ny.gov

September 12, 2023

Ashley Marciszyn Nelson, Pope & Voorhis, LLC 70 Maxess Road Melville, NY 11747

Re: PSEG LI Southampton to Deerfield
County: Suffolk Town/City: Southampton

Dear Ashley Marciszyn:

In response to your recent request, we have reviewed the New York Natural Heritage Program database with respect to the above project.

Enclosed is a report of rare or state-listed animals and plants, and significant natural communities that our database indicates occur in the vicinity of the project site.

For most sites, comprehensive field surveys have not been conducted; the enclosed report only includes records from our database. We cannot provide a definitive statement as to the presence or absence of all rare or state-listed species or significant natural communities. Depending on the nature of the project and the conditions at the project site, further information from on-site surveys or other sources may be required to fully assess impacts on biological resources.

The presence of the plants and animals identified in the enclosed report may result in this project requiring additional review or permit conditions. For further guidance, and for information regarding other permits that may be required under state law for regulated areas or activities (e.g., regulated wetlands), please contact the NYS DEC Region 1 Office, Division of Environmental Permits, at dep.r1@dec.ny.gov.

Sincerely,

Heidi Krahling

Environmental Review Specialist New York Natural Heritage Program





The following state-listed animals have been documented in the vicinity of the project site.

The following list includes animals that are listed by NYS as Endangered, Threatened, or Special Concern; and/or that are federally listed.

For information about any permit considerations for the project, please contact the Permits staff at the NYSDEC Region 1 Office at dep.r1@dec.ny.gov, 631-444-0365.

The following species has been documented within 1.25 miles of the project site. Individual animals may travel 3 miles from documented locations. The main impact of concern is the cutting or removal of potential roost trees.

COMMON NAME SCIENTIFIC NAME NY STATE LISTING FEDERAL LISTING

Mammals

15517 Northern Long-eared Bat Endangered Endangered Myotis septentrionalis

Nonbreeding -- acoustic

detector

This report only includes records from the NY Natural Heritage database.

Information about many of the listed animals in New York, including habitat, biology, identification, conservation, and management, are available online in Natural Heritage's Conservation Guides at www.guides.nynhp.org, and from NYSDEC at www.dec.ny.gov/animals/7494.html.

> 9/12/2023 Page 1 of 1



Report on Rare Animals, Rare Plants, and Significant Natural Communities

The following rare plants, rare animals, and significant natural communities have been documented at the project site, or in its vicinity.

We recommend that potential impacts of the proposed project on these species or communities be addressed as part of any environmental assessment or review conducted as part of the planning, permitting and approval process, such as reviews conducted under SEQR. Field surveys of the project site may be necessary to determine the status of a species at the site, particularly for sites that are currently undeveloped and may contain suitable habitat. Final requirements of the project to avoid, minimize, or mitigate potential impacts are determined by the lead permitting agency or the government body approving the project.

The following plants are listed as Endangered or Threatened by New York State, and/or are considered rare by the New York Natural Heritage Program, and are a vulnerable natural resource of conservation concern.

COMMON NAME SCIENTIFIC NAME NY STATE LISTING HERITAGE CONSERVATION STATUS

Vascular Plants

Atlantic White Cedar Chamaecyparis thyoides Threatened Imperiled in NYS

Documented within 1/2 mile east of the project site. 1986-09-23: The trees are in patchy wetlands with intervening uplands used for homes and agriculture. There is Rhododendron at the edges of small ponds with some nearby development.

6160

This report only includes records from the NY Natural Heritage database. For most sites, comprehensive field surveys have not been conducted, and we cannot provide a definitive statement as to the presence or absence of all rare or state-listed species. Depending on the nature of the project and the conditions at the project site, further information from on-site surveys or other sources may be required to fully assess impacts on biological resources.

If any rare plants or animals are documented during site visits, we request that information on the observations be provided to the New York Natural Heritage Program so that we may update our database.

Information about many of the rare animals and plants in New York, including habitat, biology, identification, conservation, and management, are available online in Natural Heritage's Conservation Guides at www.guides.nynhp.org.

9/12/2023 Page 1 of 1

NYNHP Correspondence

NYNHP Online Data Request Receipt Confirmation

Ashley Marciszyn

From: Krahling, Heidi (DEC) <heidi.krahling@dec.ny.gov>

Sent: Tuesday, August 1, 2023 2:39 PM

To: Ashley Marciszyn
Cc: Sylwia E. Ner-Karas

Subject: RE: Checking if a request was received from NPV for Southampton to Deerfield

Hi Ashley,

We did receive this submission. Incidentally, we are operating on about an 8-week response time.

-Heidi

From: Ashley Marciszyn <AMarciszyn@nelsonpope.com>

Sent: Tuesday, August 1, 2023 11:43 AM

To: Krahling, Heidi (DEC) <heidi.krahling@dec.ny.gov> **Cc:** Sylwia E. Ner-Karas <sner-karas@nelsonpope.com>

Subject: Checking if a request was received from NPV for Southampton to Deerfield

Hi Heidi,

I submitted a request online last week called PSEG LI Southampton to Deerfield, but I did not receive a confirmation of receipt.

I just want to make sure I don't duplicate before I resubmit. Did NHP receive a request from me called Southampton to Deerfield?

Ashley Marciszyn Administrative Assistant



NELSON POPE VOORHIS

Long Island: 70 Maxess Road, Melville, NY 11747

Hudson Valley: 156 Route 59, Suite C6, Suffern, NY 10901

o: 631.427.5665 x215

amarciszyn@nelsonpopevoorhis.com

nelsonpopevoorhis.com

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NYSDEC Correspondence

NYSDEC Response to Project Consultation Letter

Henry, Simone

From: Carrie OFarrell <COFarrell@nelsonpope.com>

Sent: Tuesday, February 6, 2024 11:17 PM

To: Martin, Delaney (DEC)

Cc: Poulos, Mikaela A (DEC); Henry, Simone; Brianna Sadoski **Subject:** FW: Southampton to Deerfield Transmission Project

Delaney,

Thank you for your assistance with this. We have created a OneDrive that includes the GIS shape files for the limit of disturbance, proposed transmission line, and areas of tree clearing. We also included the original coordination package sent to DEC, our response from the NY Natural Heritage program and our wetland assessment report documenting NWI and DEC wetlands in the vicinity (none within or 100' from the project disturbance area), field investigation results and hydric soils mapping. We also included our mapping of the various habitat types within the road ROW and within the two substation areas and the anticipated disturbance to vegetated areas along the route.

23033 - DEC

Please let us know if you have any questions or require further information. Thank you,

Carrie

Carrie O'Farrell Senior Partner



NELSON POPE VOORHIS

Long Island: 70 Maxess Road, Melville, NY 11747 Hudson Valley: 156 Route 59, Suite C6 Suffern, NY 10901

o: 631.427.5665 x214

cofarrell@nelsonpopevoorhis.com

nelsonpopevoorhis.com

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From: Martin, Delaney (DEC) < Delaney. Martin@dec.ny.gov>

Sent: Wednesday, January 24, 2024 1:01 PM

To: Ashley Marciszyn <AMarciszyn@nelsonpope.com>; Carrie OFarrell <COFarrell@nelsonpope.com>

Cc: Poulos, Mikaela A (DEC) <mikaela.poulos@dec.ny.gov> **Subject:** Southampton to Deerfield Transmission Project

Hello Ashley & Carrie,

My name is Delaney Martin and I work in the Division of Environmental Permits, Bureau of Energy Project Management in Central Office at NYSDEC. I will be the lead Project Manager for this project, and Mikaela Poulos (cc'd) will be assisting.

In order to conduct a jurisdictional review to assess and understand the potential impacts of the proposed project, please submit shapefiles depicting, at a minimum, the LOD, proposed transmission line, any access roads, areas of tree clearing, and any other information you feel will assist our review.

Please submit this information at your earliest convenience, as the lack of information will delay the technical review of your proposed project. Please do not hesitate to reach out with any questions.

Thank you, Delaney

Delaney Martin | she/her

Environmental Analyst 1, Bureau of Energy Project Management

New York State Department of Environmental Conservation

Division of Environmental Permits 625 Broadway, Albany, NY 12233-3259

P: (518) 402-8388 | F: (518) 402-9168 | <u>delaney.martin@dec.ny.gov</u>











NYSDEC Correspondence Request to NYSDEC for Project Consultation

October 25, 2023

VIA FEDEX & EMAIL

Sherri Aicher
Regional Permit Administrator
New York State Department of Environmental Conservation
50 Circle Road – SUNY
Stony Brook, NY 11790

RE: Request for Project Consultation
Southampton to Deerfield Transmission Project
Town of Southampton, Suffolk County, New York

Dear Ms. Aicher:

On behalf of PSEG Long Island LLC (PSEG Long Island), operating through the Long Island Power Authority (LIPA), Burns & McDonnell Engineering, Inc. (Burns & McDonnell) and Nelson, Pope & Voorhis, LLC (NPV) request New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) data to be utilized in the siting of a new underground electric transmission line within the Town of Southampton, Suffolk County, New York, titled the Southampton to Deerfield Transmission Project (Project). Project construction activities will occur primarily within public roadway rights-of-way (ROW) for a total distance of approximately 4.5 miles. A Project area location map is included as **Figure 1**. Land uses immediately adjacent to the Project area include commercial, residential, agricultural, and open space land use (see **Figure 2**). According to NYSDEC Freshwater Wetlands map (**Figure 3**), there are no freshwater surface water or wetlands within the Project area. Photographs of the Project Area are included in **Attachment A**.

PSEG Long Island, is proposing a new underground electric transmission project to increase the load capacity and reliability of the electric transmission system on the South Fork of Long Island. The principal component of the Project is the installation of a new underground 138 kilovolt transmission line between the existing Southampton Substation (located in the Village of Southampton at the intersection of North Sea Road and West Prospect Street) and the existing Deerfield Substation (located in the Hamlet of Watermill, on Water Mill Towd Road) primarily along public roadway ROW. The Project is the most cost-effective solution to meet the South Fork's increasing electrical demand and need for reliable electrical service while minimizing disruptions to the community. The Project also is consistent with and further the goals of New York's Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act by supporting the transmission of wind energy on Long Island.

The Project will be subject to Article VII of the New York State Public Service Law. The NYSDEC has been identified as an Involved Agency for the review and approval of this action on the basis that the project includes stormwater discharges from construction activities and may require the

appropriate permitting as the project progresses.

Disturbances associated with the Project are mainly within paved areas of the roadway and road shoulder. However, limited tree clearing may be necessary along the ROW and within the two substation properties. Trees within these areas may provide potential habitat for Northern Longeared Bat. PSEG Long Island is committed to restricting tree clearing associated with the proposed Project to the permissible clearing window between December 1 to February 28 of any given year to prevent impacts to possible Northern Long-eared Bats in the area. Coordination with NYSDEC will be conducted, as required, prior to clearing.

If you would like to provide comments, including issues of concern which you believe should be evaluated as part of the Article VII process, please send them to me at:

Nelson, Pope & Voorhis, LLC 70 Maxess Road Melville, NY 11747

Email: cofarrell@nelsonpope.com

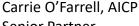
The information provided by the NYSDEC will be used to evaluate the Project and potential alternative routes within the Project area and guide the project design in an effort to avoid, minimize or mitigate.

If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact me at (631) 427-5665 (ext. 214). Thank you for your assistance with this review.

Sincerely,

Nelson, Pope & Voorhis, LLC

ame Fred



Senior Partner



OPRHP Correspondence

OPRHP Response to Project Consultation Letter



ERIK KULLESEID
Commissioner

October 26, 2023

Brianna Sadoski 70 Maxess Road Melville, NY 11747

Re: PSC

KATHY HOCHUL

Governor

Southampton to Deerfield Transmission Project Town and Village of Southampton, Suffolk County, NY 23PR08591 NPV #23033

Dear Brianna Sadoski:

Thank you for requesting the comments of the Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation (OPRHP). We have reviewed the project in accordance with the New York State Historic Preservation Act of 1980 (Section 14.09 of the New York Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation Law). These comments are those of the OPRHP and relate only to Historic/Cultural resources. They do not include potential environmental impacts to New York State Parkland that may be involved in or near your project. Such impacts must be considered as part of the environmental review of the project pursuant to the State Environmental Quality Review Act (New York Environmental Conservation Law Article 8) and its implementing regulations (6 NYCRR Part 617).

Based upon this review, it is the opinion of OPRHP that no properties, including archaeological and/or historic resources, listed in or eligible for the New York State and National Registers of Historic Places will be impacted by this project.

If further correspondence is required regarding this project, please be sure to refer to the OPRHP Project Review (PR) number noted above.

Sincerely,

R. Daniel Mackay

Deputy Commissioner for Historic Preservation Division for Historic Preservation

rev: T. Lloyd

OPRHP Correspondence

Request to OPRHP for Project Consultation

October 12, 2023

VIA CRIS WEBSITE SUBMISSION

New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation Peebles Island Resource Center P.O. Box 189 Waterford, NY 12188-0189

RE: Request for Project Consultation
Southampton to Deerfield Transmission Project
Town of Southampton, Suffolk County, New York

Dear Mr. Lloyd,

On behalf of PSEG Long Island LLC (PSEG Long Island), operating through the Long Island Power Authority (LIPA), Burns & McDonnell Engineering, Inc. (Burns & McDonnell) and Nelson, Pope & Voorhis, LLC (NPV) request New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) data to be utilized in the siting of a new underground electric transmission line within the Town of Southampton, Suffolk County, New York, titled the Southampton to Deerfield Transmission Project (Project). Project construction activities will occur primarily within public roadway rights-of-way (ROW) for a total distance of approximately 4.5 miles. A Project area location map is included as **Figure 1**. Land uses immediately adjacent to the Project Area include commercial, residential, agricultural, and open space land use (**Figure 2**). Photographs of the Project area are included in **Attachment A**.

PSEG Long Island is proposing a new underground electric transmission project to increase the load capacity and reliability of the electric transmission system on the South Fork of Long Island. The principal component of the Project is the installation of a new underground 138 kilovolt transmission line between the existing Southampton Substation (located in the Village of Southampton at the intersection of North Sea Road and West Prospect Street) and the existing Deerfield Substation (located in the Hamlet of Watermill, on Water Mill Towd Road) primarily along public roadway ROW. The Project is the most cost-effective solution to meet the increasing electrical demand in South Fork and need for reliable electrical service while minimizing disruptions to the community. The Project also is consistent with and further the goals of New York's Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act by supporting the transmission of wind energy on Long Island.

The Project is subject to Article VII of the New York State Public Service Law. The New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation (OPRHP) is being consulted to assess the

Project's potential to affect adjacent cultural resources. An initial baseline analysis of potential sensitivities and management of cultural resources showed that the Project area is of low historic archaeological sensitivity. The proposed cable installation work is proposed within the paved roadway and shoulder. Disturbances outside of the paved roadway are limited to areas in close proximity to the two substations (only the Southampton Substation is located within an archaeologically sensitive area):

- Southampton substation 710 Linear feet (15' wide disturbance)
- Deerfield substation 360 LF (30' wide disturbance in the vegetated areas).

Additionally, 12 splice vaults are proposed along the route, which will involve disturbance within the roadway/road shoulder and may extend into vegetated areas of the right of way. The disturbance for each vault is anticipated to be an area of 14' by 24'.

The proposed route occurs primarily in paved roadways which are unable to be subjected to substantial archaeological testing. However, to avoid or mitigate negative impacts on culturally sensitive resources, our initial analysis using public data should be subject to additional consideration under OPRHP as the Project continues to progress. A map displaying the resources of concern is included as **Figure 3**.

The information provided by the OPRHP will be used to evaluate the Project and potential alternative routes within the Project area and guide the project design in an effort to avoid, minimize or mitigate. Please provide comments, including issues of concern which you believe should be evaluated as part of the Article VII process, to me at:

Nelson, Pope & Voorhis, LLC 70 Maxess Road Melville, NY 11747

Email: cofarrell@nelsonpope.com

If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact me at (631) 427-5665 (ext. 214). Thank you for your assistance with this review.

Sincerely,

Nelson, Pope & Voorhis, LLC

Carrie O'Farrell, AICP Senior Partner



<u>USFWS Correspondence</u>

USFWS Response to Project Consultation Letter

Henry, Simone

From: Papa, Steve <steve_papa@fws.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, January 16, 2024 3:32 PM

To: Brianna Sadoski

Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] RE: Southampton to Deerfield Transmission Project- Request for Project

We will send a closeout form, but in the event our response does not coincide with your report submission, this email may be used for confirmation of technical assistance and consultation with the Service with concurrence that this project would not likely to adversely affect the northern long-eared bat or result in a reasonable certainty of take of the species.

Steven T. Papa
Senior Fish and Wildlife Biologist
Long Island Field Office
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
340 Smith Rd
Shirley, NY 11967
(631) 286-0485 ext 2120
steve_papa@fws.gov

The Long Island Field Office has three employees who serve more than half the people in NY. Due to a persistent staff shortage, a large workload for project reviews, and our work to conserve federally listed and at-risk species, current project review times can vary, possibly 60 days or more for large projects. Every project review is important to us and we will do our best to address project reviews in a timely fashion. Your patience is appreciated.

From: Brianna Sadoski

 sadoski@nelsonpope.com>

Sent: Tuesday, January 16, 2024 3:18 PM **To:** Papa, Steve <steve papa@fws.gov>

Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL] RE: Southampton to Deerfield Transmission Project- Request for Project

Hi Steve,

I just wanted to follow up. Are we able to receive a formal response for this? We are filing our application at the end of this week and would like to include a response from USFWS.

Thank you,



Brianna Sadoski
Project Manager/Senior Environmental Planner

o: 631.427.5665 c: 631.972.8623 From: Papa, Steve <steve_papa@fws.gov> Sent: Monday, January 8, 2024 12:52 PM

To: Brianna Sadoski
 co: Ashley Marciszyn AMarciszyn@nelsonpope.com

Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] RE: Southampton to Deerfield Transmission Project- Request for Project

Other question I need to ask you is how many acres of trees will be removed along the route?

Steven T. Papa
Senior Fish and Wildlife Biologist
Long Island Field Office
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
340 Smith Rd
Shirley, NY 11967
(631) 286-0485 ext 2120
steve papa@fws.gov

The Long Island Field Office has three employees who serve more than half the people in NY. Due to a persistent staff shortage, a large workload for project reviews, and our work to conserve federally listed and at-risk species, current project review times can vary, possibly 60 days or more for large projects. Every project review is important to us and we will do our best to address project reviews in a timely fashion. Your patience is appreciated.

From: Brianna Sadoski < bsadoski@nelsonpope.com >

Sent: Monday, January 8, 2024 12:43 PM **To:** Papa, Steve <steve papa@fws.gov>

Cc: Ashley Marciszyn < AMarciszyn@nelsonpope.com >

Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL] RE: Southampton to Deerfield Transmission Project- Request for Project Consultation

Hi Steve,

I just wanted to follow up on the below. Will you be providing a formal response letter?

Thank you,



Brianna Sadoski
Project Manager/Senior Environmental Planner

o: 631.427.5665 c: 631.972.8623

From: Brianna Sadoski

Sent: Wednesday, January 3, 2024 2:26 PM

To: steve papa@fws.gov

Cc: Ashley Marciszyn <amarciszyn@nelsonpope.com>

Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL] RE: Southampton to Deerfield Transmission Project- Request for Project Consultation

Good afternoon,

Yes- that is correct. The Applicant has committed to working in the inactive NLEB season.

Please feel free to reach out with any additional questions.

Thank you,

Brianna Sadoski Project Manager/Senior Environmental Planner NELSON POPE VOORHIS



Long Island: 70 Maxess Road, Melville, NY 11747

Hudson Valley: 156 Route 59, Suite C6, Suffern, NY 10901

o: 631.427.5665 c: 631.972.8623 bsadoski@nelsonpopevoorhis.com

nelsonpopevoorhis.com

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From: Papa, Steve <steve papa@fws.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, January 3, 2024 2:20 PM

To: Ashley Marciszyn < <u>AMarciszyn@nelsonpope.com</u>>

Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] RE: Southampton to Deerfield Transmission Project- Request for Project Consultation

Hi-

From the project description the project proponent is committing to work in the inactive NLEB season, Dec 1 to Feb 28. Is that correct?

Steven T. Papa
Senior Fish and Wildlife Biologist
Long Island Field Office
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
340 Smith Rd
Shirley, NY 11967
(631) 286-0485 ext 2120
steve papa@fws.gov

The Long Island Field Office has three employees who serve more than half the people in NY. Due to a persistent staff shortage, a large workload for project reviews, and our work to conserve federally listed and at-risk species, current project review times can vary, possibly 60 days or more for large projects. Every project review is important to us and we will do our best to address project reviews in a timely fashion. Your patience is appreciated.

From: Papa, Steve < steve papa@fws.gov > Sent: Tuesday, January 2, 2024 4:46 PM

To: Ashley Marciszyn < AMarciszyn@nelsonpope.com>

Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] RE: Southampton to Deerfield Transmission Project- Request for Project Consultation

Thank you. I will get back to you tomorrow.

Steven T. Papa
Senior Fish and Wildlife Biologist
Long Island Field Office
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
340 Smith Rd
Shirley, NY 11967
(631) 286-0485 ext 2120
steve papa@fws.gov

The Long Island Field Office has three employees who serve more than half the people in NY. Due to a persistent staff shortage, a large workload for project reviews, and our work to conserve federally listed and at-risk species, current project review times can vary, possibly 60 days or more for large projects. Every project review is important to us and we will do our best to address project reviews in a timely fashion. Your patience is appreciated.

From: Ashley Marciszyn < <u>AMarciszyn@nelsonpope.com</u>>

Sent: Tuesday, January 2, 2024 2:57 PM

To: NYFO, FW5ES <fw5es nyfo@fws.gov>; Papa, Steve <steve papa@fws.gov>

Cc: Brianna Sadoski sadoski <a href="mailto:sadoski <a href="m

Subject: [EXTERNAL] RE: Southampton to Deerfield Transmission Project-Request for Project Consultation

This email has been received from outside of DOI - Use caution before clicking on links, opening attachments, or responding.

Hello,

We are just following up on the email below (attachment attached again as well). Please contact Brianna Sadoski and Carrie O'Farrell (cc'd) with any responses.

Thank you,



Ashley Marciszyn Administrative Assistant o: 631.427.5665 x215 From: Ashley Marciszyn

Sent: Wednesday, October 25, 2023 10:01 AM

To: FW5ES NYFO@fws.gov; Steven T. Papa (steve_papa@fws.gov) <steve_papa@fws.gov>

Cc: Brianna Sadoski < <u>bsadoski@nelsonpope.com</u>>

Subject: Southampton to Deerfield Transmission Project- Request for Project Consultation

Hello,

Please see the attached Request for Project Consultation for the Southampton to Deerfield Transmission Project sent to you per Carrie O'Farrell's request.

Thank you,

Ashley Marciszyn Administrative Assistant



NELSON POPE VOORHIS

Long Island: 70 Maxess Road, Melville, NY 11747

Hudson Valley: 156 Route 59, Suite C6, Suffern, NY 10901

o: 631.427.5665 x215

amarciszyn@nelsonpopevoorhis.com

nelsonpopevoorhis.com

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<u>USFWS Correspondence</u>

Request to USFWS for Project Consultation



October 25, 2023

VIA EMAIL: FW5ES NYFO@fws.gov, Steve papa@fws.gov

Steven Papa, Senior Fish & Wildlife Biologist U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Long Island Field Office 340 Smith Road Shirley, NY 11967

RE: Request for Project Consultation

Southampton to Deerfield Transmission Project Town of Southampton, Suffolk County, New York

Dear Mr. Papa:

On behalf of PSEG Long Island LLC (PSEG Long Island), operating through the Long Island Power Authority (LIPA), Burns & McDonnell Engineering, Inc. (Burns & McDonnell) and Nelson, Pope & Voorhis, LLC (NPV) request US Fish and Wildlife (USFWS) data to be utilized in the siting of a new underground electric transmission line within the Town of Southampton, Suffolk County, New York, titled the Southampton to Deerfield Transmission Project (Project). Project construction activities will occur primarily within public roadway rights-of-way (ROW) for a total distance of approximately 4.5 miles. A Project area location map is included as **Figure 1**. Land uses immediately adjacent to the Project area include commercial, residential, agricultural, and open space land use (see **Figure 2**). Photographs of the Project area are included in **Attachment A**.

PSEG Long Island is proposing a new underground electric transmission project to increase the load capacity and reliability of the electric transmission system on the South Fork of Long Island. it's the principal component of the Project is the installation of a new underground 138 kilovolt transmission line between the existing Southampton Substation (located in the Village of Southampton at the intersection of North Sea Road and West Prospect Street) and the existing Deerfield Substation (located in the Hamlet of Watermill, on Water Mill Town Road) primarily along public roadway ROW. The Project is the most cost-effective solution to meet the South Fork's increasing electrical demand and need for reliable electrical service while minimizing disruptions to the community. The Project also is consistent with and further the goals of New York's Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act by supporting the transmission of wind energy on Long Island.

The project will be subject to Article VII of the New York State Public Service Law. The USFWS has been identified as an Involved Agency for the review and approval of this action. We are submitting this project review package for technical assistance to bolster project planning and to avoid potential for "take" among threatened and/or endangered species.

On behalf of PSEG Long Island, NPV and Burns & McDonnell have obtained an Official Species List through the USFWS Information for Planning and Consultation (IPaC) online service (see **Attachment B**). This request resulted in the identification of the following five (5) potential species of interest within the Project area: Northern Long-eared Bat (*Myotic septentrionalis*), Piping Plover (*Charadrius melodus*), Red Knot (*Calidris canutus rufa*), Monarch Butterfly (*Danaus plexippus*), and Seabeach Amaranth (*Amaranthus pumilus*). In addition, state coordination was conducted via consultation with the New York Natural Heritage Program (NYNHP). This request is pending NYNHP review as of the date of this letter. Our correspondence with the NYNHP is included as **Attachment C**.

Disturbances associated with the Project are mainly within paved areas of the roadway and road shoulder. However, limited tree clearing may be necessary along the ROW and within the two substation properties that may provide potential habitat for Northern Long-eared Bat. PSEG Long Island is committed to restricting tree clearing associated with the proposed Project to the permissible clearing window between December 1 to February 28 of any given year to prevent impacts to possible Northern Long-eared Bats in the area. Coordination with NYSDEC will be conducted, as required, prior to clearing.

The information provided by the USFWS will be used to evaluate the Project and potential alternative routes within the Project area. Information on the specific locations of species of various concerns identified by the USFWS will also be used to focus future field surveys and guide the project design in an effort to avoid, minimize or mitigate.

Please send the requested information to me at the address indicated below:

Nelson, Pope & Voorhis, LLC 70 Maxess Road Melville, NY 11747

Email: cofarrell@nelsonpope.com

If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact me at (631) 427-5665 (ext. 214). Thank you for your assistance with this review.

Sincerely,

Nelson, Pope & Voorhis, LLC

Carrie O'Farrell, AICP Senior Partner

Carrie Famel



<u>USACE Correspondence</u>

USACE Response to Project Consultation Letter

Brianna Sadoski

From: Courtien, Carolyn M CIV USARMY CENAN (USA) <Carolyn.M.Courtien@usace.army.mil>

Sent: Tuesday, November 14, 2023 10:39 AM

To: Carrie OFarrell; Brianna Sadoski

Cc: MIRANDA, Rosita (Rosie) CIV USARMY CENAN (USA)

Subject: RE: Southampton to Deerfield Transmission Project- Request for Project Consultation

Good Morning Carrie,

We would only provide a formal response letter if an application is submitted. Based on the information provided, a permit from the US Army Corps of Engineers would not be required.

If anything in the project scope changes and you would like to review it, please let us know.

Thank you,
Carolyn M. Courtien
Biologist - Regulatory Project Manager
Western Section - Regulatory Branch
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers - New York District
Jacob K. Javits Federal Building
26 Federal Plaza, Room 16-406
New York, NY 10278-0090

P: 917-790-8422 C: 917-301-5542

From: Carrie OFarrell < COFarrell@nelsonpope.com>

Sent: Tuesday, November 7, 2023 4:35 PM

To: Courtien, Carolyn M CIV USARMY CENAN (USA) <Carolyn.M.Courtien@usace.army.mil>; Brianna Sadoski

<bsadoski@nelsonpope.com>

Cc: MIRANDA, Rosita (Rosie) CIV USARMY CENAN (USA) <Rosita.Miranda@usace.army.mil>

Subject: [Non-DoD Source] RE: Southampton to Deerfield Transmission Project- Request for Project Consultation

Thank you Carolyn – that is correct (there are no wetlands in proximity to the disturbance area). Will your office provide a formal response letter?

Thank you, Carrie



Carrie O'Farrell Senior Partner o: 631.427.5665 x214

From: Courtien, Carolyn M CIV USARMY CENAN (USA) < Carolyn.M.Courtien@usace.army.mil>

Sent: Tuesday, November 7, 2023 12:27 PM

To: Carrie OFarrell < COFarrell@nelsonpope.com >; Ashley Marciszyn < AMarciszyn@nelsonpope.com >; Brianna Sadoski

 doski@nelsonpope.com>

Cc: MIRANDA, Rosita (Rosie) CIV USARMY CENAN (USA) < <u>Rosita.Miranda@usace.army.mil</u>> **Subject:** RE: Southampton to Deerfield Transmission Project- Request for Project Consultation

Good Afternoon Carrie & Ashley,

A preliminary review of the package submitted does not appear to indicate that any wetlands or waterways will be affected by the proposed work. Unless there are any specific areas that you would like to review, a pre-application meeting would not be necessary.

Attached is an acknowledgement letter, which provides the reference number that we have assigned to this project. If you have any questions, or would like to provide any additional information on this matter, please include this application number.

Thank you,
Carolyn M. Courtien
Biologist - Regulatory Project Manager
Western Section - Regulatory Branch
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers - New York District
Jacob K. Javits Federal Building
26 Federal Plaza, Room 16-406
New York, NY 10278-0090

P: 917-790-8422 C: 917-301-5542

From: Carrie OFarrell < COFarrell@nelsonpope.com>

Sent: Thursday, November 2, 2023 6:34 PM

To: Ashley Marciszyn AMarciszyn@nelsonpope.com; Courtien, Carolyn M CIV USARMY CENAN (USA)

<<u>Carolyn.M.Courtien@usace.army.mil</u>>; Brianna Sadoski <<u>bsadoski@nelsonpope.com</u>> Cc: MIRANDA, Rosita (Rosie) CIV USARMY CENAN (USA) <Rosita.Miranda@usace.army.mil>

Subject: [Non-DoD Source] RE: Southampton to Deerfield Transmission Project- Request for Project Consultation

Thank you, Carolyn. Once you review the package, please let us know if a pre-application meeting is necessary. This is a linear utility project where the majority of disturbance is within the existing roadway/road shoulder and there are no wetlands located within proximity to the disturbance area. We are happy to walk you through the project though if that is helpful. Please let me know.

Thanks, Carrie



Carrie O'Farrell Senior Partner o: 631.427.5665 x214

From: Ashley Marciszyn < AMarciszyn@nelsonpope.com>

Sent: Thursday, November 2, 2023 3:40 PM

To: Courtien, Carolyn M CIV USARMY CENAN (USA) < Carolyn.M.Courtien@usace.army.mil; Brianna Sadoski

<bsadoski@nelsonpope.com>; Carrie OFarrell <COFarrell@nelsonpope.com>

Cc: MIRANDA, Rosita (Rosie) CIV USARMY CENAN (USA) < <u>Rosita.Miranda@usace.army.mil</u>> **Subject:** RE: Southampton to Deerfield Transmission Project- Request for Project Consultation

Hello,

Please see the requested attachment for the Southampton to Deerfield project.



Ashley Marciszyn Administrative Assistant o: 631.427.5665 x215

From: Courtien, Carolyn M CIV USARMY CENAN (USA) < Carolyn.M.Courtien@usace.army.mil>

Sent: Thursday, November 2, 2023 3:37 PM

To: Ashley Marciszyn < <u>AMarciszyn@nelsonpope.com</u>>; Brianna Sadoski < <u>bsadoski@nelsonpope.com</u>>; Carrie OFarrell < COFarrell@nelsonpope.com>

Cc: MIRANDA, Rosita (Rosie) CIV USARMY CENAN (USA) < <u>Rosita.Miranda@usace.army.mil</u>> **Subject:** RE: Southampton to Deerfield Transmission Project- Request for Project Consultation

Good Afternoon,

We are in receipt of your request for a Pre-Application Consultation for the Southampton to Deerfield Transmission Project. I was not able to open the document provided in the link below, is it possible to send as an email attachment? If not, I can provide a link to submit the package via our DOD Safe portal.

Please forward date/time options for the pre-application meeting, and I will confirm availability. Note, we do ask that any materials that would be discussed at the meeting are submitted at least seven days in advance to allow time for review.

If you have any questions, please just let me know.

Thank you,
Carolyn M. Courtien
Biologist - Regulatory Project Manager
Western Section - Regulatory Branch
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers - New York District
Jacob K. Javits Federal Building
26 Federal Plaza, Room 16-406
New York, NY 10278-0090

P: 917-790-8422 C: 917-301-5542

From: Ashley Marciszyn < AMarciszyn@nelsonpope.com>

Sent: Wednesday, October 25, 2023 9:59 AM

To: CENAN-R-Permit-App < <u>CENAN-R-Permit-App@usace.army.mil</u>>

Cc: Brianna Sadoski < bsadoski@nelsonpope.com >; Carrie OFarrell < COFarrell@nelsonpope.com >

Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Southampton to Deerfield Transmission Project- Request for Project Consultation

Hello,

Please see the onedrive link below for a Request for Project Consultation on the Southampton to Deerfield Transmission Project sent to you per Carrie O'Farrell's request.

USACE Coordination Letter FINAL RFS.pdf

Thank you,

Ashley Marciszyn Administrative Assistant



NELSON POPE VOORHIS

Long Island: 70 Maxess Road, Melville, NY 11747

Hudson Valley: 156 Route 59, Suite C6, Suffern, NY 10901

o: 631.427.5665 x215

amarciszyn@nelsonpopevoorhis.com

nelsonpopevoorhis.com

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<u>USACE Correspondence</u>

Request to USACE for Project Consultation



October 25, 2023

VIA EMAIL: CENAN-R-Permit-App@usace.army.mil

Eastern Section Chief US Army Corps of Engineers New York District, Regulatory Branch 26 Federal Plaza, Room 1937 New York, NY 10278

RE: Request for Project Consultation
Southampton to Deerfield Transmission Project
Town of Southampton, Suffolk County, New York

Dear Eastern Section Chief:

On behalf of PSEG Long Island LLC (PSEG Long Island), operating through the Long Island Power Authority (LIPA), Burns & McDonnell Engineering, Inc. (Burns & McDonnell) and Nelson, Pope & Voorhis, LLC (NPV) request US Amry Corps of Engineers (USACE) data to be utilized in the siting of a new underground electric transmission line within the Town of Southampton, Suffolk County, New York, titled the Southampton to Deerfield Transmission Project (Project). Project construction activities will occur primarily within public roadway rights-of-way (ROW) for a total distance of approximately 4.5 miles. A Project area location map is included as **Figure 1**. Land uses immediately adjacent to the Project area include commercial, residential, agricultural, and open space land use (see **Figure 2**). Photographs of the Project area are included in **Attachment A**.

PSEG Long Island is proposing a new underground electric transmission project to increase the load capacity and reliability of the electric transmission system on the South Fork of Long Island. The principal component of the Project is the installation of a new underground 138 kilovolt transmission line between the existing Southampton Substation (located in the Village of Southampton at the intersection of North Sea Road and West Prospect Street) and the existing Deerfield Substation (located in the Hamlet of Watermill, on Water Mill Towd Road) primarily along public roadway ROW. The Project is the most cost-effective solution to meet the increasing electrical demand in South Fork and need for reliable electrical service while minimizing disruptions to the community. The Project also is consistent with and furthers the goals of New York's Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act by supporting the transmission of wind energy on Long Island.

The Project will be subject to Article VII of the New York State Public Service Law. Based on NPV's review of the National Wetland Inventory (NWI) maps (see **Figure 3**), New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) wetland mapping (see **Figure 3**), locations of hydric soils

in the vicinity of the Project area (see **Figure 4**) and field survey of the Project area on August 25th, 2023, the USACE has not been identified as an Involved Agency for this project. According to the area mapping and the field observations, there are no surface waters or wetlands within the disturbance area associated with the Project. We anticipate that the USACE will agree with this assessment.

Should you wish to discuss this project in more detail, please contact me at (631) 427-5665 (ext. 214). Correspondence via mail courier may delivered to me at the address indicated below:

Nelson, Pope & Voorhis, LLC 70 Maxess Road Melville, NY 11747

Email: cofarrell@nelsonpope.com

Thank you for your consideration with this review.

Sincerely,

Nelson, Pope & Voorhis, LLC

Carrie O'Farrell, AICP Senior Partner

James Farrell

