

**PSEG LONG ISLAND LLC**  
**On Behalf of and as Agent for**  
**the LONG ISLAND POWER AUTHORITY f/k/a LONG ISLAND**  
**LIGHTING COMPANY d/b/a LONG ISLAND POWER AUTHORITY**

**Commercial Avenue Equipment Project**  
**Case 25-T-0243**

**Terminal**  
**Environmental Management and Construction Plan**

**APPENDIX I**  
**Threatened and Endangered Species Minimization and Monitoring Plan**

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## 1 INTRODUCTION

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This Threatened and Endangered Species Minimization and Monitoring Plan (SMMP) was developed to support activities associated with the construction of the Commercial Avenue Terminal (Terminal), for the Commercial Avenue Equipment Project (Project). This SMMP fulfills the Environmental Management and Construction Plan (EM&CP) Specification Section C4, Threatened and Endangered Species Minimization and Monitoring Plans:

*“Threatened and Endangered Species Minimization and Monitoring Plans. As applicable, Minimization and Monitoring Plans shall be provided for the following species, where impacts to individuals or the species’ habitats cannot be avoided:*

- i. Bald Eagle.
- ii. Northern Long-eared Bat.
- iii. Tricolored Bat.”

## 2 DESKTOP AND CONSULTATION FINDINGS

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### 2.1 Federal Data

The United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) Long Island Ecological Services Field Office provided an Official Species List (Attachment I-1) for the Certified Route via the Information for Planning and Consultation (IPaC) project planning tool on March 20, 2026, under project code 2026-0065450. The Official Species List includes six federally listed species:

- Northern long-eared bat (*Myotis septentrionalis*), endangered;
- Tricolored bat (*Perimyotis subflavus*), proposed endangered;
- Piping plover, (*Charadrius melodus*), threatened;
- Rufa red knot, (*Calidris canutus rufa*), threatened;
- Monarch butterfly, (*Danaus plexippus*), proposed threatened; and
- Sandplain gerardia, (*Agalinis acuta*), endangered.

The species list fulfills the requirements of the USFWS under Section 7(c) of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.).

No critical habitats were identified within the Project area under USFWS jurisdiction. Due to the “proposed” status of the Tricolored bat (TCB), TCB protections will follow the same procedures as Northern long-eared bat (NLEB).

### 2.2 State Data

A letter request was submitted to the New York Natural Heritage Program (NYNHP) for information regarding the presence of state-managed threatened and endangered species and unique natural communities in the Project area. The NYNHP responded via a letter dated May 19, 2025, stating that no rare or state-listed animals, plants, or significant natural communities are known in the study area (Attachment I-2).

### 3 FIELD INVESTIGATION RESULTS

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Paulus, Sokolowski & Sartor (PS&S) completed field investigations in October and November of 2025 to inventory existing flora and fauna and assess habitat suitability for threatened and endangered species. No individuals of a threatened or endangered species were identified during field surveys. The field surveys identified suitable habitat for the NLEB along portions of the Certified Route. The field surveys did not identify suitable habitat for other species listed in Table 1.

The habitat assessment, included as Attachment I-3, was conducted for the entire Project. The Limit of Disturbance (LOD) associated with the construction of the Terminal is a portion of the assessment's identified "Western Freeze Pit Area".

No trees measuring two inches in diameter at breast height were identified within the LOD. Field surveys further confirmed there is no suitable habitat for NLEB or TCB within the Terminal LOD; therefore, no NLEB or TCB take is anticipated during construction activities.





Surveys found no anticipated effects on piping plover or red knot, as the proposed Project does not involve disturbance within the proximity of coastal shoreline areas. The Project is not expected to affect monarch butterfly due to no milkweed being identified in the Project area. Likewise, there are no anticipated effects on sandplain gerardia as no suitable habitat was identified.

**Table 1. Rare, Threatened, and Endangered Species Descriptions**

<b>Northern Long-eared Bat (<i>Myotis septentrionalis</i>)</b>	
 <p>Al Hicks, NYSDEC  <a href="https://guides.nynhp.org/northern-long-eared-bat/">https://guides.nynhp.org/northern-long-eared-bat/</a></p>	<p>The northern long-eared bat is listed as threatened both federally and in New York. The USFWS has not identified critical habitat for NLEB. NLEB utilize a diversity of forest habitats for roosting, foraging and raising their young. NLEB hibernate through late fall and early spring in caves or abandoned mines. NLEB face extinction due primarily to the range-wide impacts of white-nose syndrome, a deadly disease affecting cave-dwelling bats across the continent.<sup>1</sup></p> <p>Environmental scientists visited the Project area in October and November of 2026 and found no suitable habitat.</p>
<b>Tricolored Bat (<i>Perimyotis subflavus</i>)</b>	
 <p>Al Hicks, NYSDEC  <a href="https://guides.nynhp.org/tri-colored-bat/">https://guides.nynhp.org/tri-colored-bat/</a></p>	<p>The tricolored bat is a small insectivorous bat that is distinguished by its unique tricolored fur and often appears yellowish to nearly orange. The once common species is wide ranging across the eastern and central United States and portions of southern Canada, Mexico and Central America. TCBs often overwinter in caves and abandoned mines, although in the southern United States, where caves are sparse, TCBs often roost in culverts and forage during warm nights. In the spring, summer, and fall, TCBs are found in forested habitats where they roost in typically hardwood trees, but may also be found in Spanish moss, pine trees, and occasionally human structures. TCBs face extinction due primarily to the range-wide impacts of white-nose syndrome, a deadly disease affecting cave-dwelling bats across the continent.<sup>2</sup></p> <p>Environmental scientists visited the Project area in October and November of 2026 and found no suitable habitat.</p>

<sup>1</sup> Northern Long-eared Bat, USFWS, <https://www.fws.gov/species/northern-long-eared-bat-myotis-septentrionalis>.

<sup>2</sup> Tricolored Bat, USFWS, <https://www.fws.gov/species/tricolored-bat-perimyotis-subflavus>.

<b>Piping Plover (<i>Charadrius melodus</i>)</b>	
 <p>Gene Nieminnen, NYNHP  <a href="https://guides.nynhp.org/piping-plover/">https://guides.nynhp.org/piping-plover/</a></p>	<p>The piping plover is listed as federally threatened and New York endangered. Critical habitat has been designated for this species; however no piping plover critical habitat is located proximate to the Project. Piping plover is a coastal shorebird that utilizes shorelines with pebbles and shells for nesting.<sup>3</sup> Piping plovers will forage along beaches for various invertebrates.<sup>4</sup> No piping plover habitat is located within or adjacent to the Project area, and therefore the Project is not expected to affect this species.</p>
<b>Rufa Red Knot (<i>Calidris canutus rufa</i>)</b>	
 <p>B.N. Singh, Cornell Ornithology  <a href="https://www.allaboutbirds.org/g/guide/Red_Knot/lifehistory">https://www.allaboutbirds.org/g/guide/Red_Knot/lifehistory</a>.</p>	<p>The rufa red knot is federally and state listed as threatened. Proposed critical habitat has been identified for this species; however, no proposed critical habitat is located proximate to the Project. The red knot is a coastal shorebird, known for long migrations from Canadian arctic breeding habitats to southern feeding habitats of Tierra del Fuego in Brazil. The red knot forages on the eggs of horseshoe crabs, juvenile clams and mussels along shorelines.<sup>5</sup> No red knot habitat is located within or adjacent to the Project area, and therefore the Project is not expected to affect this species.</p>
<b>Monarch Butterfly (<i>Danaus plexippus</i>)</b>	
 <p>Debbie Long, Center for Biological Diversity, <a href="https://www.biologicaldiversity.org/species/invertebrates/monarch_butterfly/">https://www.biologicaldiversity.org/species/invertebrates/monarch_butterfly/</a>.</p>	<p>The orange-and-black butterfly is known for its annual, multi-generational migration from Mexico to as far north as Canada. Monarch butterflies depend on milkweed to lay their eggs during the journey. Caterpillars need to feed on milkweed to complete their life cycle, and adult butterflies rely on nectar producing plants in bloom for needed energy. The decrease in native plants, including milkweed, has significantly impacted monarch populations over the past two decades.<sup>6</sup> Milkweed was not identified within or adjacent to the Project area, and therefore the Project is not expected to affect this species.</p>
<b>Sandplain gerardia (<i>Agalinis acuta</i>)</b>	
 <p>Stephen M. Young, NYNHP,  <a href="https://guides.nynhp.org/sandplain-agalinis/">https://guides.nynhp.org/sandplain-agalinis/</a></p>	<p>The sandplain gerardia is an annual plant historically found in dry, open grasslands and sandplain habitats, such as those on Long Island.</p> <p>It is listed as endangered in New York. While the species has been federally listed as endangered since 1988, its protected status is currently under review. It grows in dry, sandy, acidic soils in grasslands, fields, and roadsides where sparse vegetation provides the open ground it needs to survive. As a hemiparasite, it obtains some of its nutrients by attaching to the roots of other plants, particularly grasses like little bluestem. No sandplain gerardia habitat is located within or adjacent to the Project area, and therefore the Project is not expected to impact this species.</p>

<sup>3</sup> Piping Plover Guide, NYNHP, <https://guides.nynhp.org/piping-plover/>.

<sup>4</sup> Piping Plover, USFWS, <https://www.fws.gov/species/piping-plover-charadrius-melodus>.

<sup>5</sup> Rufa Red Knot, USFWS, <https://www.fws.gov/species/rufa-red-knot-calidris-canutus-rufa>.

<sup>6</sup> Monarch Butterfly, USFWS, <https://www.fws.gov/species/monarch-danaus-plexippus>.

### 3.1 Species Summary

**Table 2. Rare, Threatened, and Endangered Species Identified by Agencies**

Category	Common Name	Scientific Name	Federal Status	State Status	Notes <sup>b</sup>
<b>Mammals</b>	Northern long-eared bat	<i>Myotis septentrionalis</i>	Endangered	Endangered	Habitat is not within the Project area. No identified habitat within the Project Area in the NYNHP report.
	Tricolored bat	<i>Perimyotis subflavus</i>	Proposed Endangered	Not listed	Not listed in the NYNHP's documentation.
<b>Vascular Plants</b>	Sandplain gerardia <sup>a</sup>	<i>Chamaecyparis thyoides</i>	Endangered	Endangered	Habitat is not within the Project area. No identified habitat within the Project Area in the NYNHP report.
<b>Birds</b>	Piping plover	<i>Charadrius melodus</i>	Threatened	Endangered	Habitat is not within the Project area. No identified habitat within the Project Area in the NYNHP report.
	Rufa red knot	<i>Calidris canutus rufa</i>	Threatened	Threatened	Habitat is not within the Project area. No identified habitat within the Project Area in the NYNHP report.
<b>Insects</b>	Monarch butterfly	<i>Danaus plexippus</i>	Proposed Threatened	Not listed	Habitat is not within the Project area. Not listed in the NYNHP's documentation.
Notes:					
(a) The federal listing status of the sandplain gerardia is currently under review.					
(b) No critical habitats were identified by USFWS.					

## 4 OBSERVATION REPORTING PROTOCOLS

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The following threatened or endangered species observation protocols shall be followed, as applicable, during pre-construction, construction and restoration activities (project activities), and operation and maintenance activities (O&M).

### 4.1 Threatened or Endangered Species Observation Protocol

This protocol shall be followed for all discoveries of a threatened or endangered species (including dead, injured and/or damaged species and their eggs or nests) within or near the Project Area.

- a. The observer shall notify the Construction Superintendent and the Environmental Monitor.
- b. To protect the species or their habitat from immediate harm, the observer and Construction Superintendent shall secure the immediate area where the Certificate Holder holds rights and safely cease activities unless such activities are necessary for the protection of human life or property necessary to maintain electric reliability.
- c. The Environmental Monitor shall record the following information regarding the observation to the extent known and practicable. This information shall be provided to the NYSDEC Regional Resources Supervisor of Region 1 no later than 30 days following the observation.
  - Species;
  - Number of individuals;
  - Age and sex of individuals;
  - Observation date(s) and time(s);
  - GPS coordinates (as property rights allow) of each individual observed;
  - Behavior(s) observed;
  - Identification and contact number of the observer(s);
  - The nature of and distance to any Project construction activity, and
  - Whether the death, injury, or damage to the T&E species, their eggs, or nest was caused by such activity.
- d. The Environmental Monitor shall make the following notifications as applicable;
  - i. Notify NYSDEC Regional Resources Supervisor of Region 1 and New York Department of Public Service Staff (Staff) of any state or federal protected species within 24 hours during Project construction or restoration activities and within 48 hours during O&M activities, unless Staff, in consultation with NYSDEC, directs otherwise, and share observational information outlined in Step c if available.

- ii. Notify USFWS, the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), and the United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) of any federally protected species within 24 hours during Project construction or restoration activities and within 48 hours during O&M activities or as otherwise directed by the applicable federal agency.
- e. Activities in the area shall stop until the Environmental Monitor notifies the Construction Project Manager that Staff has authorized activities to resume.
- f. Prior to the recommencement of activities in the secured area, the Environmental Monitor shall provide the Construction Inspector with information about the species encountered and measures to be implemented in order to minimize risks to it.
- g. The Construction Inspector shall implement said measure(s) and brief all authorized on-site personnel with pertinent information on the species encountered and the avoidance measures that have been implemented.
- h. Plans will be updated to reflect any new RTE species area of concern, and the site will be clearly marked in the field.
- i. Any documents or information that identify the location or habitat of any known RTE species shall be labeled CONFIDENTIAL, and access shall be restricted to only those people who need to know this information. The Certificate Holder will provide appropriate training to employees and contractors as to the confidential nature of this information.

#### **4.2 Hibernaculum or Tree Roost Observation Protocol**

In the event that an NLEB or tri-colored bat hibernaculum or tree roost is identified on or near the Project area the Environmental Monitor will notify Staff and NYSDEC Regional Resources Supervisor of Region 1 within 24 hours of discovery during project activities and within 48 hours during O&M activities and consult with Staff and the NYSDEC Regional Resources Supervisor of Region 1 to comply with the substantive requirements of the ECL Article 11, and 6 NYCRR Part 182, or any other regulations or guidance as then applicable. The Threatened and Endangered Species Protocol outlined in Section 2.1 should be followed, except that the following replaces Step b.

An area of at least 500 feet in radius around the hibernaculum or roost tree(s) shall be marked within 24 hours of discovery to the extent that the Certificate Holder has property rights to allow such marking, and avoided until notice to continue construction, ground clearing, grading, or restoration activities, as applicable, at that site is granted by after consultation with NYSDEC Regional Resources Supervisor of Region 1, except if necessary for the protection of human life or property necessary to maintain electric reliability.

## 5 IMPACT MINIMIZATION MEASURES

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The following sections outline impact and minimization measures for bat species and the bald eagle. These measures shall be implemented to mitigate potential impacts on individuals within or near the Project area. The following measures are to be implemented during construction, restoration, and O&M activities, as applicable or unless otherwise stated.

### 5.1 Vegetation Clearing – Bat Species

To avoid potential impacts on the NLEB and TCB, potential roost trees or snags shall be conducted between December 1 and February 28, which corresponds with the hibernation period for the NLEB.<sup>7, 8, 9</sup>

### 5.2 Removal of Snag and Cavity Trees

From March 1 to November 30, snag and cavity trees may be removed if necessary to ensure the protection of life or property necessary to maintain electric reliability. When necessary, snag and cavity trees may be removed after they are cleared by the Environmental Monitor, who shall conduct a survey for bats exiting the trees. This survey shall begin one-half hour before sunset and continue until at least one hour after sunset or until it is otherwise too dark to see emerging bats. Unoccupied snag and cavity trees shall be removed within 24 hours of the exit-count survey.<sup>7, 8</sup>

### 5.3 Bald Eagle Nest Time of Year Restrictions

No bald eagle nests were identified during the Project's preliminary field investigations. Should any bald eagle nest be identified, to protect any bald eagles that may now be active in or near the Project area, construction work (ground disturbance and construction/maintenance related activities including boring, restoration and equipment staging, storing and transportation) within 0.25 miles of that nest (or 660 feet if there are visual barriers) shall cease during the bald eagle breeding season (January 1 to September 30), except as necessary to protect human life or property necessary to maintain electric reliability.

If monitoring of the nest, by a bird monitor whose qualifications have been approved by Staff and NYSDEC, indicates that the nest has either failed prematurely or the chicks have fledged the nest and left the area, the Certificate Holder may perform construction work after NYSDEC confirms that the nest is no longer active.

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<sup>7</sup> If avoidance cannot be achieved, the Certificate Holder shall consult with NYSDEC and, if applicable, USFWS, to determine what, if any, permits and/or additional authorizations are required to minimize impacts.

<sup>8</sup> Except as otherwise specified, if it is determined to be necessary to take occupied habitat or individuals of NLEB, the Certificate Holder will develop a Net Conservation Benefit Plan for acceptance by NYSDEC and Staff that satisfies the requirements of 6 NYCRR Part 182.

<sup>9</sup> General Recommendations for the Protection of Northern Long-eared Bats in New York, NYSDEC, <https://dec.ny.gov/nature/animals-fish-plants/biodiversity-species-conservation/endangered-species/northern-long-eared-bats-protection>

## 6 SURVEY AND MONITORING PLANS

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The following sections describe the survey and monitoring plans for bald eagles. While no nests were identified during the Project's preliminary field investigations, these plans will be implemented to help avoid potential impacts to any bald eagles that may now be active in or near the Project area.

### 6.1 Pre-Construction Bald Eagle Survey Plan

Prior to Project construction or maintenance activities in any area, the following protocol shall be followed. In order to avoid and protect bald eagles, at least two weeks prior to the commencement of construction, the Environmental Monitor shall conduct a visual bald eagle nest survey to determine if any are present within or near the Project area. Prior to conducting the survey, the Environmental Monitor shall consult with NYSDEC to determine whether NYSDEC has records of any bald eagle nests within one mile of the Project area. The Environmental Monitor shall survey for both undocumented and documented bald eagle nests. If a bald eagle nest is observed, the Environmental Monitor shall make the following observations:

- Whether the nest is occupied or unoccupied;
- Number of individuals observed, if any;
- Behavior(s) observed;
- Observation date and time, and
- GPS coordinates (as property rights allow) of each nest observed.

If any bald eagle nest is discovered within 0.25 miles of the work area, the Environmental Monitor shall notify NYSDEC and Staff within 24 hours of discovery. Except to protect human life or property necessary to maintain electric reliability, the bald eagle nest shall not be approached. A 0.25-mile environmentally sensitive buffer area shall be marked, where the Certificate Holder has property rights to allow such marking; and the 0.25-mile environmentally sensitive buffer area shall be avoided until Staff, after consultation with NYSDEC, authorizes construction activities in such area. In the presence of a visual barrier (i.e., tree line, topography) that obstructs the view from the nest and shields it from work activities, the 0.25-mile environmentally sensitive buffer area shall be reduced to 660 feet.

### 6.2 During Activities Bald Eagle Monitoring

During Project construction or maintenance activities, the following monitoring protocol shall be followed. If construction or maintenance within 0.25 miles of an active bald eagle nest during the bald eagle breeding season (January 1 to September 30) is necessary, a bird monitor whose qualifications have been approved by Staff and NYSDEC shall monitor any active bald eagle nests within 0.25 miles of the proposed work during all times when construction activities are in progress. If the bald eagle(s) show signs of distress due to noise associated with the work, then all work, except work necessary to protect human life or property necessary to maintain electric reliability, must immediately cease, and the area shall be avoided until Staff, after consultation with NYSDEC, authorizes construction activities in such area.

## **Attachment I-1 – USFWS Consultation**



## United States Department of the Interior



FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE  
Long Island Ecological Services Field Office  
340 Smith Road  
Shirley, NY 11967-2258  
Phone: (631) 286-0485 Fax: (631) 286-4003

In Reply Refer To:

03/20/2026 13:02:20 UTC

Project Code: 2026-0065450

Project Name: Commercial Avenue Equipment Project

Subject: List of threatened and endangered species that may occur in your proposed project location or may be affected by your proposed project

To Whom It May Concern:

The enclosed species list identifies threatened, endangered, proposed and candidate species, as well as proposed and final designated critical habitat, that may occur within the boundary of your proposed project and/or may be affected by your proposed project. The species list fulfills the requirements of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) under section 7(c) of the Endangered Species Act (Act) of 1973, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*).

New information based on updated surveys, changes in the abundance and distribution of species, changed habitat conditions, or other factors could change this list. Please feel free to contact us if you need more current information or assistance regarding the potential impacts to federally proposed, listed, and candidate species and federally designated and proposed critical habitat. Please note that under 50 CFR 402.12(e) of the regulations implementing section 7 of the Act, the accuracy of this species list should be verified after 90 days. This verification can be completed formally or informally as desired. The Service recommends that verification be completed by visiting the IPaC website at regular intervals during project planning and implementation for updates to species lists and information. An updated list may be requested through the IPaC system by completing the same process used to receive the enclosed list.

The purpose of the Act is to provide a means whereby threatened and endangered species and the ecosystems upon which they depend may be conserved. Under sections 7(a)(1) and 7(a)(2) of the Act and its implementing regulations (50 CFR 402 *et seq.*), Federal agencies are required to utilize their authorities to carry out programs for the conservation of threatened and endangered species and to determine whether projects may affect threatened and endangered species and/or designated critical habitat.

A Biological Assessment is required for construction projects (or other undertakings having similar physical impacts) that are major Federal actions significantly affecting the quality of the human environment as defined in the National Environmental Policy Act (42 U.S.C. 4332(2)(c)). For projects other than major construction activities, the Service suggests that a biological

evaluation similar to a Biological Assessment be prepared to determine whether the project may affect listed or proposed species and/or designated or proposed critical habitat. Recommended contents of a Biological Assessment are described at 50 CFR 402.12.

If a Federal agency determines, based on the Biological Assessment or biological evaluation, that listed species and/or designated critical habitat may be affected by the proposed project, the agency is required to consult with the Service pursuant to 50 CFR 402. In addition, the Service recommends that candidate species, proposed species and proposed critical habitat be addressed within the consultation. More information on the regulations and procedures for section 7 consultation, including the role of permit or license applicants, can be found in the "Endangered Species Consultation Handbook" at:

<https://www.fws.gov/sites/default/files/documents/endangered-species-consultation-handbook.pdf>

**Migratory Birds:** In addition to responsibilities to protect threatened and endangered species under the Endangered Species Act (ESA), there are additional responsibilities under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA) and the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act (BGEPA) to protect native birds from project-related impacts. Any activity resulting in take of migratory birds, including eagles, is prohibited unless otherwise permitted by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (50 C.F.R. Sec. 10.12 and 16 U.S.C. Sec. 668(a)). For more information regarding these Acts, see <https://www.fws.gov/program/migratory-bird-permit/what-we-do>.

It is the responsibility of the project proponent to comply with these Acts by identifying potential impacts to migratory birds and eagles within applicable NEPA documents (when there is a federal nexus) or a Bird/Eagle Conservation Plan (when there is no federal nexus). Proponents should implement conservation measures to avoid or minimize the production of project-related stressors or minimize the exposure of birds and their resources to the project-related stressors. For more information on avian stressors and recommended conservation measures, see <https://www.fws.gov/library/collections/threats-birds>.

In addition to MBTA and BGEPA, Executive Order 13186: *Responsibilities of Federal Agencies to Protect Migratory Birds*, obligates all Federal agencies that engage in or authorize activities that might affect migratory birds, to minimize those effects and encourage conservation measures that will improve bird populations. Executive Order 13186 provides for the protection of both migratory birds and migratory bird habitat. For information regarding the implementation of Executive Order 13186, please visit <https://www.fws.gov/partner/council-conservation-migratory-birds>.

We appreciate your concern for threatened and endangered species. The Service encourages Federal agencies to include conservation of threatened and endangered species into their project planning to further the purposes of the Act. Please include the Consultation Code in the header of this letter with any request for consultation or correspondence about your project that you submit to our office.

Attachment(s):

- Official Species List

## **OFFICIAL SPECIES LIST**

This list is provided pursuant to Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act, and fulfills the requirement for Federal agencies to "request of the Secretary of the Interior information whether any species which is listed or proposed to be listed may be present in the area of a proposed action".

This species list is provided by:

**Long Island Ecological Services Field Office**

340 Smith Road

Shirley, NY 11967-2258

(631) 286-0485

## PROJECT SUMMARY

Project Code: 2026-0065450  
Project Name: Commercial Avenue Equipment Project  
Project Type: Transmission Line - Maintenance/Modification - Above Ground  
Project Description: New equipment to be installed at the Commercial Avenue Terminal, two sets of three, single phase air-core reactors, that will serve to regulate existing underground electric transmission lines.

### Project Location:

The approximate location of the project can be viewed in Google Maps: <https://www.google.com/maps/@40.730621850000006,-73.60542636347901,14z>



Counties: Nassau County, New York

## ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT SPECIES

There is a total of 6 threatened, endangered, or candidate species on this species list.

Species on this list should be considered in an effects analysis for your project and could include species that exist in another geographic area. For example, certain fish may appear on the species list because a project could affect downstream species.

IPaC does not display listed species or critical habitats under the sole jurisdiction of NOAA Fisheries<sup>1</sup>, as USFWS does not have the authority to speak on behalf of NOAA and the Department of Commerce.

See the "Critical habitats" section below for those critical habitats that lie wholly or partially within your project area under this office's jurisdiction. Please contact the designated FWS office if you have questions.

- 
1. [NOAA Fisheries](#), also known as the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), is an office of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration within the Department of Commerce.

**MAMMALS**

NAME	STATUS
Northern Long-eared Bat <i>Myotis septentrionalis</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: <a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9045">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9045</a>	Endangered
Tricolored Bat <i>Perimyotis subflavus</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: <a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/10515">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/10515</a>	Proposed Endangered

**BIRDS**

NAME	STATUS
Piping Plover <i>Charadrius melodus</i> Population: [Atlantic Coast and Northern Great Plains populations] - Wherever found, except those areas where listed as endangered. There is <b>final</b> critical habitat for this species. Your location does not overlap the critical habitat. Species profile: <a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/6039">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/6039</a>	Threatened
Rufa Red Knot <i>Calidris canutus rufa</i> There is <b>proposed</b> critical habitat for this species. Your location does not overlap the critical habitat. Species profile: <a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/1864">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/1864</a>	Threatened

**INSECTS**

NAME	STATUS
Monarch Butterfly <i>Danaus plexippus</i> There is <b>proposed</b> critical habitat for this species. Your location does not overlap the critical habitat. Species profile: <a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9743">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9743</a>	Proposed Threatened

**FLOWERING PLANTS**

NAME	STATUS
Sandplain Gerardia <i>Agalinis acuta</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: <a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/8128">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/8128</a>	Endangered

**CRITICAL HABITATS**

THERE ARE NO CRITICAL HABITATS WITHIN YOUR PROJECT AREA UNDER THIS OFFICE'S JURISDICTION.

YOU ARE STILL REQUIRED TO DETERMINE IF YOUR PROJECT(S) MAY HAVE EFFECTS ON ALL ABOVE LISTED SPECIES.

## **IPAC USER CONTACT INFORMATION**

Agency: Private Entity  
Name: Simone Henry  
Address: 7 Wells Ave  
City: Newton Centre  
State: MA  
Zip: 02459  
Email: shenry2@burnsmcd.com  
Phone: 6177174631

**Attachment I-2 – NYNHP Consultation**

## 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

May 19, 2025

Simone Henry  
Burns & McDonnell EGS  
7 Wells Ave  
Newton Centre, MA 02459

Re: Commercial Avenue Terminal Amendment  
County: Nassau Town/City: Hempstead

Dear Simone:

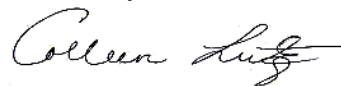
In response to your recent request, we have reviewed the New York Natural Heritage Program database with respect to the above project.

We have no records of rare or state-listed animals or plants, or significant natural communities at the project site or in its immediate vicinity.

The absence of data does not necessarily mean that rare or state-listed species, significant natural communities, or other significant habitats do not exist on or adjacent to the proposed site. Rather, our files currently do not contain information that indicates their presence. For most sites, comprehensive field surveys have not been conducted. We cannot provide a definitive statement on 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 resources may be required to fully assess impacts on biological resources.

This response applies only to known occurrences of rare or state-listed animals and plants, significant natural communities, and other significant habitats maintained in the Natural Heritage database. Your project may require additional review or permits; 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](mailto:dep.r1@dec.ny.gov).

Sincerely,



Colleen Lutz  
Assistant Biologist  
New York Natural Heritage Program

# **Attachment I-3 – Threatened and Endangered Species Habitat Assessment**



# EcolSciences, Inc.

Environmental Management & Regulatory Compliance

December 30, 2025

Kristin Baltadonis PMP, CFM  
Sr. Project Manager, Licensing and Permitting  
PS&S  
3 Mountainview Road  
Warren, NJ 07059

**Via Email:** Kristin Baltadonis <[kbaltadonis@psands.com](mailto:kbaltadonis@psands.com)>

Re: Threatened and Endangered Species Habitat Assessment  
Commercial Avenue Equipment Project  
Township of Hempstead  
Nassau County, New York

Dear Kristin:

As requested, EcolSciences, Inc. conducted a Threatened and Endangered Species Habitat Assessment for the Commercial Avenue Equipment Project site. This assessment is intended to replace the previous habitat assessment dated October 29, 2025, to address revisions to the project limits of disturbance (LOD). The previously designated LOD has been incorporated into what is now referred to as Freeze Pit West; together, Freeze Pit East and Freeze Pit West comprise the current LOD for the Commercial Avenue Equipment Project (Project). The assessment was conducted by EcolSciences' biologists (resumes attached). The purpose of the field investigation was to evaluate whether the Project site provides potential habitat for threatened or endangered species of flora or fauna in support of permitting efforts associated with Public Service Enterprise Group Long Island's (PSEG Long Island) Commercial Avenue Installation of Reactors on Circuits 138-462 and 138-463.

## **Introduction**

PSEG Long Island proposes the installation and integration of two new above-ground series reactors on Circuits 138-462 and 138-463 in the Town of Hempstead, Nassau County, New York. The project consists of two locations: Freeze Pit East and Freeze Pit West. Freeze Pit East extends along the Long Island Railroad (LIRR) tracks between Wheeler Avenue (approximately 237 feet east of its intersection with Selfridge Avenue) and the terminus of Wheeler Avenue at its intersection with Railroad Avenue. Freeze Pit West is located between the intersection of Commercial Avenue and Quentin Roosevelt Boulevard and 560 Commercial Avenue, near Cluster Park.

The limits of disturbance (LOD) at Freeze Pit West encompass Commercial Avenue between these two points, as well as a gravel lot located at the northeast corner of Commercial Avenue and Quentin Roosevelt Boulevard. The existing underground transmission lines, Circuits 138-462 and 138-463, which run along Commercial Avenue, will be tapped in and out of the new reactors, resulting in the decommissioning of approximately 300 feet of the existing lines. New underground cable segments will be installed via open-cut trenching extending toward Commercial Avenue and Quentin Roosevelt Boulevard, respectively.

The purpose of this environmental study was to determine if the current Commercial Avenue Equipment Project LOD provides habitat for State or Federally protected threatened or endangered species. Background investigation included review of federal and state databases. The site assessment consisted of a field review of site conditions on September 30 and November 24, 2025, focusing on identifying endangered, threatened, and rare species habitat.

### **Methodology**

The threatened and endangered species assessments were performed by Certified Wildlife Biologists (CWB) at EcolSciences, Inc. of Rockaway, New Jersey (EcolSciences). The biologist has extensive experience conducting field assessments for multiple threatened and endangered species of plants and wildlife. The biologist is also a United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) Recognized Qualified Indiana and Northern Long-Eared Bat Surveyor and is qualified to evaluate habitat for rare bat species indigenous to Long Island.

Prior to conducting the field assessment, federal and state agencies were consulted to determine what, if any, state or federally protected species or their habitat exist within/adjacent to the Project Area. The desktop analysis was the first step in determining potential species that may utilize the property. Reference data was obtained from the USFWS Environmental Conservation Online System (ECOS) Information for Planning and Conservation (IPaC) webpage (attached). This tool was utilized to determine which federally protected species and critical habitats, if any, were potentially present within the Project Areas. Based on the IPaC search, the site is located in an area (which may include site, town, and/or county) that may support the federally endangered northern long-eared bat (*Myotis septentrionalis*) and proposed for federal listing as endangered tricolored bat (*Perimyotis subflavus*). Additional species identified include the threatened Piping Plover (*Charadrius melodus*), Rufa Red Knot (*Calidris canutus rufa*), and proposed for listing as endangered monarch butterfly (*Danaus Plexippus*). One federally endangered plant was also identified, the sandplain gerardia (*Agalinis acuta*).

A request for information from the New York Natural Heritage Program (NYNHP) was generated through the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation's (NYSDEC) Environmental Resource Mapper (ERM). This tool was utilized to determine which state protected species and significant natural communities, if any, were potentially present within the Project Area. The letter generated by the ERM, together with the Environmental Assessment Form (EAF) mapper summary report generated by the EAF mapper, is equivalent to, and carries the same validity as a letter from the NYNHP (NYSDEC, 2024). The EAF mapper identifies no threatened or endangered species on or adjacent to the Project (attached).

A habitat assessment for northern long-eared bat and tricolored bat was conducted in accordance with the USFWS *Range-Wide Indiana Bat & Northern Long-eared Bat Survey Guidelines* (last updated March 2024).

The habitat assessment for sandplain gerardia was conducted in late September for Freeze Pit West and November for Freeze Pit East (when the Project was modified to include this area). Sandplain gerardia flowers in New York from early August to late September and its fruits persist until the first frost.

No established habitat assessment survey protocol was utilized for Piping Plover, Rufa Red Knot, or monarch, with the habitat evaluated on these species specific requirements for food, water, and cover discussed in the following section.

## **Results**

The Project encompasses Freeze Pit East and Freeze Pit West. Each Project Area is discussed as follows since site conditions within these areas differ.

### **Freeze Pit East**

The Freeze Pit East Project Area consists of an active LIRR corridor and adjacent disturbed areas. Vegetation within the Project Area is sparse and largely confined to the fence line along the LIRR. Species observed consist primarily of invasive species, including Norway maple (*Acer platanoides*), bush honeysuckle (*Lonicera tatarica*), Asiatic bittersweet (*Celastrus orbiculatus*), wisteria (*Leguminosae* sp.), and mugwort (*Artemisia vulgaris*). Additional species observed include red maple (*Acer rubrum*), northern red oak (*Quercus rubra*), black locust (*Robinia pseudoacacia*), and honey locust (*Gleditsia triacanthos*). The surrounding land use is predominantly residential and consists of single-family homes, townhomes, and associated maintained landscapes.

Two (2) trees within the Project Area, a white pine (*Pinus strobus*) and a Norway maple, were identified as containing features that may be considered potentially suitable bat roost habitat due to the presence of dead limbs with exfoliating bark. However, no vegetation clearing is proposed as part of the project, and all proposed disturbances are confined to existing gravel areas immediately adjacent to the LIRR. In addition, as shown on the attached figure, the existing fencerow within the Project Area is not located within 1,000 feet of a contiguous wooded area, riparian corridor, additional fencerow, or other feature that would function as a wildlife travel corridor or suitable bat habitat. In general, highly urbanized areas such as the Project Area do not meet the habitat requirements of tricolored bat or northern long-eared bat, both of which are typically associated with largely undeveloped, forested landscapes or forest edges. A completed Phase I Habitat Assessment datasheet prepared in accordance with the *Range-Wide Indiana Bat and Northern Long-eared Bat Survey Guidelines*, along with site photographs, is included in the attached report.

Red knot and Piping Plover are coastal species associated with beaches, dunes, and intertidal marshes; no suitable habitat for these species occurs on-site or within 500 feet of the Project Area. Sandplain gerardia is dependent on pine barrens grassland habitat, which does not occur within the Project Area. A visual inspection conducted during the species' flowering and fruiting period did not identify any individuals. Monarch butterflies may opportunistically nectar on some of the flowering invasive species present; however, the limited extent of vegetation is unlikely to support a breeding population or provide meaningful stopover habitat for migrating adults. Milkweed species, which serve as the larval host plants for monarch butterflies, were not observed during the habitat assessment. No additional trees, shrubs, or herbaceous species were identified within the Project Area that would provide suitable habitat for this species (see attached photographs).

Based on the highly disturbed conditions, absence of suitable vegetation communities, and surrounding urbanized land use, the Freeze Pit East Project Area does not provide habitat for any federally listed threatened or endangered species. As noted previously, New York State did not identify potential habitat for threatened or endangered plant or animal species within the Project Area.

#### Freeze Pit West

The Freeze Pit West Project Area consists primarily of developed land characterized by unvegetated impervious surfaces. The field investigation confirmed that the majority of the Project Area and surrounding land uses are highly developed. Vegetation is limited to common ruderal species occurring along fence lines and within cracks in paved surfaces. Species observed include mugwort, Queen Anne's lace (*Daucus carota*), Asiatic bittersweet, white mulberry (*Morus alba*), chicory (*Cichorium intybus*), and evening primrose (*Oenothera biennis*).

Approximately ten (10) street trees are located within or immediately adjacent to the proposed area of disturbance. However, no vegetation clearing is proposed as part of the project, and all proposed disturbances are confined to the existing paved surface of Commercial Avenue and corner lot located at the northeast corner of Commercial Avenue and Quentin Roosevelt Boulevard. These street trees include Norway maple, Callery pear (*Pyrus calleryana*), and arborvitae (*Thuja* sp.). Most individuals are relatively small, averaging approximately 20 feet in height and 8 inches in diameter at breast height (DBH). None of the trees exhibit characteristics indicative of suitable roost habitat for tricolored bat or northern long-eared bat, which typically utilize exfoliating bark, cavities, fissures, or, in the case of tricolored bat, clusters of persistent dead leaves. Furthermore, as documented on the completed Phase I Bat Habitat Assessment datasheet, none of the trees are located within 1,000 feet of a contiguous wooded area, riparian corridor, or fencerow that could function as a bat travel corridor. As with Freeze Pit East, isolated street trees within a highly urbanized setting do not meet the habitat requirements of tricolored bat or northern long-eared bat. A completed Phase I Habitat Assessment datasheet prepared in accordance with the *Range-Wide Indiana Bat and Northern Long-eared Bat Survey Guidelines*, along with site photographs, is included in the attached report.

Red knot and Piping Plover are coastal species associated with beaches, dunes, and intertidal marshes; no suitable habitat for these species occurs on-site or within 500 feet of the Project Area. Sandplain gerardia is restricted to pine barrens grassland habitat, which is absent from the site. A visual inspection conducted during the appropriate flowering and fruiting period did not identify any individuals. Monarch butterflies may nectar opportunistically on some flowering ruderal species; however, the limited vegetated area is unlikely to support breeding or migrating individuals. Milkweed species, which are required for monarch larval development, were not observed during the habitat assessment. No additional trees, shrubs, or herbaceous species were identified within the fenced Project Area that would provide suitable habitat for this species (see attached photographs).

Based on the lack of suitable vegetation, limited tree resources, and the highly urbanized nature of the surrounding area, the Freeze Pit West Project Area does not provide habitat for any federally listed threatened or endangered species. As noted previously, New York State did not identify potential habitat for threatened or endangered plant or animal species within the Project Area.

## **Conclusions**

Field investigations conducted at the Commercial Avenue Equipment Project, which includes the Freeze Pit East and Freeze Pit West Project Areas, determined that both sites are highly developed and lack vegetation communities or landscape features capable of supporting federal or state-listed threatened or endangered species. Vegetation at both locations is sparse and limited to ruderal or invasive species occurring along fence lines or within disturbed areas, and surrounding land uses are characterized by dense residential, commercial, and transportation infrastructure. Although a limited number of trees occur within each Project Area, neither site is located within 1,000 feet of a contiguous wooded area, riparian corridor, or functional travel corridor that could provide habitat for northern long-eared bat or tricolored bat. Coastal habitats (including tidal marshes and sand dunes), and pine barrens communities, required by Red Knot, Piping Plover, and sandplain gerardia respectively, are absent from both Project Areas. Although there are small areas of flowering plants and shrubs, these small plots are located in an otherwise highly developed landscape that provide minimal nectaring sources for mature butterflies. The absence of milkweed precludes the potential habitat for monarch caterpillars within the Project Area.

Based on existing site conditions, habitat assessments, and agency screening results, neither Freeze Pit East nor Freeze Pit West provides suitable habitat for federally or state-listed threatened or endangered species. Therefore, no additional species-specific surveys are recommended, and the Project may proceed without the implementation of conservation measures or species-related restrictions for the aforementioned taxa.

Kristin Baltadonis PMP, CFM

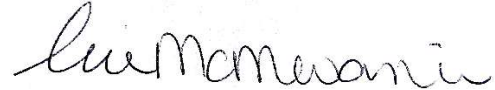
December 30, 2025

Page 6

We trust this information adequately documents the absence of threatened and endangered species habitat within the Commercial Avenue Equipment Project area. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions or require additional information.

Very truly yours,

EcolSciences, Inc.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Evie McMenamin".

Evie McMenamin, PWS

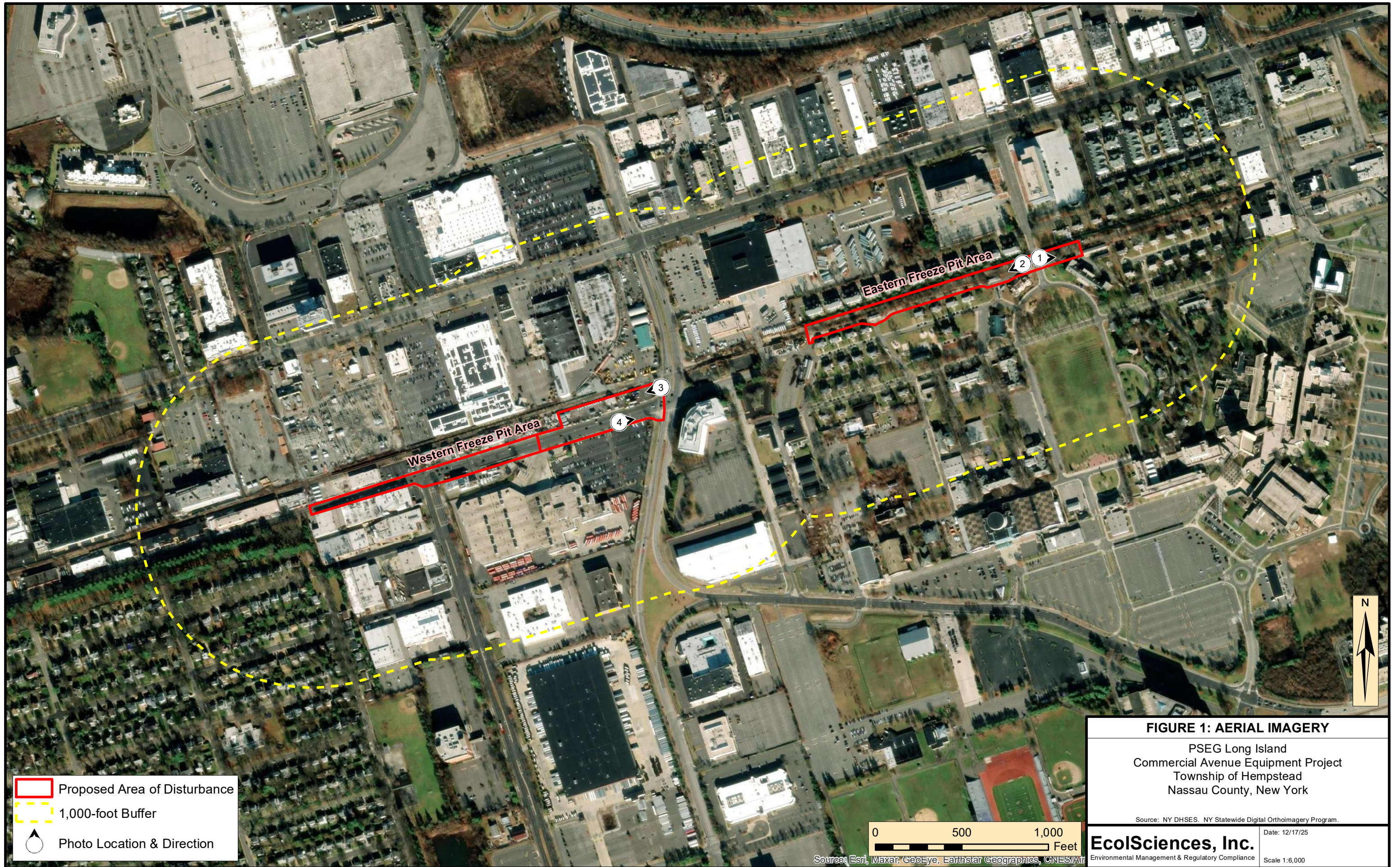
Certified Wildlife Biologist

Senior Environmental Project Manager

EM/bms

enclosures

cc: Laura Newgard, CWB, PWS  
David Moskowitz, PhD.



Proposed Area of Disturbance  
 1,000-foot Buffer  
 Photo Location & Direction

**FIGURE 1: AERIAL IMAGERY**

PSEG Long Island  
 Commercial Avenue Equipment Project  
 Township of Hempstead  
 Nassau County, New York

Source: NY DHSES, NY Statewide Digital Orthoimagery Program.

**EcolSciences, Inc.**  
 Environmental Management & Regulatory Compliance

Date: 12/17/25  
Scale 1:6,000

0                      500                      1,000  
 Feet

1



November 24, 2025- Photograph of the Commercial Avenue Equipment- Eastern Freeze Pit Area facing northeast from Selfridge Ave. showing the proposed area of disturbance.

2



November 24, 2025- Photograph of the Commercial Avenue Equipment- Eastern Freeze Pit Area facing southwest from Selfridge Ave. showing the proposed area of disturbance.



**EcolSciences, Inc.**

Environmental Management and Regulatory Compliance

3



September 30, 2025- Photograph of the Commercial Avenue Equipment- Western Freeze Pit Area, corner lot facing southwest from Quentin Roosevelt Boulevard.

4



November 24, 2025- Photograph facing northeast along Commercial Avenue- Western Freeze Pit Area near the intersection with Quentin Roosevelt Boulevard, showing planted arborvitae and Callery pear trees along a parking lot.



**EcolSciences, Inc.**

Environmental Management and Regulatory Compliance



## United States Department of the Interior



FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE  
Long Island Ecological Services Field Office  
340 Smith Road  
Shirley, NY 11967-2258  
Phone: (631) 286-0485 Fax: (631) 286-4003

In Reply Refer To:

12/16/2025 21:01:02 UTC

Project Code: 2026-0027860

Project Name: PSEG Long Island - Commercial Avenue Equipment Project

Subject: List of threatened and endangered species that may occur in your proposed project location or may be affected by your proposed project

To Whom It May Concern:

The enclosed species list identifies threatened, endangered, proposed and candidate species, as well as proposed and final designated critical habitat, that may occur within the boundary of your proposed project and/or may be affected by your proposed project. The species list fulfills the requirements of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) under section 7(c) of the Endangered Species Act (Act) of 1973, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*).

New information based on updated surveys, changes in the abundance and distribution of species, changed habitat conditions, or other factors could change this list. Please feel free to contact us if you need more current information or assistance regarding the potential impacts to federally proposed, listed, and candidate species and federally designated and proposed critical habitat. Please note that under 50 CFR 402.12(e) of the regulations implementing section 7 of the Act, the accuracy of this species list should be verified after 90 days. This verification can be completed formally or informally as desired. The Service recommends that verification be completed by visiting the IPaC website at regular intervals during project planning and implementation for updates to species lists and information. An updated list may be requested through the IPaC system by completing the same process used to receive the enclosed list.

The purpose of the Act is to provide a means whereby threatened and endangered species and the ecosystems upon which they depend may be conserved. Under sections 7(a)(1) and 7(a)(2) of the Act and its implementing regulations (50 CFR 402 *et seq.*), Federal agencies are required to utilize their authorities to carry out programs for the conservation of threatened and endangered species and to determine whether projects may affect threatened and endangered species and/or designated critical habitat.

A Biological Assessment is required for construction projects (or other undertakings having similar physical impacts) that are major Federal actions significantly affecting the quality of the human environment as defined in the National Environmental Policy Act (42 U.S.C. 4332(2) (c)). For projects other than major construction activities, the Service suggests that a biological

evaluation similar to a Biological Assessment be prepared to determine whether the project may affect listed or proposed species and/or designated or proposed critical habitat. Recommended contents of a Biological Assessment are described at 50 CFR 402.12.

If a Federal agency determines, based on the Biological Assessment or biological evaluation, that listed species and/or designated critical habitat may be affected by the proposed project, the agency is required to consult with the Service pursuant to 50 CFR 402. In addition, the Service recommends that candidate species, proposed species and proposed critical habitat be addressed within the consultation. More information on the regulations and procedures for section 7 consultation, including the role of permit or license applicants, can be found in the "Endangered Species Consultation Handbook" at:

<https://www.fws.gov/sites/default/files/documents/endangered-species-consultation-handbook.pdf>

**Migratory Birds:** In addition to responsibilities to protect threatened and endangered species under the Endangered Species Act (ESA), there are additional responsibilities under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA) and the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act (BGEPA) to protect native birds from project-related impacts. Any activity resulting in take of migratory birds, including eagles, is prohibited unless otherwise permitted by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (50 C.F.R. Sec. 10.12 and 16 U.S.C. Sec. 668(a)). For more information regarding these Acts, see <https://www.fws.gov/program/migratory-bird-permit/what-we-do>.

It is the responsibility of the project proponent to comply with these Acts by identifying potential impacts to migratory birds and eagles within applicable NEPA documents (when there is a federal nexus) or a Bird/Eagle Conservation Plan (when there is no federal nexus). Proponents should implement conservation measures to avoid or minimize the production of project-related stressors or minimize the exposure of birds and their resources to the project-related stressors. For more information on avian stressors and recommended conservation measures, see <https://www.fws.gov/library/collections/threats-birds>.

In addition to MBTA and BGEPA, Executive Order 13186: *Responsibilities of Federal Agencies to Protect Migratory Birds*, obligates all Federal agencies that engage in or authorize activities that might affect migratory birds, to minimize those effects and encourage conservation measures that will improve bird populations. Executive Order 13186 provides for the protection of both migratory birds and migratory bird habitat. For information regarding the implementation of Executive Order 13186, please visit <https://www.fws.gov/partner/council-conservation-migratory-birds>.

We appreciate your concern for threatened and endangered species. The Service encourages Federal agencies to include conservation of threatened and endangered species into their project planning to further the purposes of the Act. Please include the Consultation Code in the header of this letter with any request for consultation or correspondence about your project that you submit to our office.

Attachment(s):

- Official Species List

## **OFFICIAL SPECIES LIST**

This list is provided pursuant to Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act, and fulfills the requirement for Federal agencies to "request of the Secretary of the Interior information whether any species which is listed or proposed to be listed may be present in the area of a proposed action".

This species list is provided by:

**Long Island Ecological Services Field Office**

340 Smith Road

Shirley, NY 11967-2258

(631) 286-0485

## PROJECT SUMMARY

**Project Code:** 2026-0027860  
**Project Name:** PSEG Long Island - Commercial Avenue Equipment Project  
**Project Type:** Distribution Line - Maintenance/Modification - Above Ground  
**Project Description:** PSEG Long Island proposes the installation and integration of two new above-ground series reactors on circuits 138-462 and 138-463 in the Town of Hempstead, Nassau County, New York. Existing underground transmission lines 138-462 and 138-463, which run along Commercial Avenue, will tap in and out of the new reactors, decommissioning approximately 300 feet of the existing lines. The new underground cable segments will be established via open-cut trenching towards Commercial Avenue and Quentin Roosevelt Boulevard, respectively.

**Project Location:**

The approximate location of the project can be viewed in Google Maps: <https://www.google.com/maps/@40.72995365,-73.60747457330822,14z>



**Counties:** Nassau County, New York

## ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT SPECIES

There is a total of 6 threatened, endangered, or candidate species on this species list.

Species on this list should be considered in an effects analysis for your project and could include species that exist in another geographic area. For example, certain fish may appear on the species list because a project could affect downstream species.

IPaC does not display listed species or critical habitats under the sole jurisdiction of NOAA Fisheries<sup>1</sup>, as USFWS does not have the authority to speak on behalf of NOAA and the Department of Commerce.

See the "Critical habitats" section below for those critical habitats that lie wholly or partially within your project area under this office's jurisdiction. Please contact the designated FWS office if you have questions.

- 
1. [NOAA Fisheries](#), also known as the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), is an office of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration within the Department of Commerce.

## MAMMALS

NAME	STATUS
Northern Long-eared Bat <i>Myotis septentrionalis</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: <a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9045">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9045</a>	Endangered
Tricolored Bat <i>Perimyotis subflavus</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: <a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/10515">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/10515</a>	Proposed Endangered

## BIRDS

NAME	STATUS
Piping Plover <i>Charadrius melodus</i> Population: [Atlantic Coast and Northern Great Plains populations] - Wherever found, except those areas where listed as endangered. There is <b>final</b> critical habitat for this species. Your location does not overlap the critical habitat. Species profile: <a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/6039">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/6039</a>	Threatened
Rufa Red Knot <i>Calidris canutus rufa</i> There is <b>proposed</b> critical habitat for this species. Your location does not overlap the critical habitat. Species profile: <a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/1864">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/1864</a>	Threatened

## INSECTS

NAME	STATUS
Monarch Butterfly <i>Danaus plexippus</i> There is <b>proposed</b> critical habitat for this species. Your location does not overlap the critical habitat. Species profile: <a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9743">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9743</a>	Proposed Threatened

## FLOWERING PLANTS

NAME	STATUS
Sandplain Gerardia <i>Agalinis acuta</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: <a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/8128">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/8128</a>	Endangered

## CRITICAL HABITATS

THERE ARE NO CRITICAL HABITATS WITHIN YOUR PROJECT AREA UNDER THIS OFFICE'S JURISDICTION.

YOU ARE STILL REQUIRED TO DETERMINE IF YOUR PROJECT(S) MAY HAVE EFFECTS ON ALL ABOVE LISTED SPECIES.

## **IPAC USER CONTACT INFORMATION**

Agency: EcolSciences, Inc.  
Name: Evie McMenamin  
Address: 75 Fleetwood Drive  
Address Line 2: Suite 250  
City: Rockaway  
State: NJ  
Zip: 07866  
Email: emcmenamin@ecolsciences.com  
Phone: 9733669593

# NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION

## Division of Fish and Wildlife, New York Heritage Program

625 Broadway, Fifth Floor, Albany, NY 12233-4757

Phone: (518) 402-8935 | Fax: (518) 402-8925

[www.dec.ny.gov](http://www.dec.ny.gov)

**12/04/2025**

The attached report from the Environmental Resource Mapper includes information from the New York Natural Heritage Program database with respect to the location indicated on the map below. This letter, together with the attached report from the Environmental Resource Mapper, is equivalent to, and carries the same validity, as a letter from the New York Natural Heritage Program, including for projects where a Natural Heritage letter is required.

If your location of interest does not fall within an area covered by the Rare Plants and Rare Animals layer or in the Significant Natural Communities layer, then New York Natural Heritage has no records to report in the vicinity of your project site. Submitting a project screening request to NY Natural Heritage is not necessary.

If the attached report lists that your location of interest is in the vicinity of state-listed animals, including state-listed bats, please consult the [EAF Mapper](#) to obtain a list of the species involved. (You do not have to be filling out an Environmental Assessment Form in order to use the EAF Mapper). Then consult the appropriate [NYSDEC Regional Office](#) for information on any project requirements or permit conditions.

If the attached report lists unlisted animals, rare plants, or significant natural communities, and if you would like more information on these, please submit a project screening request to [New York Natural Heritage](#). For more information, please see the DEC webpage [Request Natural Heritage Information for Project Screening](#).

The absence of data does not necessarily mean that rare or state-listed species, significant natural communities, or other significant habitats do not exist on or adjacent to the proposed site. Rather, NYNHP files currently do not contain information that indicates their presence. For most sites, comprehensive field surveys have not been conducted. NYNHP cannot provide a definitive statement on 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 resources may be required to fully assess impacts on biological resources from a proposed project.

This response applies only to known occurrences of rare or state-listed animals and plants, significant natural communities, and other significant habitats maintained in the NYNHP database.

## **New York Natural Heritage Program**

<https://www.nynhp.org/>.

# Environmental Resource Mapper



The coordinates of the point you clicked on are:

UTM 18

Easting: 617920.4589587279

Northing: 4509853.61498799

Longitude/Latitude

Longitude: -73.60356021097449

Latitude: 40.73118522730999

The approximate address of the point you clicked on is:  
749-757 Commercial Ave, Garden City, New York, 11530

County: Nassau  
Town: Hempstead

## USGS Quad: FREEPORT

If your project or action is within or near an area with a rare animal, a permit may be required if the species is listed as endangered or threatened and the department determines the action may be harmful to the species or its habitat.

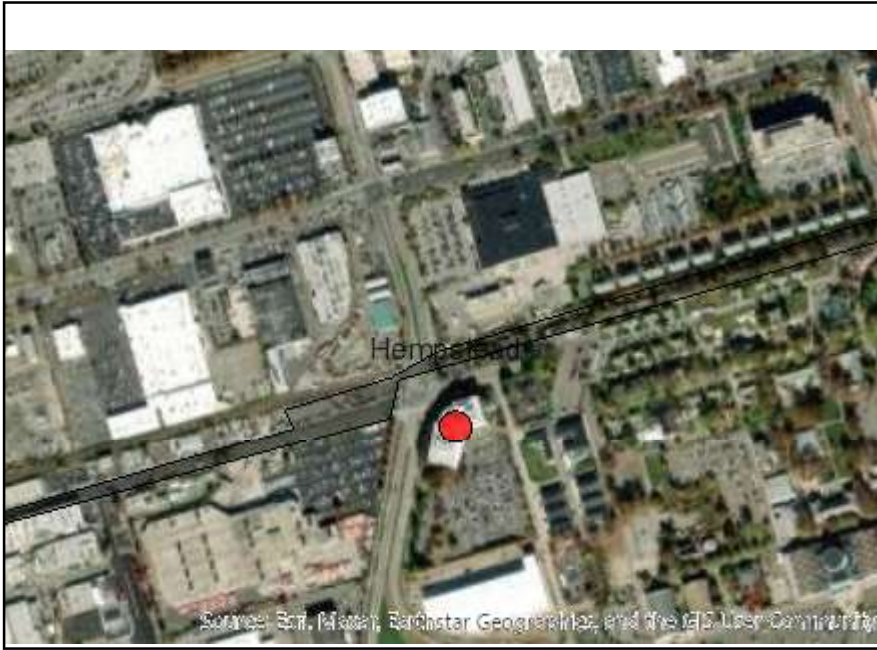
If your project or action is within or near an area with rare plants and/or significant natural communities, the environmental impacts may need to be addressed.

The presence of a unique geological feature or landform near a project, unto itself, does not trigger a requirement for a NYS DEC permit. Readers are advised, however, that there is the chance that a unique feature may also show in another data layer (ie. a wetland) and thus be subject to permit jurisdiction.

Please refer to the "Need a Permit?" tab for permit information or other authorizations regarding these natural resources.

**Disclaimer:** If you are considering a project or action in, or near, a wetland or a stream, a NYS DEC permit may be required. The Environmental Resources Mapper does not show all natural resources which are regulated by NYS DEC, and for which permits from NYS DEC are required. For example, Regulated Tidal Wetlands, and Wild, Scenic, and Recreational Rivers, are currently not included on the maps.

Print Preview



**Disclaimer:** The EAF Mapper is a screening tool intended to assist project sponsors and reviewing agencies in preparing an environmental assessment form (EAF). Not all questions asked in the EAF are answered by the EAF Mapper. Additional information on any EAF question can be obtained by consulting the EAF Workbooks. Although the EAF Mapper provides the most up-to-date digital data available to DEC, you may also need to contact local or other data sources to confirm data provided by the Mapper or to obtain data not provided by the Mapper.



Part 1 / Question 7 [Critical Environmental Area]	No
Part 1 / Question 12a [National or State Register of Historic Places or State Eligible Sites]	Yes
Part 1 / Question 12b [Archeological Sites]	No
Part 1 / Question 13a [Wetlands or Other Regulated Waterbodies]	Digital mapping data are not available or are incomplete. Refer to EAF Workbook.
Part 1 / Question 15 [Threatened or Endangered Animal]	No
Part 1 / Question 16 [100 Year Flood Plain]	No
Part 1 / Question 20 [Remediation Site]	Yes

APPENDIX A: PHASE 1 HABITAT ASSESSMENTS

BAT HABITAT ASSESSMENT DATASHEET

Project Name: Commercial Ave. - eastern Freeze Ditch Date: 11/24/25  
 Township/Range/Section: Hempstead  
 Lat Long/UTM Zone: 40.732254, -73.599390 Surveyor: Eve Lichtenamin

**Brief Project Description**  
 PSEG Long Island Proposes the installation and integration of two new above ground series reactors.

Project Area				
	Total Acres	Forest Acres		Open Acres
Project	3.42	N/A		N/A
Proposed Tree Removal (ac)	Completely cleared	Partially cleared (will leave trees)	Preserve acres- no clearing	
	N/A	N/A	N/A	

Vegetation Cover Types	
Pre-Project	Post-Project
Norway maple, red maple, red oak, black locust, yep, honeysuckle, oriental bittersweet, mugwort, wisteria, mugwort.	No veg clearing is proposed.

**Landscape within 5 mile radius**  
**Flight corridors to other forested areas?**  
 No flight corridors exist within the 5-mile radius.  
**Describe Adjacent Properties (e.g. forested, grassland, commercial or residential development, water sources)**  
 Adjacent Properties consist of commercial and dense residential development, a golf course and small parks (baseball fields).

**Proximity to Public Land**  
 What is the distance (mi.) from the project area to forested public lands (e.g., national or state forests, national or state parks, conservation areas, wildlife management areas)?  
 Nassau County Park Golf Course is located 0.7 miles east of the site. Other small isolated wooded lots all under 1 acre within 5-mile area.

APPENDIX A: PHASE 1 HABITAT ASSESSMENTS

Use additional sheets to assess discrete habitat types at multiple sites in a project area  
 Include a map depicting locations of sample sites if assessing discrete habitats at multiple sites in a project area  
 A single sheet can be used for multiple sample sites if habitat is the same

<b>Sample Site Description</b>
Sample Site No.(s) _____

Water Resources at Sample Site				Describe existing condition of water sources: East meadow brook flows into pond approx. 0.6-miles east of site. NJDEP wetlands mapped in association w/ the stream.
Stream Type (# and length)	Ephemeral N/A	Intermittent N/A	Perennial N/A	
Pools/Ponds (# and size)	Open and accessible to bats? N/A			
Wetlands (approx. ac.)	Permanent N/A	Seasonal N/A		

NO water sources on site.

Forest Resources at Sample Site				1=1-10%, 2=11-20%, 3=21-40%, 4=41-60%, 5=61-80%, 6=81-100%
Closure/Density	Canopy (> 50%) 10	Midstory (20-50%) 20	Understory (<20%) 60	
Dominant Species of Mature Trees	Norway maple Red Maple	Red oak Black locust	Honey locust White pine	
% Trees w/ Exfoliating Bark	10%			
Size Composition of Live Trees (%)	Small (3-8 in) 90	Med (9-15 in) 8	Large (>15 in) 2	
	No. of Suitable Snags	0		

Standing dead trees with exfoliating bark, cracks, crevices, or hollows. Snags without these characteristics are not considered suitable.

IS THE HABITAT SUITABLE FOR INDIANA BATS? NO  
 IS THE HABITAT SUITABLE FOR NORTHERN LONG-EARED BATS? NO

**Additional Comments:**  
 Trees within the impact area consist of two tree lines along either side of the railroad track and abuted by residential development. Two individual trees were observed to have low quality potential roost habitat in the form of dead branches or hollows, but the lack of area makes it not suitable Indiana or northern habitat.

Attach aerial photo of project site with all forested areas labeled and a general description of the habitat

**Photographic Documentation:** habitat shots at edge and interior from multiple locations; understory/midstory/canopy; examples of potential suitable snags and live trees; water sources

APPENDIX A: PHASE 1 HABITAT ASSESSMENTS

BAT HABITAT ASSESSMENT DATASHEET

Project Name: Commercial Ave - Western Freeze Pits Date: 11/24/25  
 Township/Range/Section: Hempstead  
 Lat Long/UTM Zone: 40.730161, -73.006597 Surveyor: Evie McMenamin

**Brief Project Description**

PSEG Long Island proposes the installation and integration of two new above ground series reactors.

**Project Area**

Project Area	Total Acres	Forest Acres		Open Acres
Project	5.46	N/A		5.46
Proposed Tree Removal (ac)	Completely cleared	Partially cleared (will leave trees)	Preserve acres- no clearing	
	N/A	N/A	N/A	

Project site is largely pavement, road and sidewalk.

**Vegetation Cover Types**

Pre-Project	Post-Project
Landscaping trees (cullery pear and arborvitae) and weedy species (mugwort, mullen, pokeweed, queen anns lace, chickory, oriental Bittersweet)	NO disturbance to landscaped areas or trees. Weeds growing within cracked pavement maybe cleared.

**Landscape within 5 mile radius**

Flight corridors to other forested areas?  
 No flight corridors exist within the 5-mile radius.

Describe Adjacent Properties (e.g. forested, grassland, commercial or residential development, water sources)  
 Adjacent properties consist of commercial and dense residential development, golf course and small parks (sports fields).

**Proximity to Public Land**

What is the distance (mi.) from the project area to forested public lands (e.g., national or state forests, national or state parks, conservation areas, wildlife management areas)?  
 Garden City golf club pond is 1.6 miles west. Nassau County Park golf course is 1.15 miles east. Other small isolated wooded lots, all under fence, are located within 5 miles.

APPENDIX A: PHASE 1 HABITAT ASSESSMENTS

Use additional sheets to assess discrete habitat types at multiple sites in a project area  
 Include a map depicting locations of sample sites if assessing discrete habitats at multiple sites in a project area  
 A single sheet can be used for multiple sample sites if habitat is the same

<b>Sample Site Description</b>
Sample Site No.(s): _____

Water Resources at Sample Site			
Stream Type (# and length)	Ephemeral N/A	Intermittent N/A	Perennial N/A
Pools/Ponds (# and size)	Open and accessible to bats? N/A		
Wetlands (approx. ac.)	Permanent N/A	Seasonal N/A	

NO WATER SOURCES ON SITE  
 Describe existing condition of water sources: East meadow brook and pond is located approximately 1.6 miles east of the site. NJDEP wetlands mapped in association with the stream.

Forest Resources at Sample Site			
Closure/Density	Canopy (> 50%) N/A	Midstory (20-50%) N/A	Understory (<20%) N/A
Dominant Species of Mature Trees	Norway maple, Callery pear, Arbutus		
% Trees w/ Exfoliating Bark	N/A		
Size Composition of Live Trees (%)	Small (3-8 in) 100	Med (9-15 in) 0	Large (>15 in) 0
No. of Suitable Snags	0		

1=1-10%, 2=11-20%, 3=21-40%, 4=41-60%, 5=61-80%, 6=81-100%

Standing dead trees with exfoliating bark, cracks, crevices, or hollows. Snags without these characteristics are not considered suitable.

IS THE HABITAT SUITABLE FOR INDIANA BATS? no  
 IS THE HABITAT SUITABLE FOR NORTHERN LONG-EARED BATS? no

**Additional Comments:**  
 The majority of the site consists of a paved lot, public road and sidewalks in a commercial area. The only trees presence in the area were medium street trees or landscaped trees along the parking lot, none of which contained potential roost habitat.

Attach aerial photo of project site with all forested areas labeled and a general description of the habitat

**Photographic Documentation:** habitat shots at edge and interior from multiple locations; understory/midstory/canopy; examples of potential suitable snags and live trees; water sources