

RESOLUTION NO. 364-2014, MAKING A SEQRA DETERMINATION IN CONNECTION WITH THE PROPOSED INSTALLATION OF PUBLIC SAFETY RADIO COMMUNICATION EQUIPMENT AT BABYLON (1ST PRECINCT MONOPOLE), PORT JEFFERSON (ROOF OF ST. CHARLES HOSPITAL), AND MONTAUK COUNTY PARK (GATR SITE) AS PART OF THE COUNTYWIDE SYSTEM ENHANCEMENTS TO THE 800 MHZ RADIO COMMUNICATION SYSTEM PROJECT (CP 3241)

WHEREAS, the Suffolk County Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) has reviewed a project designated as the "Proposed Installation of Public Safety Radio Communication Equipment at Babylon (1st Precinct Monopole), Port Jefferson (Roof of St. Charles Hospital), and Montauk County Park (GATR Site) as Part of the Countywide System Enhancements to the 800 MHz Radio Communication System Project (CP 3241)", pursuant to Section 6 of Local Law No. 22-1985 which project involves the installation of radio communications equipment at the 1st Police Precinct in Babylon, St. Charles Hospital in Port Jefferson and the GATR site in Montauk; and

WHEREAS, an Environmental Assessment Form (EAF) was prepared and submitted to the CEQ office by the Suffolk County Police Department and a presentation was made by the Police Communications Systems Director and subsequently sent out to all concerned parties; and

WHEREAS, at its March 19, 2014 meeting, the CEQ reviewed the EAF and information submitted by the Suffolk County Police Department; and

WHEREAS, this equipment installation will improve public safety radio communications in areas that currently have poor radio signals and allow people located in these areas to communicate adequately with Suffolk County Police Headquarters; and

WHEREAS, the equipment installed at the 1st Police Precinct in Babylon includes an approximately 8 foot long antennae which will be located next to an identical existing antenna on the 1st Police Precinct Monopole as well as additional communication equipment to be stored in the basement of the 1st Police Precinct Building; and

WHEREAS, the equipment installed on the St. Charles Hospital roof includes an approximately 8 foot long antennae which will be located next to existing roof antennas as well as additional communications equipment installed within the hospital which will replace existing Police communications equipment; and

WHEREAS, the equipment installed at the GATR site in Montauk includes antennas attached to the top of two monopoles and additional communications equipment installed inside an existing concrete storage building; and

WHEREAS, the two installed monopoles at the GATR site will replace two of the existing wood poles on the GATR site and said monopoles will be brown in color, not stripped or lit, and will not exceed the height of the existing wood poles at the GATR site; and

WHEREAS, the proposed project at the GATR site is an update to a 2007 reviewed emergency communications project which included the installation of 2 antenna poles but unlike the current plan also included the installation of equipment structures to house communication equipment; and

WHEREAS, the 2007 proposed communication project at the GATR site was reviewed by the CEQ and the Suffolk County Legislature and received a SEQRA determination of non-significance as indicated in Suffolk County Resolution No. 1334-2007; and

WHEREAS, the CEQ recommended that the above activity be considered an Unlisted action, pursuant to the provisions of Title 6 NYCRR, Part 617 and Chapter 450 of the Suffolk County Code; and

WHEREAS, the CEQ has advised the County Legislature and the County Executive by memo dated March 20, 2014 of said recommendations; and

WHEREAS, Section 450-5(H) of the SUFFOLK COUNTY CODE requires the Presiding Officer to introduce legislation for an appropriate SEQRA determination; and

WHEREAS, the Suffolk County Legislature has reviewed the EAF and the CEQ recommendations; now, therefore be it

1st RESOLVED, that this Legislature hereby determines that the Proposed Installation of Public Safety Radio Communication Equipment at Babylon (1st Precinct Monopole), Port Jefferson (Roof of St. Charles Hospital), and Montauk County Park (GATR Site) as Part of the Countywide System Enhancements to the 800 MHz Radio Communication System Project (CP 3241) constitutes an Unlisted action, pursuant to the provisions of Title 6 NYCRR, Part 617 and Chapter 450 of the Suffolk County Code which project will not have significant adverse impacts on the environment for the following reasons:

1. The proposed action will not exceed any of the criteria set forth in Title 6 NYCRR, Part 617.7, which sets forth thresholds for determining significant effect on the environment, as demonstrated in the Environmental Assessment Form;
2. The proposal does not significantly threaten any unique or highly valuable environmental or cultural resources as identified in or regulated by the Environmental Conservation Law of the State of New York or the Suffolk County Charter and the Suffolk County Code;
3. The parcels do not appear to suffer from any severe environmental development constraints (limiting soil properties; no groundwater and no unmanageable slopes);
4. The antennas installed on the 1st Police Precinct Monopole and the St. Charles Hospital roof will be located next to existing antennas;
5. The proposed action at the GATR site in Montauk is compatible with the historic use of the site which served as a cross Atlantic telecommunications facility during World War II and after;

6. A Stage 1A and Stage 1B Archaeological Survey of the GATR facility has concluded that no significant archaeological resources exist at this site;
7. The former antenna poles at the GATR site serve as a navigation reference point for small offshore boats;
8. The two (2) monopoles installed at the GATR site will replace existing poles on the site; and
9. The two (2) monopoles installed at the GATR site will be brown in color, will be unstripped and unlit, will have interior wiring and will not exceed the 88 foot height of the existing pole on the site;

and be it further

2nd RESOLVED, that a copy of this Resolution shall be filed with the Suffolk County Clerk, the initiating unit of said project, and with the CEQ; and be it further

3rd RESOLVED, that in accordance with Section C1-4(1)(d) of the SUFFOLK COUNTY CHARTER and Section 450-5(C)(4) of the SUFFOLK COUNTY CODE, the CEQ is hereby directed to prepare and circulate a SEQRA notice of determination of non-significance in accordance with this Resolution.

DATED: May 13, 2014

APPROVED BY:

/s/ Steven Bellone
County Executive of Suffolk County

Date: May 29, 2014