

# COUNTY OF SUFFOLK



## COUNTY LEGISLATURE

**KATE BROWNING**  
County Legislator, 3rd District  
  
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## **PUBLIC SAFETY AT RISK IN SUFFOLK COUNTY: LIPA DELAYS HIRING OF CERTIFIED ELECTRICIANS**

### ***LEG. BROWNING DEMANDS HALT OF IMPROPER INSPECTIONS – SURVEYS TO BE DONE BY LICENSED ELECTRICIANS***

**Mastic Beach, NY** - Hundreds of homes in Suffolk County have been repowered without the appropriate electrical inspections and residents could be in danger. LIPA requires certified inspections to take place before homes are reenergized in flood zones in the aftermath of Hurricane Sandy. Due to LIPA's failure to act by hiring certified local electricians, Suffolk County charged its Department of Labor Commissioner Sammy Chu with training emergency service volunteers to conduct electrical surveys in order to fill the void. Legislator Browning believes this training is inadequate and can open the door to liability issues for the county. More importantly, Legislator Browning feels the public's safety is at risk.

Almost 400 local electricians from IBEW Local 25 and Local 3 are impatiently waiting LIPA's approval to be deployed to thousands of homes on Long Island. Legislator Browning is demanding that LIPA put these electricians to work so that homes can be safely inspected and repowered quickly, which should have been done immediately following Hurricane Sandy.

**“Residents are at serious risk due to improper surveys that may leave the potential for house fires related to salt water damage in flooded homes,”** stated Legislator Kate Browning. **“As Chair of the legislature’s Public Safety Committee I find this to be unacceptable and very dangerous. I am demanding LIPA to sign the necessary paperwork immediately in order to hire certified electricians to survey these homes, and Suffolk County should halt any inspections being conducted by inexperienced workers.”**

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