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## **PJM BOARD LIFTS SUSPENSION OF ARTIFICIAL ISLAND PROJECT**

*Construction of transmission line under Delaware River to move forward*

(Valley Forge, Pa. – April 6, 2017) – The PJM Board today approved lifting the suspension on a project to improve the stability of the electric grid. The Artificial Island project will strengthen the reliability and transmission of high-voltage power from two nuclear generating stations in southern New Jersey.

“The board reached its decision after thoughtful review of additional analysis and stakeholders’ input,” said Andrew L. Ott, PJM president and CEO. “We are satisfied that the original solution – with modifications – is the right solution to address operational performance and reliability issues related to Artificial Island generating facilities .”

The board initially approved the project in 2015 as a result of a competitive solicitation process. The board called for construction of a 230-kilovolt transmission line under the Delaware River. It designated LS Power to build the line and Public Service Electric & Gas and Delmarva Power for other portions of the project, including electric substation work.

In August 2016, the board suspended the project and directed PJM to perform a comprehensive analysis to support a future course of action. PJM reviewed its analysis with a stakeholder advisory committee.

The board reinforced support for building the 230-kilovolt line from the area where the Salem and Hope Creek nuclear facilities operate to a new substation to be built in northern Delaware. Among the modifications to the original solution, the line now will be connected at Hope Creek Substation instead of Salem Substation. The project is expected to cost about \$280 million and expected to be in-service June 2020.

*[PJM Interconnection](#), founded in 1927, ensures the reliability of the high-voltage electric power system serving 65 million people in all or parts of Delaware, Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Maryland, Michigan, New Jersey, North Carolina, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Tennessee, Virginia, West Virginia and the District of Columbia. PJM coordinates and directs the operation of the region’s transmission grid, which includes over 82,000 miles of transmission lines; administers a competitive wholesale electricity market; and plans regional transmission expansion improvements to maintain grid reliability and relieve congestion. PJM’s regional grid and market operations produce annual savings of \$2.8 billion to \$3.1 billion. For the latest news about PJM, visit PJM Inside Lines at [insidelines.pjm.com](http://insidelines.pjm.com).*

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