



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

PJM Board Suspends Artificial Island Transmission Project

Asks PJM to perform review

(Valley Forge, Pa. – August 5, 2016) – The PJM Interconnection Board has suspended the Artificial Island transmission project and directed PJM to perform a comprehensive analysis to support a future course of action. The [announcement](#) came today in a letter to PJM members.

The board asked for the review to be completed by February 2017, at which time, it said, PJM will be in a better position to decide how best to proceed.

“The board is concerned about the project’s estimated costs and changing scope in light of new estimates and technical information it has received,” said Andrew L. Ott, PJM president and CEO. “We need a firmer understanding of the changes that have occurred since the project was initially approved to ensure that we have the best path forward.”

PJM has been working with transmission owners and developers to resolve voltage and stability problems at the Artificial Island generating complex in southern New Jersey. The problems require grid operators to make complex operational adjustments to ensure continued reliable electricity service in the area.

In 2015, the PJM Board approved a proposal to build a 230-kilovolt transmission line under the Delaware River. It designated LS Power to build the line and Public Service Electric & Gas and Pepco Holdings Inc. for other portions of the project including electric substation work.

Because of the complexities of design at two substations, PSE&G’s construction estimates were higher than the initial estimates prepared by PJM. Questions also have arisen about whether proposed system protection and control upgrades would perform as intended.

PJM Interconnection, founded in 1927, ensures the reliability of the high-voltage electric power system serving 61 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 72,075 miles of transmission lines; administers a competitive wholesale electricity market; and plans regional transmission expansion improvements to maintain grid reliability and relieve congestion. Visit PJM at www.pjm.com.

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