



Hempstead Harbor Protection Committee

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An Inter-municipal Watershed Protection Committee of the County of Nassau, the Towns of North Hempstead and Oyster Bay, the City of Glen Cove, and the Villages of Sea Cliff, Roslyn Harbor, Roslyn, Flower Hill and Sands Point

"Alone we can do so little; together we can do so much." - Helen Keller

September 23, 2009

Mr. Kevin A. Kispert
New York State Department of Environmental Conservation
SUNY at Stony Brook
50 Circle Road
Stony Brook, NY 11790-3409

RE: COMMENTS - SPDES Permit Modifications
National Grid Generation, LLC – Glenwood Main Power Station
Application ID: 1-2822-00481/00011

Dear Mr. Kispert:

Thank you for the opportunity to offer comments on the above-referenced application.

The Hempstead Harbor Protection Committee, an inter-municipal committee comprised of the nine local governments that surround Hempstead Harbor, is charged with the responsibility to assess and ensure the long term water quality in the harbor. With 19 permitted outfalls collectively discharging up to 180 million gallons or more of effluent and stormwater per day into Hempstead Harbor, the Glenwood Power Station represents one of the largest point source discharges into Hempstead Harbor. It is therefore important that these discharges undergo periodic in-depth reviews to ensure that these discharges are handled in the most effective manner and are properly monitored. The SPDES permit review process is perhaps the most appropriate vehicle for doing so and we therefore request that these and all other comments be given careful consideration. We thank you for the opportunity for this input.

Specific Comments

1. It is important to note that Hempstead Harbor has been designated by New York State as a "Significant Coastal Fish and Wildlife Habitat Area"; by the New York State Audubon Society as part of an "Important Bird Area of New York State" and by the Long Island Sound Study as one of Long Island Sound's first "Stewardship Initiative Sites". These designations reflect the significant and important role that the harbor currently serves in providing a habitat area for area wildlife. In recent years, we have seen the return of osprey, peregrine falcons and diamondback terrapins, to name a few. Because of this, it is critical that National Grid's SPDES permit be designed to minimize as much as possible, the entrainment and impingement of fish, fish eggs and fish larvae that result from the plant's use of water from the harbor for cooling purposes.

Our efforts would not be possible without the assistance of the NYS Dept. of State, the NYS Dept. of Environmental Conservation, the United Civic Council of Glen Head and Glenwood Landing, NY Sea Grant, the Coalition to Save Hempstead Harbor and the Glenwood / Glen Head Civic Association