

Delivery: Email to: chris.hogan@dec.ny.gov with Mail to Follow

February 27, 2021

Mr. Chris Hogan Chief, Bureau of Energy Projects Management New York State Department of Environmental Conservation 625 Broadway Albany, New York 12233-4500

Subject: <u>Astoria Gas Turbine Power LLC</u> Supplemental Enhanced Public Participation Plan Third Progress Report Application for Title IV/V Permit Modification (DEC ID: 2-6301-00191) Application for Renewal & Modification of SPDES Permit (DEC No. 2-6301/00181/00014) DEC Project No.: 2-6301-00191/00003

Dear Mr. Hogan:

Astoria Gas Turbine Power LLC ("Astoria"), a wholly-owned subsidiary of NRG Energy, Inc. ("NRG"), has proposed to modify its previously approved project ("Replacement Project" or "Project") and replace its existing natural gas and liquid fuel fired combustion turbines at the Astoria Gas Turbine Generating Facility located at 31-01 20th Ave., Astoria, Queens County, New York ("Facility") with a single new state-of-the-art simple cycle combustion turbine generator ("CTG"). As part of its pending permit applications package, Astoria submitted to the Department a Draft Supplemental Enhanced Public Participation Plan ("SEPPP"), dated April 2020. In accordance with Section 3.5 of the 1 SEPPP, enclosed is Astoria's Third Progress Report regarding its implementation of the SEPPP.

If you have any questions or require any additional information, please contact me anytime at (617) 529-3874.

Very truly yours,

R

Shawn Konary Senior Director - Environmental

Enclosure:

• Supplemental EPPP Progress Report – Third Report

Copies:

T. Atkins B. McCabe Astoria Project File

1.0 Report on Progress to Date

In the Supplemental Enhanced Public Participation Plan (SEPPP) submitted to the NYSDEC in April 2020, Astoria Gas Turbine Power LLC ("Astoria") agreed to submit quarterly reports summarizing its progress related to the implementation of the plan. Astoria submitted the second quarterly report to the NYSDEC on November 24, 2020. As detailed in that report, since the submission of the SEPPP Astoria has held numerous meetings with community organizations, environmental groups, government agencies and elected officials to obtain feedback from project stakeholders on issues of potential concern to the community regarding the Replacement Project. Moreover, Astoria has held two additional public participation meetings (July 16, 2020 and January 21, 2021) to (i) inform the public about proposed modifications to the previously approved Astoria Replacement Project, (ii) provide the status of applications to modify the Facility's existing permits, and (iii) identify opportunities for future public participation in the process including NYSDEC's supplemental review under the State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA).

Astoria has undertaken the SEPPP consistent with CP-29 and NYSDEC's April 24, 2020 *Guidance on Commissioner's Policy 29 During the COVID-19 Public Health Crisis*. As detailed in this third quarterly report, Astoria has continued to implement the SEPPP by providing information to the public, responding to public and media inquiries and also seeking to understand issues of importance to the neighboring community and other interested stakeholders. Astoria will continue its implementation of the SEPPP until all approvals and/or permits are obtained for the Project.

1.1 Supplemental Public Outreach Activities Since 2nd Quarterly Progress Report

Astoria previously established multiple ways that the public could inquire about the Project, including a project dedicated email address, telephone number and P.O. Box. Since the second quarterly report, Astoria continues to keep these avenues of communication open.

As discussed above, Astoria held a second public participation meeting on January 21, 2021 to provide an update on the Replacement Project's progress, and to obtain feedback from interested stakeholders. In accordance with Section 3.3 of the SEPPP and April 24, 2020 *Guidance on Commissioner's Policy 29 During the COVID-19 Public Health Crisis*, the meeting was noticed in two local newspapers (the Queens Chronicle on both December 30, 2020 and January 7, 2021 and the Queens Gazette on January 6, 2021) and mailed to all of the stakeholders identified in Appendix B of the SEPPP. A copy of the public meeting presentation, the notice and proofs of publication, as well as a summary of the public participation meeting are included in Appendix A to this quarterly report.

Astoria has also responded to more than a dozen media requests for interviews and comments regarding the Project, primarily from Queens-focused outlets.

Further, in October 2020, Astoria completed an extensive Harris poll about the Project, that involved asking 1,200 New York City residents, weighted heavily in Queens, various questions about the Project. The purpose was to determine the issues of importance to the public, specifically focusing on residents living near the Project. The poll revealed that the general public overwhelmingly supports the Project, even when factoring in opposition viewpoints. A memo prepared by Harris is included in Appendix B.

Since the submission of the last quarterly report, Astoria has held several additional meetings with government agencies and elected officials, formally and informally, to educate newly elected officials on the project and discuss the current status of applications to modify the Facility's existing permits and identify opportunities for future public participation in the process. These meetings are summarized below:

- On December 22, 2020, Astoria representatives held a WebEx meeting with NYC Council member Constantinides to provide an update on the Project;
- On January 21, 2021, Astoria Representatives held a second virtual public information meeting for the purpose of educating the community, answering questions and soliciting comments on the Astoria Replacement Project.
- On January 28, 2021, Astoria representatives held a WebEx meeting with State Senator Jessica Ramos and her staff to provide an update on the Project.
- On February 11, 2021, Astoria representatives held a WebEx meeting with Queens Borough President Donovan Richards and his staff to provide an overview and update on the Project's permitting status.
- On February 25, 2021, Astoria representatives held a project update WebEx meeting with NYS Governor's Energy Staff, including Carrie Gallagher, the Acting Deputy Secretary for Energy & Environment.
- On February 26, 2021, Astoria representatives held a WebEx meeting with NYS Assembly member Zohran Mamdani to provide an update on the Project.

Further, in January and February 2021, Astoria sent two direct mail pieces to all African American, Latino and 55+ Astoria households. The correspondence provided residents with information about the Project and its benefits as well as the link to the Project website in order to facilitate residents access to more detailed information about the Project, including our online repository of project documents.

In June 2020, Astoria made available for public access a website <u>www.cleanerpowerforastoria.com</u> which includes an overview of the Project, as well as an online repository of major project documents. The website has been regularly updated as project documents are completed and submitted to various agencies. Since the second quarterly report, additional documents have been added to the website, including:

- 1. the second quarterly report for the SEPPP;
- 2. the Determination of No Hazard to Air Navigation from the Federal Aviation Administration dated December 23, 2020; and
- 3. the presentation for the SEPPP public informational meeting held on January 21, 2021.

With respect to a physical repository, as previously reported, the Astoria Branch of the Queens Public Library reopened following closure due to the COVID-19 pandemic and became available to accept documents. Astoria, therefore, re-established a physical repository of major project documents in August 2020 at the Astoria Branch of the Queens Public Library at 14-01 Astoria Blvd, Astoria, NY 11102. This repository will be updated in February 2021 to include additional, recent Project documents.

1.2 Future Community Outreach Efforts

Astoria plans to continue to contact key community organizations and elected officials to provide project updates as the permit process continues and will also address comments and concerns of interested stakeholders as they arise.

Appendix A

Public Meeting Materials

Summary of the Virtual Public Meeting for the Astoria Replacement Project

Date: January 21, 2021 from 7:00 - 10:00pm EST

1.1 Background

On January 21, 2021, Astoria Gas Turbine Power LLC and representatives of NRG Energy, Inc. hosted its second virtual public meeting to discuss the Astoria Replacement Project ("Project"). The meeting was well attended by nearly 200 people in all. More than 100 participated via an online webcast which allowed participants to view the Power Point and submit comments. Another 90+ people attended via the telephone where they could ask questions verbally. All information about the meeting was included on the project website as well and comments were also accepted via the Project's dedicated email address. Each participant was provided time to comment or ask a question. Elected officials were given priority, followed by Astoria and Queens residents. Participants included local politicians, representatives from the environmental justice community, environmental advocacy groups, government employees, community organizations, local residents, labor organizations and plant employees.

Astoria provided an overview of the Project, its benefits and the current permitting process status and encouraged future questions and comments and urged viewers to visit the website to learn more, and to stay posted for future updates. Astoria also informed attendees that the Project website will continue to be updated with additional project information. The meeting, scheduled for two hours, was extended an extra hour to allow adequate time for all participants to provide comment or ask questions. As a result, every attendee who sought to comment or ask a question was able to do so.

During the live questions and comments period, a significant number of substantive questions, concerns and supporting remarks were offered by participants. The substantive questions, comments and how Astoria addressed them are summarized below.

- Participants asked for clarification on the temporary and permanent jobs created by the Replacement Project. Astoria clarified that the project would result in approximately 500 jobs, including high paying union jobs, during the construction period. The Project will also require 10-20 long-term fulltime employees at the site after construction along with indirect support from jobs such as snowplowing and landscaping.
- Astoria was also asked to expand on the potential use of green hydrogen at the site. Astoria clarified that the technology chosen for the Project could be capable of operating on up to 100% green hydrogen in 2040, based on its discussions with the General Electric Company.
- Similar to the previous public information meeting, there were several questions and comments related to renewable energy alternatives in combination with energy storage to meet demand the response noted that although NRG Energy, Inc. believes battery storage can play a significant role going forward, the technology is not at a stage where it can fully replace peaking projects. Astoria discussed its review of alternatives at the site, including energy storage, wind and solar. Astoria explained that the site of the proposed facility is too small for wind or solar, so replacing the existing units with meaningful amounts of wind or solar power is not technically feasible. Astoria has active interconnection requests with the NYISO for energy storage at the site and will continue those development efforts.

YOU ARE INVITED TO A PUBLIC INFORMATION MEETING ABOUT THE ASTORIA REPLACEMENT PROJECT

Astoria Gas Turbine Power LLC, a subsidiary of NRG Energy, Inc., has submitted an application to modify its previously approved project and replace existing combustion turbines at the Astoria Gas Turbine Generating Facility with a new state-of-the-art simple cycle combustion turbine. The Facility is located on a 15-acre site at 31-01 20th Ave., Astoria, Queens County, New York.

In light of the COVID-19 pandemic and the Governor's Executive Order 202, the public information meeting will be held virtually.

Date: January 21, 2021

Time: 7:00 – 9:00 pm

Webcast Link: https://edge.media-server.com/mmc/p/wd73k4vy Participant Toll-Free Dial-In Number: (877) 359-9508 Conference ID: 7840617

YOUR ATTENDANCE IS IMPORTANT

- Learn more about the Project
- Ask questions and comment on the Project
- Discuss your concerns
- Learn about the environmental review process and opportunities for public comment

Attendees are encouraged to submit questions throughout the meeting and time will be set aside at the end to answer questions. Questions or comments concerning the Project also may be submitted via email, phone, or regular mail to:

Astoria Replacement Project P.O. Box 7 Albany, NY 12201-0007 <u>astoria.project@nrg.com</u> (718) 274-5180

An online document repository containing Project materials has been established at <u>www.cleanerpowerforastoria.com</u>.



71-19 80th Street Suite 8-201 Glendale, NY 11385 qchron.com e-mail: ads@qchron.com

Proof of Publication

State Of New York County of Queens

Mark Weidler of The Queens Chronicle being duly sworn, says that he is the publisher of The Queens Chronicle, a weekly newspaper printed every Thursday in the City of New York, County of Queens, and that the notice which the annexed is a true copy, has been published in said newspaper for two weeks commencing on Thursday, December 31st, 2020.

PUBLIC NOTICE ASTORIA REPLACEMENT PROJECT

Astoria Gas Turbine Power LLC, a subsidiary of NRG Energy, Inc., has submitted an application to modify its previously approved project and replace existing combustion turbines at the Astoria Gas Turbine Generating Facility with a new state-of-the-art simple cycle combustion turbine. The Facility is located on a 15-acre site at 31-01 20th Ave., Astoria, Queens County, New York.

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INSERT DATES: Thursday, December 31st, 2020 & January 7th, 2021

(signed)

day of January Sworn before me this $\frac{1}{7}$ 2021. (Notary Public)...

MARK ALAN SHEVRIN

State Of New York WESTECHESTER COUNTY COMM. EXP. MARCH 10, 20 272 LIC. # 02SH6298233

Proof of Publication

STATE OF NEW YORK SS COUNTY OF QUEENS

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Second Virtual Public Meeting Astoria Replacement Project

Learn about the Astoria Replacement Project with an opportunity to ask questions and provide comments

Hosted by Astoria Gas Turbine Power LLC (a subsidiary of NRG Energy, Inc.)

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic and the Governor's Executive Order 202, the public information meeting will once again be held virtually. Details are below.

Thursday, January 21st, 2021, 7-9 p.m.

To view online, visit **www.cleanerpowerforastoria.com.** Scroll to and click the Webcast link near the top and fill out the brief form.

To listen, ask questions or provide comments during the meeting, call toll free (877) 359-9508, enter ID# 7840617

Astoria Replacement Project Application Summary

As previously approved, the Astoria Replacement Project will replace the existing power generating units at NRG's Astoria Facility. The Project is now being modified to reduce the size of the Facility (from 1040 MW to 437 MW) and incorporate a state-of-the-art generating unit which requires modifications of the Facility's existing New York State Department of Environmental Conservation air and water permits. This critical infrastructure project will:

- Reduce the total generating capability of the site while lowering air emission rates by up to 99% per hour, resulting in cleaner air immediately;
- Support New York's leading efforts to fight climate change by significantly reducing net greenhouse gas emissions with technology that will be fully convertible to zero-carbon fuel in the future;
- Create hundreds of new good-paying jobs in Queens; and
- Resolve known reliability issues on the electric grid.

According to a Harris poll, more than three-fourths of NYC residents support the Project

Information and Contacts

- Project documents can be found at **www.cleanerpowerforastoria.com**
- Interested stakeholders may also submit questions or comments following the meeting via phone, email, or regular mail:

(718) 274-5180, <u>Astoria.project@nrg.com</u>, or Astoria Replacement Project, PO Box 7, Albany, NY 12201-0007

Key Virtual Meeting Details

 The meeting is January 21st, 2021, from 7-9 p.m. You can join the meeting via phone or web link:

Phone: (877) 359-9508, Conference ID 7840617 Web: www.cleanerpowerforastoria.com

দ্বিতীয় ভার্চুয়াল জন সভা অ্যাস্টরিয়া প্রতিস্বাপন প্রকল্প

প্রশ্ন জিজ্ঞাসা করার ও মতামত প্রদান করার সুযোগ সহ অ্যাস্টরিয়া প্রতিস্থাপন প্রকল্প সম্পর্কে জানুন

অ্যাস্টরিয়া গ্যাস টারবাইন পাওয়ার LLC (NRG এনার্জি, ইন ক -এর একটি সহায়ক সংস্থা)

COVID-19 মহামারি এবং গভর্নরের নির্বাহী আদেশ 202 এর কারণে, জন তথ্য সভা আরো একবার ভার্চুয়ালি অনুষ্ঠিত হবে। বিস্তারিত নিচে দেওয়া হলো।

বৃহস্পতিবার, 21 জানুমারি 2021, সন্ধ্যা 7টা- রাত 9টা

অনলাইনে দেখতে ভিজিট করুন **www.cleanerpowerforastoria.com.** স্ক্রল করে উপরে ওয়েবকাস্ট লিঙ্কে যান ও সেখানে ক্লিক করুন এবং সংক্ষিপ্ত ফর্মটি পূরণ করুন।

সভার সময় কথা শুনতে, প্রশ্ন জিজ্ঞাসা করতে বা মতামত প্রদান করতে নিচের টোল ফ্রি নম্বরে কল করুন (877) 359-9508, ID লিথুন# 7840617

অ্যাস্টরিয়া প্রতিস্থাপন প্রকল্প আবেদনের সারসংক্ষেপ

পূর্বের অনুমোদন অনুযায়ী, অ্যাস্টরিয়া প্রতিস্থাপন প্রকল্প NRG-এর অ্যাস্টরিয়া ফ্যাসিলিটিতে বিদ্যমান বিদ্যুৎ উৎপাদনকারী ইউনিটগুলোকে প্রতিস্থাপিত করবে। প্রকল্পটিকে এখ ন ফ্যাসিলিটির আকার ছোট করার জন্য (1040 MW হতে 437 MW) এবং একটি অত্যাধুনিক উৎপাদনকারী ইউনিট যুক্ত করার জন্য পরিবর্তন করা হচ্ছে যার জন্য ফ্যাসিলিটির বিদ্যমান নিউ ইয়র্ক স্টেট ডিপার্টমেন্ট অব এনভায়রনমেন্টাল কনজার্ভেশন এয়ার অ্যান্ড ওয়াটার পারমিটের সংশোধন প্রয়োজন। এই গুরুত্বপূর্ণ অবকাঠামো প্রকল্পটি:

- বায়ু নির্গমনের হার প্রতি ঘন্টায় 99% পর্যন্ত কমিয়ে আনার পাশাপাশি মোট উৎপাদন ক্ষমতা হ্রাস করবে, যার ফলে দ্রুত পরিষ্কার বায়ু তৈরি হবে;
- প্রযুক্তির সাহায্যে নেট গ্রিনহাউজ গ্যাস নির্গমনকে উল্লেখযোগ্য হারে হ্রাস করার মাধ্যমে যা ভবিষ্যতে সম্পূর্ণ শূন্য-কার্বন জ্বালানিতে রূপান্তরিত হবে - নিউ ইয়র্কের প্রধান জলবায়ু বিরোধী লডাইকে সহায়তা করবে;
- কুইন্সে শত শত নতুন ভালো-বেতনের চাকরির সুযোগ তৈরি করবে; এবং
- বিদ্যুতিক গ্রিডে নির্ভরযোগ্যতা সম্পর্কিত জ্ঞাত সমস্যাগুলোর সমাধান করবে।

একটি হ্যারিস জরিপ অনুসারে, তিন-চতুর্থাংশেরও বেশি NYC বাসিন্দা এই প্রকল্পকে সমর্থন করেন।

তথ্য ও যোগাযোগ

- প্রকল্পের নথি www.cleanerpowerforastoria.com ওয়েবসাইটে পাওয়া যাবে
- আগ্রহী স্টেকহোল্ডাররা ফোন, ইমেল বা নিয়মিত ডাকযোগেও সভাটির পরে প্রশ্ন বা মন্তব্য জমা দিতে পারেন: (718) 274-5180, <u>Astoria.project@nrg.com</u>, বা Astoria Replacement Project, PO Box 7, Albany, NY 12201-0007

ভার্চুয়াল সভা সংক্রান্ত মূল বিস্তারিত তথ্য

 সভাটি 21 জানুমারি 2021, সন্ধ্যা 7টা - রাত 9টায় অনুষ্ঠিত হবে। আপনি ফোন বা ওয়েব লিঙ্কের মাধ্যমে সভায় যোগদান করতে পারেন:

মোন: (877) 359-9508, কলফাবেন্স ID 7840617

ওয়েব: www.cleanerpowerforastoria.com

Δεύτερη Εικονική Δημόσια Συνάντηση Έργο Αντικατάστασης Αστόρια

Μάθετε σχετικά με το Έργο Αντικατάστασης Αστόρια με μια ευκαιρία να διατυπώσετε ερωτήσεις και να παρέχετε σχολιασμό

Φιλοξενείτε από την Astoria Gas Turbine Power LLC (μια θυγατρική της NRG Energy, Inc.)

Εξαιτίας της πανδημίας COVID-19 και το εκτελεστικό διάταγμα 202 του κυβερνήτη, η δημόσια συνάντηση ενημέρωσης θα διεξαχθεί εικονικά για άλλη μια φορά. Οι λεπτομέρειες παρατίθενται παρακάτω.

Πέμπτη, 21 Ιανουαρίου 2021, 7-9 μ.μ.

Για διαδικτυακή παρακολούθηση, επισκεφθείτε **www.cleanerpowerforastoria.com.** Κυλήστε προς και κάντε κλικ στον σύνδεσμο Webcast κοντά στην κορυφή και συμπληρώστε την σύντομη φόρμα.

Για να ακούσετε, να διατυπώσετε ερωτήσεις ή να παρέχετε σχολιασμό κατά την διάρκεια της συνάντησης, καλέστε χωρίς χρέωση

(877) 359-9508, εισάγετε ID# 7840617

Περίληψη της Εφαρμογής του Έργου Αντικατάστασης Αστόρια

Προηγουμένως εγκεκριμένο, το Έργο Αντικατάστασης Αστόρια θα αντικαταστήσει τις υπάρχουσες γεννήτριες ενέργειας στις εγκαταστάσεις της NRG στην Αστόρια. Το Έργο τώρα τροποποιείται για την μείωση του μεγέθους των Εγκαταστάσεων (από 1040 MW σε 437 MW) και να ενσωματώνει μια μονάδα γεννήτριας τελευταίας τεχνολογίας που απαιτεί τροποποιήσεις των αδειών αέρα και υδάτων της Υπηρεσίας Διατήρησης του Περιβάλλοντος της Νέας Υόρκης της υπάρχουσας Εγκατάστασης. Το κρίσιμο έργο υποδομής θα:

- Μειώνει την συνολική ικανότητα παραγωγής της τοποθεσίας ενώ θα μειώνει τους ρυθμούς εκπομπής αέρα έως και 99% ανά ώρα, με αποτέλεσμα να είναι καθαρότερος ο αέρας αμέσως.
- Να υποστηρίζει της ηγετικές προσπάθειες της Νέας Υόρκης να καταπολεμήσει την κλιματική αλλαγή με την σημαντική μείωση των καθαρών εκπομπών αερίου του θερμοκηπίου με τεχνολογία που θα είναι πλήρως μετατρέψιμη σε καύσιμα με μηδέν διοξείδιο στο μέλλον.
- Να δημιουργήσει χιλίαδες νέες με καλές αποδοχές εργασίες στο Queens, και
- Να επιλύει γνωστά ζητήματα αξιοπιστίας του ηλεκτρικού πλέγματος.

Σύμφωνα με τη δημοσκόπηση Harris, άνω των τριών τετάρτων των κατοίκων της Νέας Υόρκης υποστηρίζουν το Έργο.

Πληροφορίες και Στοιχεία Επικοινωνίας

- Τα έγγραφα του Έργου βρίσκονται σε **www.cleanerpowerforastoria.com**
- Ενδιαφερόμενα εμπλεκόμενα μέρη με συμφέροντα μπορούν επίσης να υποβάλλουν ερωτήσεις ή να διατυπώσουν σχόλια μέσω τηλεφώνου, ηλεκτρονικής ταχυδρομικής διέυθυνσης, ή κανονικού ταχυδρομείου:

(718) 274-5180, <u>Astoria.project@nrg.com</u>, ή Astoria Replacement Project, PO Box 7, Albany, NY 12201-0007

Σημαντικές Λεπτομέρειες της Εικονικής Συνάντησης

 Η συνάντηση είναι την 21 Ιανουαρίου 2021 από τις 7-9 μ.μ. Μπορείτε να συμμετέχετε μέσω τηλεφώνου ή μέσω συνδέσμου δικτύου:

 Τηλέφωνο:
 (877) 359-9508, Συνἀντηση ID 7840617

 Διαδίκτυο:
 www.cleanerpowerforastoria.com

Segunda reunión pública virtual Proyecto de Reemplazo de Astoria

Conoce sobre el Proyecto de Reemplazo de Astoria con la oportunidad de hacer preguntas y proporcionar comentarios

Organizado por Astoria Gas Turbine Power LLC (una subsidiaria de NRG Energy, Inc.)

Debido a la pandemia de COVID-19 y la Orden Ejecutiva 202 del Gobernador, la reunión de información pública se realizará nuevamente de manera virtual. Los detalles se encuentran a continuación.

Jueves 21 de enero de 2021, de 7 a 9 p.m.

Para verlo en línea, visita www.cleanerpowerforastoria.com. Desplázate hasta el enlace de Webcast cerca de la parte superior, haz clic y completa el breve formulario.

Para escuchar, hacer preguntas o proporcionar comentarios durante la reunión, llama sin cargo al

(877) 359-9508, ingresa ID# 7840617

Resumen de la solicitud del Proyecto de Reemplazo de Astoria

Como se aprobó anteriormente, el Proyecto de Reemplazo de Astoria reemplazará las unidades generadoras de energía existentes en la Planta Astoria de NRG. El Proyecto ahora se está modificando para reducir el tamaño de la Instalación (de 1040 MW a 437 MW) e incorporar una unidad generadora de última generación que requiere modificaciones de los permisos de aire y agua del Departamento de Conservación Ambiental del Estado de Nueva York existentes en la Instalación. Este proyecto de infraestructura crítica:

- Reducirá la capacidad de generación total del sitio a la vez que disminuye las tasas de emisión de aire hasta en un 99% por hora, lo que resulta en un aire inmediatamente más limpio;
- Apoyará los principales esfuerzos de Nueva York para combatir el cambio climático reduciendo significativamente las emisiones netas de gases de efecto invernadero con tecnología que será totalmente convertible en combustible sin carbono en el futuro;
- Creará cientos de nuevos empleos bien remunerados en Queens; y
- Resolverá problemas conocidos de confiabilidad en la red eléctrica.

Según una encuesta de Harris, más de las tres cuartas partes de los residentes de la ciudad de Nueva York apoyan el Proyecto.

Información y contactos

- Los documentos del proyecto se pueden encontrar en www.cleanerpowerforastoria.com
- Las partes interesadas también pueden enviar preguntas o comentarios después de la reunión por teléfono, correo electrónico o correo postal:

(718) 274-5180, <u>Astoria.project@nrg.com</u>, 0

Astoria Replacement Project, PO Box 7, Albany, NY 12201-0007

Detalles clave de la reunión virtual

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• La reunión es el 21 de enero de 2021, de 7 a 9 p.m. Puedes unirte a la reunión por teléfono o mediante un enlace web:

Teléfono:(877) 359-9508, ID de conferencia 7840617Página web:www.cleanerpowerforastoria.com



January 21, 2021



- Introductions
- Public Meeting Webcast Process
- Astoria Replacement Project Overview
- Status of Environmental Review and Opportunities for Public Participation
- Project Benefits
- Questions and Comments

This presentation is available at www.cleanerpowerforastoria.com



- Need for Virtual Public Meeting
- Live Presentation followed by interactive questions and comments:
 - For those on the phone, press *1 on your phone and the moderator will add you to the queue
 - For those on the webcast, click the "Ask a Question" tab at the top right of your computer screen. Enter your question in the box and then hit submit.
 - Participants will be required to provide name and residential address
- Comments may be sent:
 - By Email: astoria.project@nrg.com
 - By Phone: (718) 274-5180 and leave a message



Kandi S. Terry – NRG, Director of Government Affairs

Leads government affairs for NRG's retail and generation businesses in the East Region. Mrs. Terry earned a Masters of Science degree from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute and has almost 25-years of government experience.

Tom Atkins – NRG, Vice President of Development

Responsible for North American electric generation and energy storage development projects. Mr. Atkins earned a Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering degree from Cornell University and is a licensed professional engineer in the State of New York with over 35 years of experience in the power industry.

Shawn Konary – NRG, Senior Director, Environmental

Responsible for environmental permitting, policy, and regulatory matters. Mr. Konary earned a Bachelor of Science degree from the University of Massachusetts at Amherst, a Master of Business Administration from Boston University and has over 30 years of experience in the environmental and energy industry.

Brian McCabe – NRG, Senior Director, Development

Responsible for generation development projects in the northeast, including energy storage. Mr. McCabe earned Bachelor of Science and Master of Business Administration degrees from Vanderbilt University and has over 20 years of experience in the energy industry.

Peter Valberg, Ph.D, ATS – Gradient, Principal

Dr. Valberg is responsible for human health risk assessment and inhalation toxicology. Dr. Valberg has a Ph.D. in Physics and an M.S. in human physiology from Harvard University. He has over 30 years of experience providing air quality expertise, and is the author of more than 100 scientific articles on biological effects of environmental exposures.

NRG Astoria Facility Today



- The Astoria Con Ed Complex has hosted major energy infrastructure for over 100 years
- NRG purchased the 15 acre Astoria Gas Turbines site from Con Edison in 1999
- The site currently consists of:
 - 500 MW of 1970 vintage Pratt & Whitney FT4 units and
 - 144 MW of retired Westinghouse units (recently removed from site)
- The Facility provides essential reliability service to NYC (dual fuel peaking, contingency support and system restoration)

Astoria Con Ed Complex

NRG Astoria Gas Turbines



Replacement Project (2010)



As approved in 2010, the Project consisted of replacing the existing generation at the site with four combined cycle units capable of generating 1,040 MW

Due to changing market conditions, the Project was never built



Modified Replacement Project (2020)



- As proposed in 2020, the Project consists of replacing the existing generation at the site with a single peaking unit capable of generating 437 MW featuring:
 - State of the art technology offering the greatest efficiency available in its class
 - Dual fuel, fast ramping unit which can start in under ten minutes, with highly flexible operating characteristics
 - Latest emission controls (DLN 2.6e, Hot SCR and Oxidation Catalyst)
 - Black start capability



Project Comparison (2010 vs 2020)



	Original Permitted Project	Proposed Modified Project
Project Size	1,040 MW	437 MW
Technology	Combined Cycle (Intermediate Duty)	Simple Cycle (Peaking Duty)
Incorporates Battery Energy Storage?	No	Yes
Capable of System Restoration?	No	Yes

The Proposed Project Modification:

- Decreases the project size by 58%
- Modernizes the project technology
- Further reduces air emissions
- Resolves identified reliability shortfalls in NYC in a timely manner
- Incorporates Battery Energy Storage into the project design
- Minimizes the footprint of the project, allowing for future stand alone energy storage installations
- Provides system restoration capability
- Capable of being converted to green hydrogen fuel by 2040



NYSDEC Permit Modification Package submitted – April 27, 2020

- Title V Air Permit
- SPDES Water Discharge Permit
- SEPPP Public Participation Plan
- Full Environmental Assessment Form
- Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity Amendment filed with NYPSC – September 3, 2020
- Final Scope for Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (SEIS) approved – September 18, 2020
- Next Step: Notice of Complete Application from NYSDEC followed by Public Comment Period



Maximizes Greenhouse Gas Reductions at the Minimum Cost

- Project incorporates the most advanced and efficient equipment available in the marketplace at no cost to NYC electricity customers
- Project will result in nearly 5M tons¹ of cumulative GHG reductions through 2035
 - Equivalent of taking 84,500 cars off the road (or 12% of all registered cars in Queens County)
- Project displaces less efficient generating units, reducing region-wide natural gas demand
- Improves air quality by reducing onsite emission rates up to 99% per hour

Facilitates the Interconnection of Additional Renewable Resources (9,000 MW Offshore Wind, 6,000 MW Solar PV Goals)

• "To balance lower capacity factor, intermittent resources, and shorter-duration resources like energy storage, bulk power system operators will require a full portfolio of resources that can be dispatched in response to any change in real-time operating conditions to maintain bulk power system reliability."

- NYISO Power Trends 2019

Contributes to New York's energy storage goals (3,000 MW by 2030)

Capable of generating Zero Carbon Electricity by 2040

• Project technology is capable of conversion to green hydrogen fuel



Economic Benefit

- Creates more than 500 local jobs and \$156 million in economic benefits to the State of New York during the construction period
- Creates more than 70 local jobs and \$170 million in economic benefits to the State of New York from operations and maintenance spending through 2040
- Near term investment of over \$350 million of private capital in New York state

Lowers Electricity Rates for NYC Ratepayers

- The Project will reduce the cost of electricity for New York consumers by over \$1.3 billion in the first 5 years of operation
- Project does not require any subsidy from NY ratepayers or taxpayers

Astoria Replacement Project Polling Results Role of Natural Gas







There will be an additional opportunity for public comment when NYSDEC issues the Notice of Complete Application

Questions or comments may be provided to the Project Applicant via phone, email or regular mail

- Phone: (718) 274-5180
- Email: astoria.project@nrg.com
- Mail: Astoria Replacement Project, PO Box 7, Albany, NY 12201-0007

Questions or comments may also be provided to the NYSDEC via the phone, email or regular mail

- Phone: (518) 402-9151
- Email: comment.nrgastoriagas@dec.ny.gov
- Mail: Chris Hogan, NYS DEC Division of Environmental Permits, 625 Broadway, 4th Floor, Albany, NY 12233-1750

More information can be found at: www.cleanerpowerforastoria.com



Cleaner air. Good jobs. Reliable electricity. **Now.**

NRG has a win-win plan for Astoria.

You and your family depend on the Astoria Generating Station to keep the lights on when you need them most. NRG wants to modernize the facility, so it runs more efficiently on natural gas improving reliability while dramatically reducing air pollution. And when 100% renewable technology is available, we'll be ready to make the switch. NRG's Astoria Replacement Project will bring jobs and cleaner air to Astoria now at no cost to taxpayers. The project will:

- · Immediately reduce onsite air pollution rates by up to 99%.
- Create more than 500 local jobs.
- · Support New York State's aggressive climate goals by lowering greenhouse gases.
- · Be able to convert to a zero-carbon fuel in the future.

nrg



End of Presentation

Participants may ask questions or provide comments by:

- **Phone:** Press *1 to get added to the queue
- Webcast: Click the "Ask a Question" tab at the top right of your computer screen. Enter your question in the box and then hit submit.
- **Email:** astoria.project@nrg.com

Appendix B

Harris Poll Memo

This memo highlights key results from a representative online poll of 1,242 New York City voters conducted by The Harris Poll from September 18 to October 1, 2020.



New Yorkers identify the economy (34%), jobs (30%), crime (26%), healthcare (25%), and housing (21%) as the city's top two issues, far outpacing climate change/the environment (13%) and energy (2%). While at least two-thirds say environmental policies are important in a vacuum, these issues fall to the bottom of their priorities list when compared to other issues, even among self-identified liberal New Yorkers.

When it comes to energy policy, more than half of New Yorkers (56%) want to focus on both renewables AND other technology, including natural gas. Only 26% argue for an energy strategy that is exclusively 100% renewable.

New Yorkers worry about cost and reliability when it comes to relying more heavily on 100% renewable energy. Reliability is the most important goal for energy policy.

(80% call it extremely/very important).

Cost is another important factor: a plurality (39%) don't want to pay any extra on their electric bill for 100% renewable energy, and only 12% are willing to pay significantly more.

Natural gas can be part of the solution – 68% of New Yorkers support relying more on natural gas in order to reduce air pollution. Moreover, 60% of voters believe we need to act now and upgrade power plants with the technology we have (including natural gas). Only 27% say we should wait for 100% renewable technology.

More than 3-in-4 New Yorkers (78%) support the Astoria Replacement Project based on this description:

"The Astoria Generating Station is one of New York City's roughly 15 "peaker" plants - which produce extra power when the city needs it, like during a heatwave or major storm. They run primarily on natural gas. Currently, the company that owns the Astoria Generating Station is proposing to replace the 50-year-old power generators with newer and cleaner technology at no cost to taxpayers."

Support decreases slightly after voters hear arguments on both sides but close to 3-in-4 New Yorkers remain supportive.

Support for the Astoria **Replacement Project After** the Following

Supporters say: Opponents say: Strongly - 30 Strongly - 4 Oppose

will reduce air emissions rates by up York City. Moreover, the new technology can be converted to use zero carbon

higher rates of asthma and other health

