

## **Con Edison Comments on the Long Island PPTN Initial Facilities Characterization List**

Con Edison thanks the NYISO for publishing the Initial Facilities Characterization List on April 11, 2022, which provides the initial characterization of transmission facilities included in the proposals to address the Long Island Offshore Wind Export Public Policy Transmission Need ("Long Island PPTN") as "New" or "Upgrade."

While Con Edison agrees with most of the NYISO's characterizations, we dispute the characterization of 2 facilities, and additionally, request a correction to the "Owner of Applicable Facility" section on three facilities.<sup>1</sup> These comments are solely focused on the NYISO's designation of the facilities connected to the Con Edison system as "upgrade" or "new" and they should not be taken as an endorsement of other proposed upgrades or the feasibility of any facility. In addition, Con Edison's comments are focused only on those facilities located within its service territory, and should not be taken as agreement or disagreement with designations of facilities located in other areas. Our comments on the Initial Characterization are set forth below.

### **Facility ID's: L22, L24, L27**

These facilities are currently identified as owned by the Long Island Power Authority ("LIPA"). Con Edison has ownership of these lines up to the Queens/Nassau County border. To the extent there is work on the Queens side of the border, Con Edison should be listed as "Owner of Applicable Facility" and have the right to any upgrade of the facilities. For facilities L22 and L24, this includes Eastern Queens – Valley Stream, and Eastern Queens – Lake Success and two lines between Eastern Queens and Jamaica. These four lines upgrade the existing 901 and 903 lines.

### **Facility ID: S27-B**

Con Edison disputes NYISO's characterization of Facility S27-B currently characterized as a "New" Facility; it should be characterized as an "Upgrade" for the following reason. This "Breaker and a half GIS installation" footprint is located directly adjacent to the existing property line of a Con Edison Substation based on the proposed site plan provided. Under the FERC-approved Midcontinent Independent System Operator's ("MISO") OATT Attachment FF § VIII.A.2.2.1:

"Construction of a new substation footprint near an existing substation to facilitate expansion of the existing substation is considered an upgrade and is necessary when the transmission project calls for expansion of the existing substation and there is not sufficient space for such expansion... First, a second substation footprint can be developed near the existing substation footprint, and the two substation footprints will function electrically as a single substation and will be interconnected by bus extensions or connectors".

NYISO has acknowledged that it will consider relevant FERC precedent related to the definition of upgrade in classifying facilities as "upgrade" or "new." Based on the FERC-approved precedent from MISO, Con Edison believes that Facility S27-B falls within this definition of an upgrade, excluding Facility S27-H, which we agree is New. Currently, Con Edison's existing substation does not have sufficient space

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<sup>1</sup> In addition, while Con Edison agrees with most of the NYISO's characterizations, to the extent any facility designated as "upgrade" that is owned by Con Edison is challenged by another party, Con Edison requests to participate in the dispute resolution process for that facility.

for expansion to include Facility S27-H, therefore the developer is proposing to build Facility S27-B in an adjacent location and use three existing lines (currently characterized as upgrades) of short length to connect to Con Edison's existing substation. The short length of these lines connecting back to Con Edison's existing substation causes Facility S27-B to electrically function as a single substation with Con Edison's existing substation. There is no other function of this proposed facility that the current existing substation does not meet. Therefore, Facility S27-B meets the MISO OATT Attachment FF § VIII.A.2.2.1 definition of an upgrade and should be characterized by the NYISO as an Upgrade. To meet local transmission owner design criteria there is an additional connector needed from Facility S27-B to the existing Con Edison substation.

#### **Facility ID: S23-B**

Facility S23-B as described by the developer will be "next to [the] existing switchyards". It is adjacent to the existing Con Edison substations and will function electrically as a single substation with the existing switchyards and, for the same reasons as in Facility ID: S27-B, it should be categorized as an Upgrade.

#### **Project Elements Not Listed Specifically**

In the facility characterization list, NYISO does not include certain facility elements that are Upgrades.<sup>2</sup> While Con Edison agrees that such facilities are Upgrades, we request that NYISO list such elements out individually when the final Upgrades list is posted. Doing so will provide transparency to both Transmission Owners and Developers on *all* facilities considered to be Upgrades and remove the potential for disputes to occur later in the process because of the Upgrades list not being fully defined.

#### **Clarification on Page 13 of The List**

Con Edison would like to clarify the following point regarding the facilities that are characterized as upgrades. On Page 13, the NYISO states the following is a Public Policy Transmission Upgrade: "equipment to facilitate new connections to existing substations that is to be situated within the fence line of existing substations." Con Edison believes that "fence line" should be changed to "property line," as the substation property may extend beyond the fence.

We thank you for considering these comments and hope that they are incorporated into the final NYISO Facility Characterization List. In resolving any disputes on the identified facilities, Con Edison requests that NYISO post its rationale for making the final designations, including the FERC precedent on which it is relying to make those designations.

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<sup>2</sup> This includes: re-terminating existing lines, decommissioning existing lines, equipment to facilitate new connections to existing substations that is to be situated within the fence line of existing substations, upgrades to terminal equipment within existing substations to increase the rating of existing lines, and segments of lines that are proposed to be built in order to loop existing lines into and out of new substations.