

A. INTRODUCTION

This section provides an overview of the effects of the Proposed Action on the use and conservation of energy.

B. POTENTIAL IMPACTS OF THE PROPOSED PROJECT

The proposed Southampton to Bridgehampton Transmission Line and Expansion of the Bridgehampton Substation Project would add a new single circuit 69 kilovolt (kV) transmission line to provide for future growth and increased reliability within the eastern portion of the Town of Southampton and the South Fork. By adding increased transmission line capacity between the Village of Southampton and Bridgehampton hamlet, the proposed project would serve to meet the projected energy demand forecasted for 2008 and beyond. Due to increases in residential population and associated growth in development, the demand for electricity on Long Island, and Eastern Suffolk County in particular, is rising faster than the ability of the region's infrastructure to generate and deliver it. Locating an additional transmission line in the region is an appropriate response to the increased demands for power supply and delivery on Long Island. Moreover, the Proposed Action would improve system reliability by adding a new transmission line that would function independent of the existing double circuit line that currently serves the eastern portion of the Town.

The proposed project would not have an adverse effect on the distribution, generation, and maintenance of existing energy facilities nor would it create a demand for additional electric energy. In fact, the proposed project would have a positive effect on energy distribution and generation and would decrease dependence on local electric generation capacity. *