

May 7, 2018

Letter to the Editor Southampton Press

Let's hope that the bad decisions emanating from Village Hall in Sag Harbor don't come in three's. ( Concerns Raised About Impound )

The first bad decision should be a concern to all environmentally minded individuals, the appearance of PSEG vehicles on Village property adjacent to The Long Pond Greenbelt. Why, one might ask, with a vast paved parking lot less than 3 miles away at The PSEG

Headquarters in Bridgehampton, are these vehicles allowed unfettered access to this environmentally significant site?

Not known for its environmental record or sensitivity to local concerns, PSEG should be the last entity allowed to use this site for any purpose. Not only are there dozens of large trucks parked overnight on the site, but also private vehicles, presumably belonging to employees, of which PSEG could have no knowledge or record of their condition or maintenance.

Combined with clear evidence of materials storage, all could be contaminating the soil above this pristine ecosystem. PSEG should be removed from this Village property immediately, the soil tested for contamination, and if found present, cleaned up at PSEG's expense.

The second bad idea, currently headed to The Southampton Town Planning Board on May 24, is to pave a large swath of the parcel, install a chain link fence, and install lighting for an impound yard for vehicles seized by the police. The installation of lighting is a particularly intrusive aspect of the plan as The Long Pond Greenbelt hosts night walks thru-out the year to coincide with both celestial events and nature's nocturnal cycles. The position of this property high above The Long Pond would be most intrusive not only to this activity but also to the fauna inhabiting this pristine preserve.

The Town Planning Board should heed the concerns of not only the stewards of this site, The Friends of The Long Pond Greenbelt, but also to the experts opposing this effort including The Group for The East End and The Nature Conservancy, and deny this proposed use.

Most sincerely,

PTP etc.....