

# NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION

Division of Environmental Permits, Region 8  
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## STATE ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY REVIEW ACT TRANSMITTAL OF AMENDED SEQR NEGATIVE DECLARATION

June 28, 2016

Re: Greenidge Station, Town of Torrey, Yates County  
DEC Application Nos. 8-5736-00004/00001, /00016, and /00017

Dear Involved or Interested Agency:

The Region 8 Office of the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) has received permit applications related to the operation of the Greenidge Station power plant located in the Town of Torrey, Yates County. The applicant has applied for the required Title IV and Title V Air Pollution Control permits, and the Department proposes a renewal and modification of the existing State Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (SPDES) Permit. Previously, copies of the permit application and Full Environmental Assessment Forms (EAF) were provided to your agency, along with a summary "SEQR Data Sheet".

All agencies responded to our lead agency coordination package by consenting to the DEC serving as the lead agency for review of the project.

This is to inform you that the DEC, as the SEQR lead agency, has issued an amended negative declaration for the project and will not require the preparation of an environmental impact statement. Enclosed for your information are Parts 2 and 3 of the Full EAF documenting the Department's determination.

Please feel free to contact me at (585) 226-5382 if you have any questions, or need additional information.

Sincerely,



Scott E. Sheeley  
Regional Permit Administrator

Distribution List Attached

Enclosure – Amended Negative Declaration

**SEQR Lead Agency Coordination Distribution List (all with enclosures):**

**Involved Agencies:**

New York State Department of Public Service  
Attn: James Austin, Chief  
Environmental Certification & Compliance  
3 Empire State Plaza, 3rd Floor  
Albany, New York 12223

Yates County Industrial Development Agency  
Finger Lakes Economic Development Center  
Attn: Jim Long, Chairman, Board of Directors  
One Keuka Business Park  
Penn Yan, New York 14527

Town of Torrey Town Board  
Attention: Supervisor and Town Board  
56 Geneva Street  
Dresden, New York 14441

Town of Torrey Building and Code *Enforcement*  
Attention: Dwight James, Building & Zoning  
Officer  
56 Geneva Street  
Dresden, New York 14441

**Interested Agencies:**

Village of Dresden  
Attn: William Hall, Mayor  
Box 156  
3 Firehouse Avenue  
Dresden, New York 14441

**Applicant/Sponsor:**

Greenidge Generation, LLC  
Attn: Dale Irwin  
590 Plant Road  
Dresden, New York 14441

**Enclosures:**

SEQR Full EAF Parts 2 and 3, Comprising the Negative Declaration

**Full Environmental Assessment Form**  
**Part 2 - Identification of Potential Project Impacts**

Agency Use Only [If applicable]  
 Project : Greenidge Station  
 Date : June 28, 2016

Part 2 is to be completed by the lead agency. Part 2 is designed to help the lead agency inventory all potential resources that could be affected by a proposed project or action. We recognize that the lead agency's reviewer(s) will not necessarily be environmental professionals. So, the questions are designed to walk a reviewer through the assessment process by providing a series of questions that can be answered using the information found in Part 1. To further assist the lead agency in completing Part 2, the form identifies the most relevant questions in Part 1 that will provide the information needed to answer the Part 2 question. When Part 2 is completed, the lead agency will have identified the relevant environmental areas that may be impacted by the proposed activity.

If the lead agency is a state agency and the action is in any Coastal Area, complete the Coastal Assessment Form before proceeding with this assessment.

**Tips for completing Part 2:**

- Review all of the information provided in Part 1.
- Review any application, maps, supporting materials and the Full EAF Workbook.
- Answer each of the 18 questions in Part 2.
- If you answer "Yes" to a numbered question, please complete all the questions that follow in that section.
- If you answer "No" to a numbered question, move on to the next numbered question.
- Check appropriate column to indicate the anticipated size of the impact.
- Proposed projects that would exceed a numeric threshold contained in a question should result in the reviewing agency checking the box "Moderate to large impact may occur."
- The reviewer is not expected to be an expert in environmental analysis.
- If you are not sure or undecided about the size of an impact, it may help to review the sub-questions for the general question and consult the workbook.
- When answering a question consider all components of the proposed activity, that is, the "whole action".
- Consider the possibility for long-term and cumulative impacts as well as direct impacts.
- Answer the question in a reasonable manner considering the scale and context of the project.

<b>1. Impact on Land</b> Proposed action may involve construction on, or physical alteration of, the land surface of the proposed site. (See Part 1. D.1) <i>If "Yes", answer questions a - j. If "No", move on to Section 2.</i>			
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> YES
	Relevant Part I Question(s)	No, or small impact may occur	Moderate to large impact may occur
a. The proposed action may involve construction on land where depth to water table is less than 3 feet.	E2d	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. The proposed action may involve construction on slopes of 15% or greater.	E2f	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c. The proposed action may involve construction on land where bedrock is exposed, or generally within 5 feet of existing ground surface.	E2a	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d. The proposed action may involve the excavation and removal of more than 1,000 tons of natural material.	D2a	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e. The proposed action may involve construction that continues for more than one year or in multiple phases.	D1e	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
f. The proposed action may result in increased erosion, whether from physical disturbance or vegetation removal (including from treatment by herbicides).	D2e, D2q	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
g. The proposed action is, or may be, located within a Coastal Erosion hazard area.	B1i	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
h. Other impacts: _____ _____		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**2. Impact on Geological Features**

The proposed action may result in the modification or destruction of, or inhibit access to, any unique or unusual land forms on the site (e.g., cliffs, dunes, minerals, fossils, caves). (See Part 1. E.2.g)

NO

YES

*If "Yes", answer questions a - c. If "No", move on to Section 3.*

	Relevant Part I Question(s)	No, or small impact may occur	Moderate to large impact may occur
a. Identify the specific land form(s) attached: _____	E2g	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. The proposed action may affect or is adjacent to a geological feature listed as a registered National Natural Landmark. Specific feature: _____	E3c	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c. Other impacts: _____		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**3. Impacts on Surface Water**

The proposed action may affect one or more wetlands or other surface water bodies (e.g., streams, rivers, ponds or lakes). (See Part 1. D.2, E.2.h)

NO

YES

*If "Yes", answer questions a - l. If "No", move on to Section 4.*

	Relevant Part I Question(s)	No, or small impact may occur	Moderate to large impact may occur
a. The proposed action may create a new water body. <span style="float: right;">NO</span>	D2b, D1h	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. The proposed action may result in an increase or decrease of over 10% or more than a 10 acre increase or decrease in the surface area of any body of water. <span style="float: right;">NO</span>	D2b	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c. The proposed action may involve dredging more than 100 cubic yards of material from a wetland or water body. <span style="float: right;">NO</span>	D2a	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d. The proposed action may involve construction within or adjoining a freshwater or tidal wetland, or in the bed or banks of any other water body. <span style="float: right;">SMALL IMPACT SEE PART 3</span>	E2h	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e. The proposed action may create turbidity in a waterbody, either from upland erosion, runoff or by disturbing bottom sediments. <span style="float: right;">NO</span>	D2a, D2h	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
f. The proposed action may include construction of one or more intake(s) for withdrawal of water from surface water. <span style="float: right;">NO</span>	D2c	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
g. The proposed action may include construction of one or more outfall(s) for discharge of wastewater to surface water(s). <span style="float: right;">NO</span>	D2d	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
h. The proposed action may cause soil erosion, or otherwise create a source of stormwater discharge that may lead to siltation or other degradation of receiving water bodies. <span style="float: right;">NO</span>	D2e	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
i. The proposed action may affect the water quality of any water bodies within or downstream of the site of the proposed action. <span style="float: right;">NO</span>	E2h	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
j. The proposed action may involve the application of pesticides or herbicides in or around any water body. <span style="float: right;">NO</span>	D2q, E2h	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
k. The proposed action may require the construction of new, or expansion of existing, wastewater treatment facilities. <span style="float: right;">NO</span>	D1a, D2d	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

I. Other impacts: Plant resuming operation requiring resumption of cooling water withdrawals and installation of intake structure screens to reduce fish mortality <i>SEE PART 3</i>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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**4. Impact on groundwater**  
 The proposed action may result in new or additional use of ground water, or may have the potential to introduce contaminants to ground water or an aquifer. (See Part 1. D.2.a, D.2.c, D.2.d, D.2.p, D.2.q, D.2.t)  
*If "Yes", answer questions a - h. If "No", move on to Section 5.*

NO       YES

	Relevant Part I Question(s)	No, or small impact may occur	Moderate to large impact may occur
a. The proposed action may require new water supply wells, or create additional demand on supplies from existing water supply wells.	D2c	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. Water supply demand from the proposed action may exceed safe and sustainable withdrawal capacity rate of the local supply or aquifer. Cite Source: _____	D2c	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c. The proposed action may allow or result in residential uses in areas without water and sewer services.	D1a, D2c	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d. The proposed action may include or require wastewater discharged to groundwater.	D2d, E2l	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e. The proposed action may result in the construction of water supply wells in locations where groundwater is, or is suspected to be, contaminated.	D2c, E1f, E1g, E1h	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
f. The proposed action may require the bulk storage of petroleum or chemical products over ground water or an aquifer.	D2p, E2l	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
g. The proposed action may involve the commercial application of pesticides within 100 feet of potable drinking water or irrigation sources.	E2h, D2q, E2l, D2c	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
h. Other impacts: _____ _____		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**5. Impact on Flooding**  
 The proposed action may result in development on lands subject to flooding. (See Part 1. E.2)  
*If "Yes", answer questions a - g. If "No", move on to Section 6.*

NO       YES

	Relevant Part I Question(s)	No, or small impact may occur	Moderate to large impact may occur
a. The proposed action may result in development in a designated floodway.	E2i	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. The proposed action may result in development within a 100 year floodplain.	E2j	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c. The proposed action may result in development within a 500 year floodplain.	E2k	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d. The proposed action may result in, or require, modification of existing drainage patterns.	D2b, D2e	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e. The proposed action may change flood water flows that contribute to flooding.	D2b, E2i, E2j, E2k	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
f. If there is a dam located on the site of the proposed action, is the dam in need of repair, or upgrade?	E1e	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

g. Other impacts: _____ _____		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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<b>6. Impacts on Air</b> The proposed action may include a state regulated air emission source. <span style="float: right;"><input type="checkbox"/> NO <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES</span> (See Part 1. D.2.f., D.2.h, D.2.g) <i>If "Yes", answer questions a - f. If "No", move on to Section 7.</i>			
SEE PART 3	Relevant Part I Question(s)	No, or small impact may occur	Moderate to large impact may occur
a. If the proposed action requires federal or state air emission permits, the action may also emit one or more greenhouse gases at or above the following levels: i. More than 1000 tons/year of carbon dioxide (CO <sub>2</sub> ) ii. More than 3.5 tons/year of nitrous oxide (N <sub>2</sub> O) iii. More than 1000 tons/year of carbon equivalent of perfluorocarbons (PFCs) iv. More than .045 tons/year of sulfur hexafluoride (SF <sub>6</sub> ) v. More than 1000 tons/year of carbon dioxide equivalent of hydrochloroflourocarbons (HFCs) emissions vi. 43 tons/year or more of methane	D2g D2g D2g D2g D2g D2h	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
b. The proposed action may generate 10 tons/year or more of any one designated hazardous air pollutant, or 25 tons/year or more of any combination of such hazardous air pollutants.	D2g	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c. The proposed action may require a state air registration, or may produce an emissions rate of total contaminants that may exceed 5 lbs. per hour, or may include a heat source capable of producing more than 10 million BTU's per hour.	D2f, D2g	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d. The proposed action may reach 50% of any of the thresholds in "a" through "c", above.	D2g	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
e. The proposed action may result in the combustion or thermal treatment of more than 1 ton of refuse per hour.	D2s	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
f. Other impacts: _____ _____		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

<b>7. Impact on Plants and Animals</b> The proposed action may result in a loss of flora or fauna. (See Part 1. E.2. m.-q.) <span style="float: right;"><input type="checkbox"/> NO <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES</span> <i>If "Yes", answer questions a - j. If "No", move on to Section 8.</i>			
SEE PART 3	Relevant Part I Question(s)	No, or small impact may occur	Moderate to large impact may occur
a. The proposed action may cause reduction in population or loss of individuals of any threatened or endangered species, as listed by New York State or the Federal government, that use the site, or are found on, over, or near the site. <span style="float: right;">NO</span>	E2o	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. The proposed action may result in a reduction or degradation of any habitat used by any rare, threatened or endangered species, as listed by New York State or the federal government. <span style="float: right;">NO</span>	E2o	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c. The proposed action may cause reduction in population, or loss of individuals, of any species of special concern or conservation need, as listed by New York State or the Federal government, that use the site, or are found on, over, or near the site. <span style="float: right;">NO</span>	E2p	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d. The proposed action may result in a reduction or degradation of any habitat used by any species of special concern and conservation need, as listed by New York State or the Federal government. <span style="float: right;">NO</span>	E2p	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

e. The proposed action may diminish the capacity of a registered National Natural Landmark to support the biological community it was established to protect. <i>NO</i>	E3c	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
f. The proposed action may result in the removal of, or ground disturbance in, any portion of a designated significant natural community. Source: _____ <i>NO</i>	E2n	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
g. The proposed action may substantially interfere with nesting/breeding, foraging, or over-wintering habitat for the predominant species that occupy or use the project site.	E2m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
h. The proposed action requires the conversion of more than 10 acres of forest, grassland or any other regionally or locally important habitat. Habitat type & information source: _____ <i>NO</i>	E1b	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
i. Proposed action (commercial, industrial or recreational projects, only) involves use of herbicides or pesticides. <i>NO</i>	D2q	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
j. Other impacts: Fish entrainment & impingement mortality will result from operation of cooling water intakes - see PART 3		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

<b>8. Impact on Agricultural Resources</b>			
The proposed action may impact agricultural resources. (See Part 1. E.3.a. and b.)		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> YES
<i>If "Yes", answer questions a - h. If "No", move on to Section 9.</i>			
	<b>Relevant Part I Question(s)</b>	<b>No, or small impact may occur</b>	<b>Moderate to large impact may occur</b>
a. The proposed action may impact soil classified within soil group 1 through 4 of the NYS Land Classification System.	E2c, E3b	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. The proposed action may sever, cross or otherwise limit access to agricultural land (includes cropland, hayfields, pasture, vineyard, orchard, etc).	E1a, E1b	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c. The proposed action may result in the excavation or compaction of the soil profile of active agricultural land.	E3b	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d. The proposed action may irreversibly convert agricultural land to non-agricultural uses, either more than 2.5 acres if located in an Agricultural District, or more than 10 acres if not within an Agricultural District.	E1b, E3a	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e. The proposed action may disrupt or prevent installation of an agricultural land management system.	E1 a, E1b	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
f. The proposed action may result, directly or indirectly, in increased development potential or pressure on farmland.	C2c, C3, D2c, D2d	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
g. The proposed project is not consistent with the adopted municipal Farmland Protection Plan.	C2c	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
h. Other impacts: _____		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

<b>9. Impact on Aesthetic Resources</b> The land use of the proposed action are obviously different from, or are in sharp contrast to, current land use patterns between the proposed project and a scenic or aesthetic resource. (Part 1. E.1.a, E.1.b, E.3.h.) <i>If "Yes", answer questions a - g. If "No", go to Section 10.</i>			
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> YES
	Relevant Part I Question(s)	No, or small impact may occur	Moderate to large impact may occur
a. Proposed action may be visible from any officially designated federal, state, or local scenic or aesthetic resource.	E3h	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. The proposed action may result in the obstruction, elimination or significant screening of one or more officially designated scenic views.	E3h, C2b	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c. The proposed action may be visible from publicly accessible vantage points: i. Seasonally (e.g., screened by summer foliage, but visible during other seasons) ii. Year round	E3h	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
d. The situation or activity in which viewers are engaged while viewing the proposed action is: i. Routine travel by residents, including travel to and from work ii. Recreational or tourism based activities	E3h E2q, E1c	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
e. The proposed action may cause a diminishment of the public enjoyment and appreciation of the designated aesthetic resource.	E3h	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
f. There are similar projects visible within the following distance of the proposed project: 0-1/2 mile 1/2 -3 mile 3-5 mile 5+ mile	D1a, E1a, D1f, D1g	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
g. Other impacts: _____ _____		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

<b>10. Impact on Historic and Archeological Resources</b> The proposed action may occur in or adjacent to a historic or archaeological resource. (Part 1. E.3.e, f. and g.) <i>If "Yes", answer questions a - e. If "No", go to Section 11.</i>			
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES
	Relevant Part I Question(s)	No, or small impact may occur	Moderate to large impact may occur
a. The proposed action may occur wholly or partially within, or substantially contiguous to, any buildings, archaeological site or district which is listed on or has been nominated by the NYS Board of Historic Preservation for inclusion on the State or National Register of Historic Places. <span style="color: blue; font-weight: bold;">SEE PART 3</span>	E3e	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. The proposed action may occur wholly or partially within, or substantially contiguous to, an area designated as sensitive for archaeological sites on the NY State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) archaeological site inventory. <span style="color: blue; font-weight: bold;">SEE PART 3</span>	E3f	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c. The proposed action may occur wholly or partially within, or substantially contiguous to, an archaeological site not included on the NY SHPO inventory. Source: <span style="color: blue; font-weight: bold;">NO</span>	E3g	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>



d. Other impacts: _____ _____		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e. If any of the above (a-d) are answered "Moderate to large impact may occur", continue with the following questions to help support conclusions in Part 3:			
i. The proposed action may result in the destruction or alteration of all or part of the site or property. <b>NO</b>	E3e, E3g, E3f	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
ii. The proposed action may result in the alteration of the property's setting or integrity. <b>NO</b>	E3e, E3f, E3g, E1a, E1b	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
iii. The proposed action may result in the introduction of visual elements which are out of character with the site or property, or may alter its setting. <b>NO</b>	E3e, E3f, E3g, E3h, C2, C3	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

<b>11. Impact on Open Space and Recreation</b>			
The proposed action may result in a loss of recreational opportunities or a reduction of an open space resource as designated in any adopted municipal open space plan. (See Part 1. C.2.c, E.1.c., E.2.q.) <i>If "Yes", answer questions a - e. If "No", go to Section 12.</i>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> YES
	<b>Relevant Part I Question(s)</b>	<b>No, or small impact may occur</b>	<b>Moderate to large impact may occur</b>
a. The proposed action may result in an impairment of natural functions, or "ecosystem services", provided by an undeveloped area, including but not limited to stormwater storage, nutrient cycling, wildlife habitat.	D2e, E1b, E2h, E2m, E2o, E2n, E2p	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. The proposed action may result in the loss of a current or future recreational resource.	C2a, E1c, C2c, E2q	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c. The proposed action may eliminate open space or recreational resource in an area with few such resources.	C2a, C2c, E1c, E2q	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d. The proposed action may result in loss of an area now used informally by the community as an open space resource.	C2c, E1c	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e. Other impacts: _____ _____		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

<b>12. Impact on Critical Environmental Areas</b>			
The proposed action may be located within or adjacent to a critical environmental area (CEA). (See Part 1. E.3.d) <i>If "Yes", answer questions a - c. If "No", go to Section 13.</i>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> YES
	<b>Relevant Part I Question(s)</b>	<b>No, or small impact may occur</b>	<b>Moderate to large impact may occur</b>
a. The proposed action may result in a reduction in the quantity of the resource or characteristic which was the basis for designation of the CEA.	E3d	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. The proposed action may result in a reduction in the quality of the resource or characteristic which was the basis for designation of the CEA.	E3d	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c. Other impacts: _____ _____		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**13. Impact on Transportation**

The proposed action may result in a change to existing transportation systems. (See Part 1. D.2.j)

NO  YES

If "Yes", answer questions a - f. If "No", go to Section 14.

	Relevant Part I Question(s)	No, or small impact may occur	Moderate to large impact may occur
a. Projected traffic increase may exceed capacity of existing road network.	D2j	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. The proposed action may result in the construction of paved parking area for 500 or more vehicles.	D2j	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c. The proposed action will degrade existing transit access.	D2j	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d. The proposed action will degrade existing pedestrian or bicycle accommodations.	D2j	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e. The proposed action may alter the present pattern of movement of people or goods.	D2j	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
f. Other impacts: _____		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**14. Impact on Energy**

The proposed action may cause an increase in the use of any form of energy. (See Part 1. D.2.k)

NO  YES

If "Yes", answer questions a - e. If "No", go to Section 15.

	Relevant Part I Question(s)	No, or small impact may occur	Moderate to large impact may occur
a. The proposed action will require a new, or an upgrade to an existing, substation.	D2k	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. The proposed action will require the creation or extension of an energy transmission or supply system to serve more than 50 single or two-family residences or to serve a commercial or industrial use. <i>NO - GAS LINE TO BE EXTENDED TO SITE UNDER PSC ARTICLE VII JURISDICTION</i>	D1f, D1q, D2k	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c. The proposed action may utilize more than 2,500 MWhrs per year of electricity.	D2k	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d. The proposed action may involve heating and/or cooling of more than 100,000 square feet of building area when completed.	D1g	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e. Other Impacts: <u>Resuming operation of Greenidge Station Power Plant Unit 4, with 107 MW capacity. The plant will be operated on natural gas, with up to 19% biomass</u>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

**15. Impact on Noise, Odor, and Light**

The proposed action may result in an increase in noise, odors, or outdoor lighting. (See Part 1. D.2.m., n., and o.)

NO  YES

If "Yes", answer questions a - f. If "No", go to Section 16.

	Relevant Part I Question(s)	No, or small impact may occur	Moderate to large impact may occur
a. The proposed action may produce sound above noise levels established by local regulation.	D2m	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. The proposed action may result in blasting within 1,500 feet of any residence, hospital, school, licensed day care center, or nursing home.	D2m, E1d	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c. The proposed action may result in routine odors for more than one hour per day.	D2o	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

d. The proposed action may result in light shining onto adjoining properties.	D2n	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e. The proposed action may result in lighting creating sky-glow brighter than existing area conditions.	D2n, E1a	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
f. Other impacts: _____ _____		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

<b>16. Impact on Human Health</b> The proposed action may have an impact on human health from exposure to new or existing sources of contaminants. (See Part 1.D.2.q., E.1. d. f. g. and h.) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> YES <i>If "Yes", answer questions a - m. If "No", go to Section 17.</i>			
	<b>Relevant Part I Question(s)</b>	<b>No, or small impact may occur</b>	<b>Moderate to large impact may occur</b>
a. The proposed action is located within 1500 feet of a school, hospital, licensed day care center, group home, nursing home or retirement community.	E1d	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. The site of the proposed action is currently undergoing remediation.	E1g, E1h	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c. There is a completed emergency spill remediation, or a completed environmental site remediation on, or adjacent to, the site of the proposed action.	E1g, E1h	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d. The site of the action is subject to an institutional control limiting the use of the property (e.g., easement or deed restriction).	E1g, E1h	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e. The proposed action may affect institutional control measures that were put in place to ensure that the site remains protective of the environment and human health.	E1g, E1h	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
f. The proposed action has adequate control measures in place to ensure that future generation, treatment and/or disposal of hazardous wastes will be protective of the environment and human health.	D2t	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
g. The proposed action involves construction or modification of a solid waste management facility.	D2q, E1f	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
h. The proposed action may result in the unearthing of solid or hazardous waste.	D2q, E1f	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
i. The proposed action may result in an increase in the rate of disposal, or processing, of solid waste.	D2r, D2s	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
j. The proposed action may result in excavation or other disturbance within 2000 feet of a site used for the disposal of solid or hazardous waste.	E1f, E1g E1h	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
k. The proposed action may result in the migration of explosive gases from a landfill site to adjacent off site structures.	E1f, E1g	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
l. The proposed action may result in the release of contaminated leachate from the project site.	D2s, E1f, D2r	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
m. Other impacts: _____ _____			

<b>17. Consistency with Community Plans</b> The proposed action is not consistent with adopted land use plans. (See Part 1. C.1, C.2. and C.3.) <i>If "Yes", answer questions a - h. If "No", go to Section 18.</i>				<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> YES
	<b>Relevant Part I Question(s)</b>	<b>No, or small impact may occur</b>	<b>Moderate to large impact may occur</b>		
a. The proposed action's land use components may be different from, or in sharp contrast to, current surrounding land use pattern(s).	C2, C3, D1a E1a, E1b	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
b. The proposed action will cause the permanent population of the city, town or village in which the project is located to grow by more than 5%.	C2	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
c. The proposed action is inconsistent with local land use plans or zoning regulations.	C2, C2, C3	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
d. The proposed action is inconsistent with any County plans, or other regional land use plans.	C2, C2	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
e. The proposed action may cause a change in the density of development that is not supported by existing infrastructure or is distant from existing infrastructure.	C3, D1c, D1d, D1f, D1d, E1b	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
f. The proposed action is located in an area characterized by low density development that will require new or expanded public infrastructure.	C4, D2c, D2d D2j	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
g. The proposed action may induce secondary development impacts (e.g., residential or commercial development not included in the proposed action)	C2a	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
h. Other: _____ _____		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		

<b>18. Consistency with Community Character</b> The proposed project is inconsistent with the existing community character. (See Part 1. C.2, C.3, D.2, E.3) <i>If "Yes", answer questions a - g. If "No", proceed to Part 3.</i>				<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> YES
	<b>Relevant Part I Question(s)</b>	<b>No, or small impact may occur</b>	<b>Moderate to large impact may occur</b>		
a. The proposed action may replace or eliminate existing facilities, structures, or areas of historic importance to the community.	E3e, E3f, E3g	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
b. The proposed action may create a demand for additional community services (e.g. schools, police and fire)	C4	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
c. The proposed action may displace affordable or low-income housing in an area where there is a shortage of such housing.	C2, C3, D1f D1g, E1a	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
d. The proposed action may interfere with the use or enjoyment of officially recognized or designated public resources.	C2, E3	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
e. The proposed action is inconsistent with the predominant architectural scale and character.	C2, C3	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
f. Proposed action is inconsistent with the character of the existing natural landscape.	C2, C3 E1a, E1b E2g, E2h	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
g. Other impacts: _____ _____		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		

Project : Greenidge Station

Date : June 28, 2016

**Full Environmental Assessment Form**  
**Part 3 - Evaluation of the Magnitude and Importance of Project Impacts**  
**and**  
**Determination of Significance**

Part 3 provides the reasons in support of the determination of significance. The lead agency must complete Part 3 for every question in Part 2 where the impact has been identified as potentially moderate to large or where there is a need to explain why a particular element of the proposed action will not, or may, result in a significant adverse environmental impact.

Based on the analysis in Part 3, the lead agency must decide whether to require an environmental impact statement to further assess the proposed action or whether available information is sufficient for the lead agency to conclude that the proposed action will not have a significant adverse environmental impact. By completing the certification on the next page, the lead agency can complete its determination of significance.

**Reasons Supporting This Determination:**

To complete this section:

- Identify the impact based on the Part 2 responses and describe its magnitude. Magnitude considers factors such as severity, size or extent of an impact.
- Assess the importance of the impact. Importance relates to the geographic scope, duration, probability of the impact occurring, number of people affected by the impact and any additional environmental consequences if the impact were to occur.
- The assessment should take into consideration any design element or project changes.
- Repeat this process for each Part 2 question where the impact has been identified as potentially moderate to large or where there is a need to explain why a particular element of the proposed action will not, or may, result in a significant adverse environmental impact.
- Provide the reason(s) why the impact may, or will not, result in a significant adverse environmental impact
- For Conditional Negative Declarations identify the specific condition(s) imposed that will modify the proposed action so that no significant adverse environmental impacts will result.
- Attach additional sheets, as needed.

THIS IS AN AMENDED NEGATIVE DECLARATION THAT REPLACES THE ORIGINAL DETERMINATION OF SIGNIFICANCE  
DATED JULY 30, 2015

SEE ATTACHED

**Determination of Significance - Type 1 and Unlisted Actions**

SEQR Status:  Type 1  Unlisted

Identify portions of EAF completed for this Project:  Part 1  Part 2  Part 3

Upon review of the information recorded on this EAF, as noted, plus this additional support information

and considering both the magnitude and importance of each identified potential impact, it is the conclusion of the  
THE NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION as lead agency that:

- A. This project will result in no significant adverse impacts on the environment, and, therefore, an environmental impact statement need not be prepared. Accordingly, this negative declaration is issued.
- B. Although this project could have a significant adverse impact on the environment, that impact will be avoided or substantially mitigated because of the following conditions which will be required by the lead agency:

There will, therefore, be no significant adverse impacts from the project as conditioned, and, therefore, this conditioned negative declaration is issued. A conditioned negative declaration may be used only for UNLISTED actions (see 6 NYCRR 617.d).

- C. This Project may result in one or more significant adverse impacts on the environment, and an environmental impact statement must be prepared to further assess the impact(s) and possible mitigation and to explore alternatives to avoid or reduce those impacts. Accordingly, this positive declaration is issued.

Name of Action: Greenidge Station Conversion and SPDES Permit Renewal/Modification

Name of Lead Agency: New York State Department of Environmental Conservation

Name of Responsible Officer in Lead Agency: Scott E. Sheeley

Title of Responsible Officer: Regional Permit Administrator

Signature of Responsible Officer in Lead Agency:  Date: June 28, 2016

Signature of Preparer (if different from Responsible Officer) Date:

**For Further Information:**

Contact Person: Scott E. Sheeley, Regional Permit Administrator

Address: NYSDEC Region 8, 6274 East Avon-Lima Road

Telephone Number: 585-226-5382

E-mail: SCOTT.SHEELEY@DEC.NY.GOV

**For Type 1 Actions and Conditioned Negative Declarations, a copy of this Notice is sent to:**

Chief Executive Officer of the political subdivision in which the action will be principally located (e.g., Town / City / Village of)

Other involved agencies (if any)

Applicant (if any)

Environmental Notice Bulletin: <http://www.dec.ny.gov/enb/enb.html>

PRINT FULL FORM

## State Environmental Quality Review

### SEQR Full Environmental Assessment Form

#### Part 3 - Evaluation of the Magnitude and Importance of Project Impacts (Continuation) For Amended Negative Declaration

**Project Numbers:** 8-5736-00004/00001, /00016, and /00017

**Date:** June 28, 2016

**Name of Action:** Greenidge Station Reactivation and SPDES Renewal/Modification

**SEQR Status:** Type 1

**Preparer's Name:** Scott E. Sheeley, Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC Division of Environmental Permits  
6274 East Avon-Lima Road, Avon NY 14414  
(585) 226-5382

#### **Description of Action:**

The sponsor, Greenidge Generation, LLC, proposes to resume operations at the Greenidge Generating Station ("Greenidge Station"). Greenidge Station, a previously coal-fired plant, was in operation as early as the 1930's, with Unit 4 installed in 1953. In 2006 significant improvements to emission control equipment were installed on Unit 4 and in 2011 the plant was placed in protective lay-up status and has not operated since March, 2011. The proposal would operate Unit 4 with a maximum generating capacity of 107 MW. The unit would not burn coal, but instead be converted to fire primarily natural gas, with the ability to co-fire up to 19% biomass, both of which were fuels previously authorized in the facility Title V permit. (A new natural gas pipeline would be constructed to service the site, which would be reviewed under the Article VII process governed by the New York State Department of Public Service separate from this SEQR action.) The Department also proposes to renew and modify the facility's existing SPDES permit to incorporate requirements to install cylindrical wedge wire intake screens on the plant's cooling water intakes and install variable speed cooling water pumps on Unit 4 as "Best Technology Available" to address requirements under the federal Clean Water Act to reduce fish mortality (i.e., impingement and entrainment).

#### **Reasons Supporting the Amended SEQR Determination:**

1. Impacts on Surface Water: The project will ultimately involve a modification of the cooling water intake structure (CWIS) at the facility. The modification will include the installation of "Best Technology Available" (BTA) measures in accordance with Commissioner's Policy CP-52 to reduce fish entrainment and impingement. This will involve construction/attachment of intake screens at the end of the intake below the mean high water line of Seneca Lake. As such, no significant amount of modification or alteration of the bed of Seneca Lake is expected even though there may be short-term, temporary impacts to water quality directly around the work site during construction. As a result, no impacts to surface waters are anticipated as a result of intake modification.

The Department is proposing to renew and modify the SPDES permit to ensure the facility complies with all applicable water quality standards and addresses the "Best Technology Available" (BTA) requirements of the Clean Water Act and DEC Commissioner's Policy on BTA for Cooling Water Intake Structures (CP-52). A review was completed and the Department is proposing modifications to the SPDES permit based on that evaluation. The primary changes are the inclusion of a dilution study to determine appropriate dilution factors in Seneca Lake, and revised conditions requiring implementation of the Department's Best Technology Available

(BTA) determination. The dilution factors obtained by the dilution study will be used to refine the current water quality based effluent limits in the permit. With regard to the modifications related to BTA, the Department has determined that BTA for this facility will include the installation of wedge-wire intake screens on the CWIS with a slot size of  $0.5 \leq 1.0$  mm, and the installation of variable speed cooling water circulation pumps. The Department has determined that this BTA determination is consistent with applicable regulations and CP-52. The facility will be required to implement the BTA technologies and achieve an 85% reduction in the entrainment of all fish life stages and a 95% reduction in impingement mortality of all fish life stages. The proposed modified permit for Greenidge Station contains effluent limits and conditions which ensure that the existing beneficial uses of Seneca Lake will be maintained. As a result there are no significant adverse impacts associated with the Department's renewal and modification of the facility SPDES permit.

The Department is also considering an application for an initial permit for the withdrawal of water pursuant to 6 NYCRR Part 601 (Water Withdrawal Permitting). Part 601 requires the Department to issue Initial Permits to authorize the continued operation and withdrawal of already-existing water withdrawal facilities for the maximum capacity reported to NYSDEC as of February 15, 2012. The Department intends on issuing an initial permit to Greenidge Generation LLC for Greenidge Station, an already-existing water withdrawal facility, for the withdrawal of approximately 160 million gallons per day (MGD), the amount reported to the Department. The initial water withdrawal permit will also include a suite of conservation measures as required by Part 601 to minimize impacts from the water withdrawal. However, given that reactivation will be limited to Unit 4, the anticipated amount of actual withdrawal will be less than the permitted amount.

Although the Department has classified the issuance of an initial permit under 6 NYCRR Part 601 as a Type II action under SEQR (6 NYCRR 617.5[c][19]) and, therefore not subject to SEQR, substantively, in this instance – because the initial water withdrawal permit is proposed to be issued along with permits that are subject to SEQR - the impact or impact of any change in withdrawal has been considered alongside the impacts of the air and SPDES permits.

2. Impacts on Air: The Department is proposing to issue Title V and Title IV permits for the Greenidge Station Facility. Greenidge Station was previously owned by AES Greenidge LLC, and operated under Title IV and Title V Facility Permits from 2001 until operations ceased in 2011. AES Greenidge LLC then relinquished the Title IV and Title V Facility Permits in November 2012.

Greenidge Station is a Major Stationary Source, and is required to obtain a Title V Permit as specified in 6 NYCRR Part 201-6, due to potential emissions of oxides of nitrogen (NOx) and carbon monoxide (CO) in excess of 100 tons per year (each); and hazardous air pollutants (HAP) in excess of 25 tons per year. With operations of Unit 4 being resumed without coal as a fuel source, the Greenidge Generating Station will emit contaminants from boiler powered electric generation and ash handling operations. The Department has subjected the proposed operation of Greenidge Unit 4 to 6 NYCRR Part 231 Prevention of Significant Deterioration (PSD) and Non-attainment New Source Review (NNSR) requirements applicable to major source of air emissions.

The Department has determined that NOx emissions from the Greenidge Station will be above the major source threshold and, therefore, applied the nonattainment New Source Review (NNSR) lowest achievable emission rate (LAER) requirement. PSD best available control technology (BACT) requirements were applied to emissions of CO, particulate matter (PM, PM10, PM2.5), and carbon dioxide (CO2). To meet LAER, the boiler's NOx emissions will be controlled by optimizing the



following: low NOx burners/flue gas recirculation/tangential low NOx firing; separated overfire air; closed couple overfire air; selective non-catalytic reduction; and selective catalytic reduction. BACT for particulate emissions will be a fabric filter baghouse with leak detection and the use of low emitting fuel (natural gas). BACT for CO emissions is the use of separated overfire air and closed couple overfire air. BACT for CO2 is the use of low carbon fuels (natural gas and biomass); fuel efficient generation and use of energy to operate the facility; natural gas line leak detection and repair; and the completion of an energy efficiency assessment of the facility. To ensure compliance with BACT, LAER and other emission requirements, continuous emission monitoring systems will be used to measure NOx, CO, sulfur oxides (SOx), ammonia (NH3), and GHGs requirements. In addition, a Continuous Opacity Monitoring System (COMS) will be used to monitor compliance with opacity requirements, and annual stack testing will be required for demonstrating compliance with the emission limits for PM, PM10, and PM2.5. Greenidge Generation LLC has also surrendered 177 tons of NOx emission reduction credits (ERC) to offset the 153.8 tons of potential NOx emissions associated with this action.

During its prior operation on coal with many of these existing controls in place, the operation of Greenidge Station did not result in any significant adverse impacts to air quality. These controls will remain in place and, in addition, as detailed above, the boiler and emission controls will be optimized, which will result in even lower air emissions. Greenidge station will also not use coal as a fuel source. The boiler will be converted to operate primarily on natural gas, with the ability to co-fire up to 19% biomass. No other fuels will be authorized. This will reduce air emissions even further, and the operations will meet all applicable air emission standards.

As a result of the above, the Department has determined that resuming operation of this existing facility, and its conversion to natural gas as its primary fuel will not result in any significant adverse impacts to air quality.

3. Impacts on Plants and Animals: The project will have no significant adverse impacts on plants or animals. See discussion concerning fish impingement and entrainment under "surface waters" above. In addition, the facility is existing and will not involve the removal or destruction of vegetation.
4. Impacts on Historic and Archaeological Resources: The project site is located just east of the Crooked Lake Outlet Historic District (95 NR 00889), which is listed on the National Registers of Historic Places. The project site is also located within an area designated as archaeologically sensitive by the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation, and Historic Preservation. However, the facilities that will be re-activated already exist and no new construction is proposed. To the extent that gas will be provided to the site at some future date by a new gas pipeline, the construction of the gas pipeline will be regulated under Article VII of the Public Service Law by the New York State Public Service Commission and potential impacts to cultural resources, if any, will be addressed at that time. As a result there will be no significant adverse impacts to historic or archaeological resources associated with the plant re-activation.
5. Impact on Energy: The re-activation of Unit 4 at Greenidge Station will use biomass and natural gas to generate electricity. However, the operation of the plant itself will not create a new demand for energy. Rather, it will serve as another facility to help meet the current electricity demands of the region. As a result, the plant will have no significant adverse impacts in increasing the use of energy.

6. **Solid Waste Management:** No impacts related to solid waste management are expected to result from the re-activation of Greenidge Station. By eliminating the use of coal as a fuel source, the generation of solid waste from the facility will be significantly reduced compared to prior operations. If Unit 4 were reactivated with coal, approximately 78,000 tons of fly ash and 158 tons of other waste would be generated per year. However, this will be greatly reduced since coal will no longer be used as a fuel source. As a result, there are no significant adverse impacts related to solid waste management associated with this project.