



# TOWN OF EAST HAMPTON

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## **Town Participation in LIPA/PSEG Peak Savers Load Relief Program Relieves Demand on Grid During Heat Wave**

**Helps Maintain Reliable Electric Service, Avoid Brownouts; Reduces Need to Put Additional Polluting, Diesel-Powered “Peaker” Plants in Service to Meet Increasing Electric Demand**

*Town is engaged in continued negotiations to allow South Fork Wind Farm cable landing for renewable energy supply*

## **Propane-powered generators were used to power several town buildings for four-hour periods on July 20, July 22, July 27, and July 28**

The Town of East Hampton has opted to participate in the South Fork Peak Savers Load Relief Program, which was developed in response to an initiative by our electrical utilities, LIPA/PSEG, to reduce electrical demand on the South Fork by 8 megawatts.

When the utility predicts a “peak demand event” – greater than normal energy usage in the area, such as during a heat wave – the Town is given the option to assist by taking some of its buildings off the grid for a designated four-hour period, powering them instead with propane-powered generators. The buildings selected by the town for the program are the Parks Department, police garage, and food pantry buildings at the main Town Hall campus, and the East Hampton Town Senior Center. The Town has participated in all four of the peak demand events called by the utility so far this summer.

This offsets the use of diesel-powered peaker plants to meet energy demand. Propane produces 35 percent fewer emissions than diesel.

For each event the Town is able to shed approximately 100 kW of demand from the grid. At the end of the summer season (Sept. 30) the total amount of load shed provided by the Town will be calculated. The Town will receive a payment of \$110 per kW saved, plus a fuel stipend payment.

As peak demand on the South Fork is expected to continue to increase, efforts such as the load relief program and the numerous energy efficient measures also undertaken by the town are increasingly important. Also critical is the continued development of alternative, renewable energy sources.

The Peak Savers program has resulted, overall for the East Hampton community, in approximately 2 megawatts of peak load reduction through energy efficiency improvements. Participation in load relief events, including the town’s participation, is shaving demand for approximately 350 kW of energy from the grid during peak times. In addition, nearly 2,800 thermostats connected to a “demand response

management system” that allows the utility to control them during peak load events, are reducing the summer peak demand by about 2.8 MW.

“Energy efficiency and load relief efforts can be temporarily effective, but are only stopgap measures,” said East Hampton Town Supervisor Peter Van Scoyoc. “The need for reliable, renewable energy, such as the wind power that the South Fork Wind Farm will generate, is even more important now, with more people choosing to spend their time in East Hampton due to the pandemic.”