



Cricket Valley Transmission Line
and Re-conductoring Project

Exhibit 6

Economic Effects

TABLE OF CONTENTS

<u>Section</u>		<u>Page</u>
EXHIBIT 6	ECONOMIC EFFECTS	6-1
6.1	Introduction and Summary of Findings	6-1
6.2	Demographics	6-1
6.3	Construction Effects and Mitigation	6-2
6.3.1	Construction Schedule	6-3
6.3.2	Number of Workers by Construction Discipline	6-3
6.3.3	Available Construction Force	6-4
6.3.4	Mitigation	6-4
6.4	Operational Effects and Mitigation	6-4

LIST OF TABLES

Table 6-1	Demographics of Communities along the Project Right-of-Way
Table 6-2	Available Workforce in Communities along the Project Right-of-Way

EXHIBIT 6 ECONOMIC EFFECTS

This Exhibit addresses the requirements of 16 NYCRR §86.7.

6.1 Introduction and Summary of Findings

Cricket Valley Energy Center, LLC (“Cricket Valley”) is proposing to: (1) develop a new approximately 14.6-mile 345 kilovolt (kV) transmission line parallel to the existing Consolidated Edison Company of New York, Inc.’s (“Con Edison”) 345 kV Line 398 (“Line 398”) from the planned Cricket Valley switchyard (the “Cricket Valley Switchyard”) in the town of Dover, New York to Con Edison’s Pleasant Valley Substation in the town of Pleasant Valley, New York (the “Transmission Line”); and (2) re-conductor an approximately 3.4-mile segment of the existing 345 kV Line 398 in the town of Dover between the Cricket Valley Switchyard and the New York-Connecticut state line (the “Re-conductoring Segment”) (collectively the “Project”).

The Project will also include improvements to Consolidated Edison’s Pleasant Valley Substation. New protection and communication system upgrades will be required within the existing control buildings at the Pleasant Valley Substation.

The Project will require a workforce of as many as 60 workers in various disciplines to carry out the process of right-of-way preparation, structure assembly and installation, removal of existing conductors, conductor stringing, and site restoration. Considering outage constraints and required sequencing of construction along the right-of-way, construction activities along the transmission lines are anticipated to take between 12 and 14 months. However, work may proceed simultaneously with multiple crews employed along the line to complete the work within the allowable outage period and/or to expedite the overall construction effort. Typically, construction would progress linearly along the right-of-way with the exception of special crossings (i.e., water bodies, Taconic State Parkway) or specific structures that may require special foundations.

Because of the Project’s cost and the relatively short duration of construction activities, the Project will not impact the local economy sufficiently to induce any significant changes in the local residential, commercial, or industrial land use patterns (see Exhibit 4, Section 4.3). In addition, the installation of the Project within an existing electric transmission line right-of-way will not displace existing land uses outside of the footprint of the transmission structures, and will not disrupt any residential, commercial, agricultural, or industrial uses or otherwise cause a loss of business income.

6.2 Demographics

The demographic characteristics of Dutchess County and the towns of Pleasant Valley, La Grange, Union Vale, and Dover, including population, population density, per capita income, and unemployment rate, are provided in Table 6-1.

Table 6-1 Demographics of Communities along the Project Right-of-Way

	Dutchess County	Town of Pleasant Valley	Town of LaGrange	Town of Union Vale	Town of Dover
Population	297,488	9,672	15,730	4,877	8,699
Population Density	361 people/ square mile	291 people/ square mile	394 people/ square mile	129 people/ square mile	156 people/ square mile
Per Capita Income	\$32,353	\$34,309	\$38,793	\$33,047	\$28,770
Unemployment Rate	5.2%	7.5%	7.2%	3.3%	5.3%

Source: American FactFinder (2013). 2010 Census; United States Census Bureau. Retrieved September 2013 from: <http://factfinder2.census.gov/faces/nav/jsf/pages/searchresults.xhtml?refresh=t>

6.3 Construction Effects and Mitigation

Socioeconomic effects from land use changes are typically induced by a significant change in one or more influential variables such as: 1) large-scale physical improvements to some aspect of the local infrastructure; 2) a change in the regulatory environment; or 3) major employment and/or income growth trends in the local economy. Given an adequate level of demand, such changes tend to enhance land for development, induce construction that responds to the demand, and cause changes in residential, commercial, and/or industrial land use patterns.

The Project will not result in any perceptible change in local infrastructure but is expected to produce employment and income growth opportunities. Although the duration of Project construction activities is relatively brief, the construction labor force would be expected to expend funds on local housing, meals, fuel, small capital purchases such as hardware and tools, and recreational activities. Accordingly, local hotels, restaurants, supermarkets, and other businesses would be expected to benefit from the Project during the construction period.

The increased reliability in the local electric distribution system due to the Project should support continued, modest growth in the Dutchess County area and any increase in the rate of growth in the region. The project itself will produce minimal land use changes or land development.

6.3.1 Construction Schedule

The overall construction, testing and site restoration period for the Project is estimated to last approximately 13 months. A detailed construction and sequencing schedule for the line that reflects the various construction activities and outage limitations will be prepared as part of the final design effort and included in the EM&CP. Outages will be coordinated with Con Edison, NYISO, and ISO-NE.

The major phases of construction for the Transmission Line and their approximate durations are listed below:

- ◆ Right-of-way preparation – 3 months
- ◆ Structure installation – 6 months
- ◆ Conductor stringing – 2 months
- ◆ Testing and commissioning – 1 month
- ◆ Final grading and restoration – 1 month

The major phases of construction for the Re-Conductoring Segment and their approximate durations are listed below:

- ◆ Removal of existing conductors and hardware – 2 months
- ◆ Structure improvements and hardware installation (as necessary) – 2 months
- ◆ Conductor stringing - 3 month
- ◆ Testing and commissioning – 1 month
- ◆ Final grading and restoration – 1 month

6.3.2 Number of Workers by Construction Discipline

The construction work force for the installation of the Transmission Line will average approximately 40 to 60 construction workers during the construction period. Any required right-of-way trimming and selective clearing will be done by three- to six-person crews working at selected locations along the rights-of-way. Structure fabrication and installation will be done by separate six- to eight-person crews. Conductor stringing will be done by 12- to 14-person crews. Restoration will be completed by two- to four-person crews. Multiple crews may be employed for particular phases of construction along segments of the line or along different construction spreads to expedite the construction process.

The construction work force for the Re-conductoring Segment will average approximately 20 construction workers during the construction period. Re-conductoring will be done by 12- to 14-person crews. Restoration will be completed by two- to four-person crews.

6.3.3 Available Construction Force

The number of people who are employed in construction-related industries and occupations is provided in Table 6-2. Considering the available construction work force in the Project area and the relatively modest labor requirements and short-term construction schedule for the proposed Project, the local labor force will be sufficient to staff the required construction jobs. Therefore, no in-migration of workers will be necessary and there will be no need for temporary housing for such workers.

Table 6-2 Available Workforce in Communities along the Project Right-of-Way

	Dutchess County	Town of Pleasant Valley	Town of LaGrange	Town of Union Vale	Town of Dover
Construction Industry	11,194 people (7.9%)	512 people (10.2%)	677 people (9%)	239 people (10.7%)	622 people (13.9%)
Natural resources, construction, and maintenance occupations	14,772 people (10.4%)	661 people (13.1%)	824 people (10.9%)	329 people (14.7%)	599 people (13.4%)
Production, transportation, and material moving occupations	11,881 people (8.4%)	391 people (7.8%)	571 people (7.6%)	269 people (12%)	751 people (16.7%)

Source: American FactFinder (2013). United States Census Bureau 2010 census. Retrieved September 2013 from: <http://factfinder2.census.gov/faces/nav/jsf/pages/searchresults.xhtml?refresh=t>

6.3.4 Mitigation

No mitigation measures specific to economic impacts are necessary for the Project because it does not constitute large-scale infrastructure improvements within the Con Edison system. It will not result in any changes in land use regulations, and will result in minor income and employment growth. Additionally, the Project will not generate alterations to the residential, commercial, or industrial land use or socioeconomic patterns of any area adjacent to the right-of-way.

6.4 Operational Effects and Mitigation

Significant direct economic impacts from the operation and maintenance of the Project are not expected. It is possible that Con Edison may increase staff supporting the Transmission Line for operation and maintenance but this is undetermined at this time.