## GUIDELINES FOR PUBLIC PARTICIPATION AT LONG ISLAND POWER AUTHORITY BOARD OF TRUSTEES' MEETINGS

New York's Open Meetings Law provides the public the right to attend open sessions of public bodies. Allowing public comment at those sessions is a decision of each public body.

The Board of Trustees (the "Board") of the Long Island Power Authority ("LIPA") values civil, respectful, and open communication with stakeholders and invites the public to speak at its meetings. The Chair has discretion over the orderly conduct of Board meetings, including the time allotted for public comment. In accordance with New York State's Open Meetings Law, to facilitate orderly meetings, these guidelines describe the Board's general practices for public participation:

- Any member of the public wishing to address the Board should register for virtual comments <u>here</u> or sign in at the designated table outside of the Board room before the meeting and indicate the topic they wish to speak on.
- Each speaker will be called upon at the appropriate time in the Board agenda for their topic. Comments should be limited to the item being considered by the Board. Members of the public may also address items not on the Board agenda at the conclusion of the meeting.
- Please direct all comments to the Board. Public comments are not intended as "Question and Answer" sessions or conversations with the Board or LIPA Staff, but rather a forum to allow stakeholders to be heard by the Trustees.
- Speakers will be asked to state their name and, if applicable, the name of any organization they are representing. If there are multiple representatives of the same organization present, the Board asks that the organization choose one representative to speak on behalf of the organization to allow other speakers the time to be heard. Speaking time may not be transferred.
- All comments are limited to three (3) minutes.<sup>1</sup> The Secretary of the Board will keep time and indicate when a speaker's time has concluded. To facilitate the conduct of the Board's business, the total time allotted to public comment is generally limited to 30 minutes, which is approximately one-quarter of the Board meeting.
- Written comments and materials may also be submitted to the Board via email at boardoftrustees@lipower.org.
- LIPA's Board meetings are live-streamed and archived at <u>www.lipower.org</u>. Public comments made during the Board meeting or submitted to the Board are part of the official public record.
- Attendees may not share any inappropriate, insensitive, or discriminatory words or images during the Board meeting. Anyone who violates this requirement will be removed from the meeting.
- LIPA reserves the right to inspect packages, backpacks, purses, and similar containers prior to allowing members of the public to enter the Board meeting. Firearms, knives, or other weapons of any kind, and bio-waste or bio-hazards, may not be brought into the Board meeting.
- For those in-person attendees, LIPA will follow all applicable public health guidelines relating to COVID-19 safety.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Items on the Board's consent agenda are a single item, and speakers will have three (3) minutes for the entire consent agenda.