



Proposed HVDC Converter Station for Verplanck, New York

Presentation to the Community
By the WPP/Spectra Task Force
Linda D. Puglisi, Supervisor
April 8, 2014

The WPP/Spectra Task Force

Linda D. Puglisi, Supervisor

Bernie Vaughey, Chairman

- Arlene Bell
- Jim Bell
- Doreen Cole
- Holly Haight
- Melissa Hayes
- Rosemary B. Lasher
- Kathleen Levesque
- Joseph Margiotta
- Rosemarie Muscolo
- Stephanie Vaughey

Staff Advisors: Thomas F. Wood, Esq, Town Attorney

Ed Vergano, P.E., Director DOTS

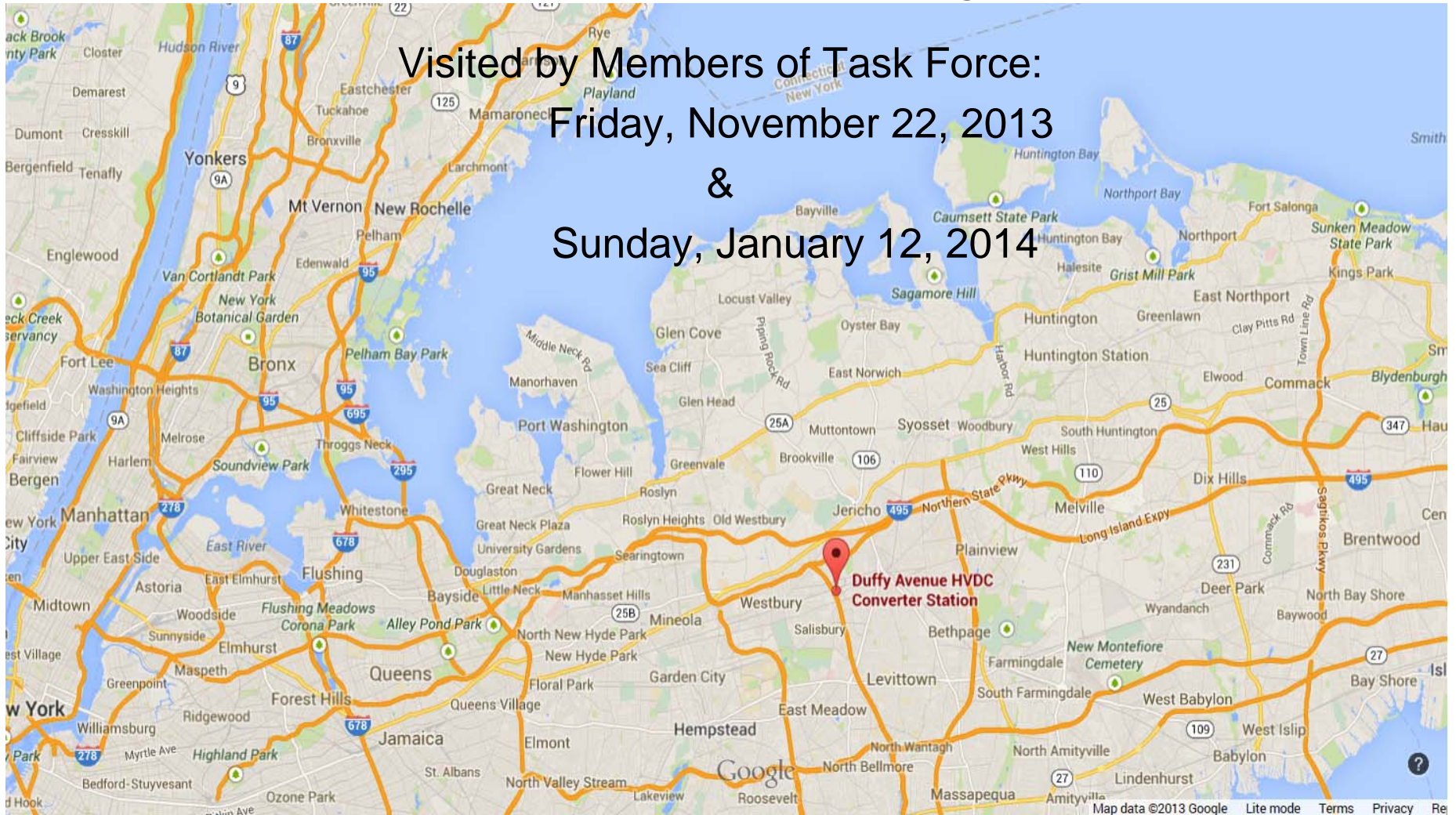
Jeff Coleman, P.E., Director DES

NO HIGH VOLTAGE
UNDERGROUND!



Site Visit Reports from Duffy Avenue Converter Station Located in Hicksville, Long Island

Visited by Members of Task Force:
Friday, November 22, 2013
&
Sunday, January 12, 2014

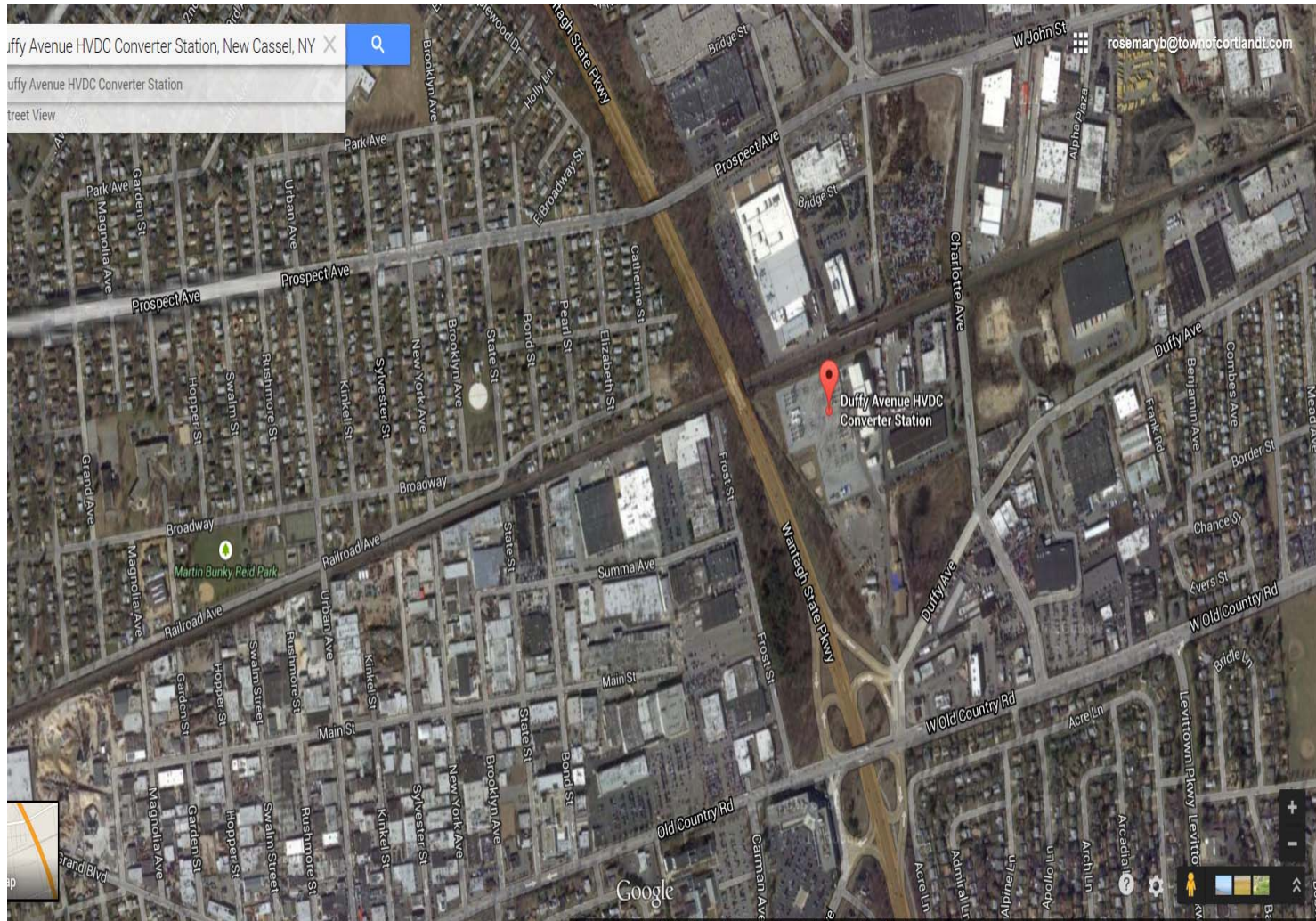


Official Photo of the Duffy Street Converter Station

This station is 660 MW and the one proposed for Verplanck is 1000MW with increase possible to 2000 MW!



Area surrounding the Duffy Ave. Converter Station Located in Hicksville, Long Island

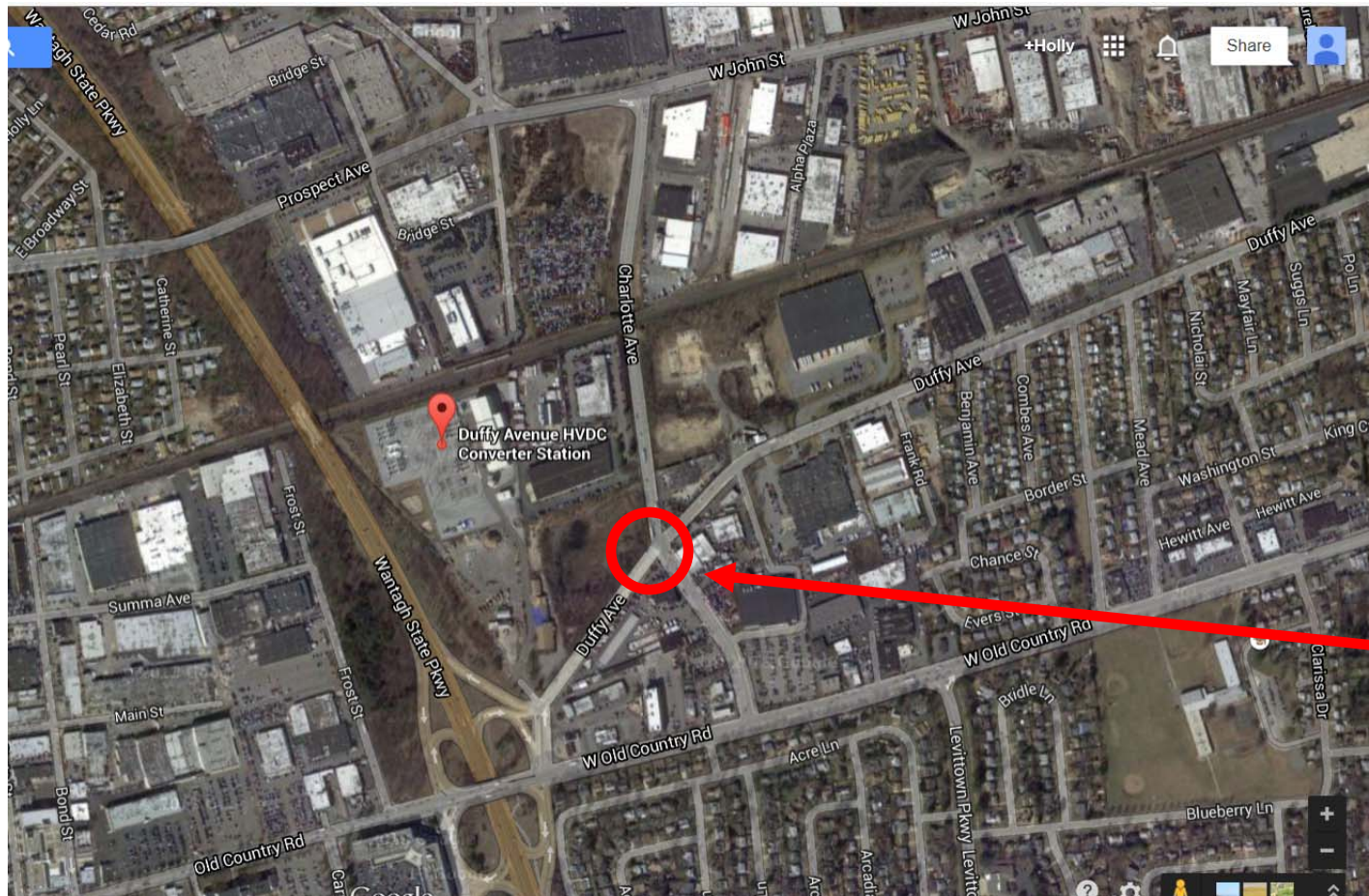


- Bounded on the west by the Wantagh State Parkway
- On the east by Charlotte Avenue (heavy industrial use)
- On the north by the Long Island Railroad
- On the south by Old Country Road (mix of heavy industrial and heavy commercial use)

Immediate Surrounding Area to Duffy Ave Station



1st Location Visited – Duffy Ave & Charlotte Ave Friday, November 22, 2013

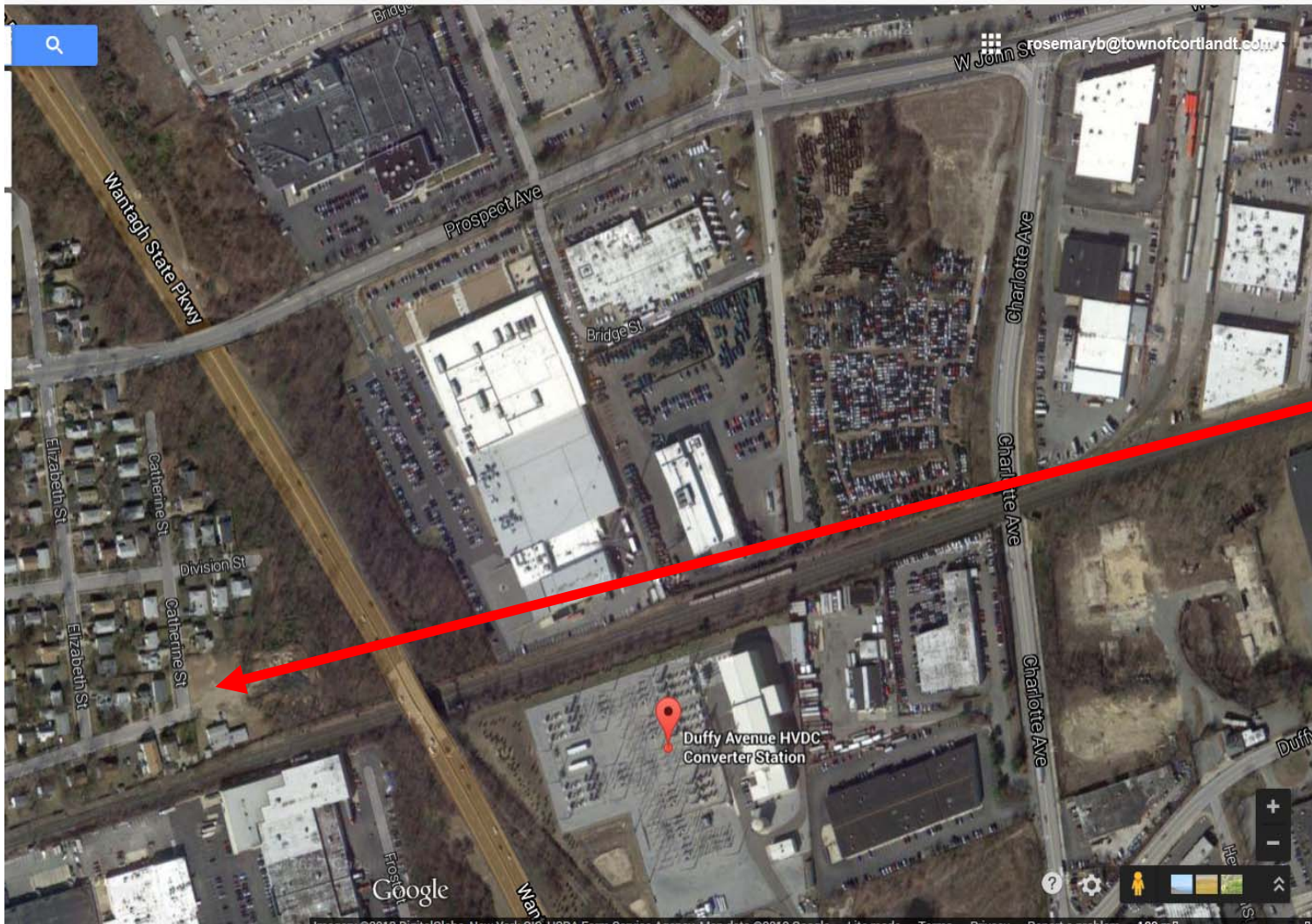


Link to Video
Duffy Ave

<https://www.youtube.com/v/KLXfo46ZaUQ&hd=1;autoplay=1>

0.18 Miles
or 938 feet
away from
Station

Close up of Prospect Avenue Neighborhood Northwest of WPP Station



2nd Location
– 0.20 Miles
or approx.
1,200 feet.

Wantagh
Parkway is
ELEVATED
from this
location

Noticeable
Buzzing
sound **OVER**
the noise of
railway and
traffic on
Parkway.

Sunday, January 12, 2014 Site Visit



The sign reads:

“DANGER”

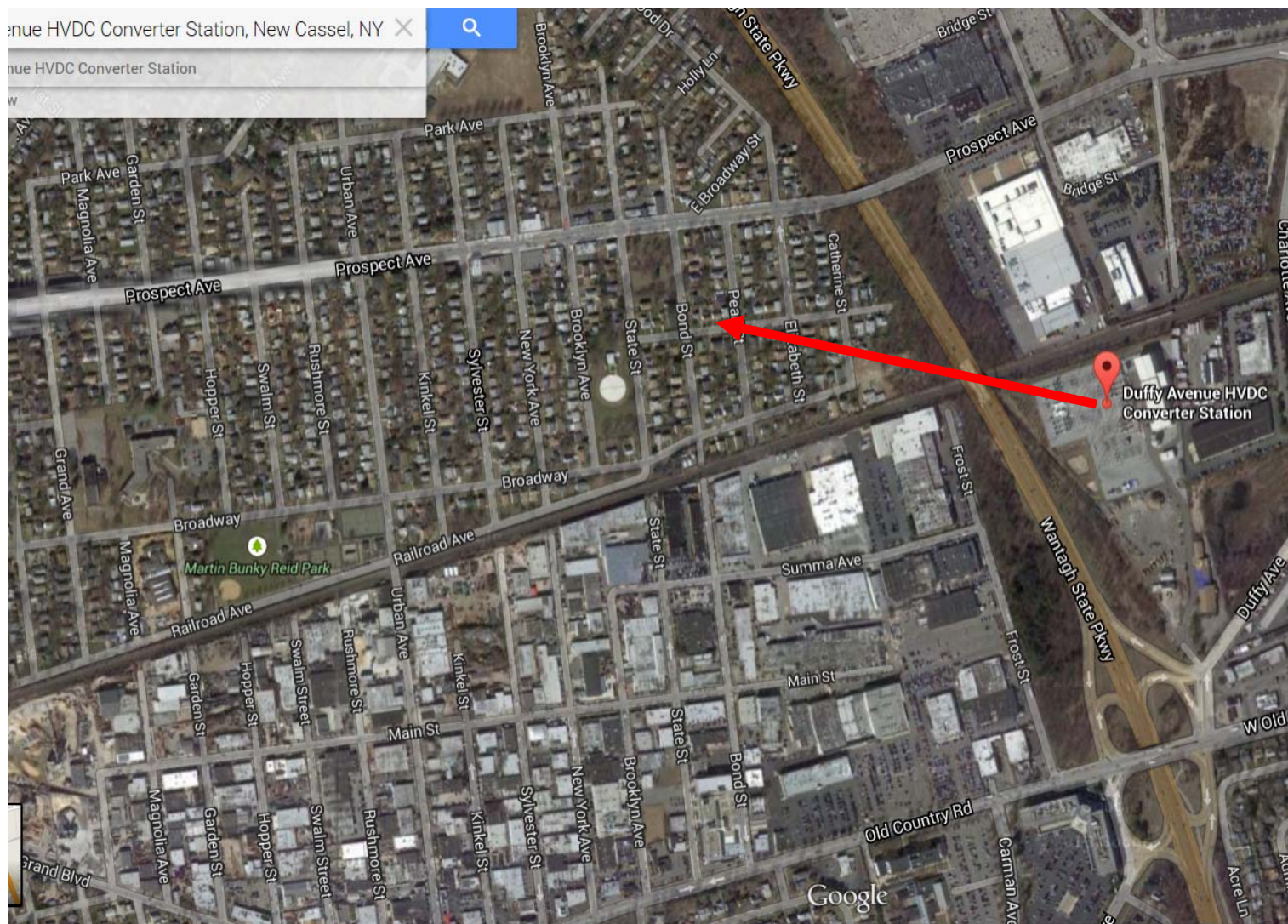
“Persons with Pacemakers or Surgical Metal Implants are Not Permitted beyond this Point”

Other Homes in the Prospect Avenue Neighborhood –
NOTE: BACK UP TO INDUSTRIAL USES,
RAILROAD & PARKWAY

Photos of Homes
which back up to
Railroad tracks,
HEAVY Industrial
area and the Duffy
Ave Station beyond



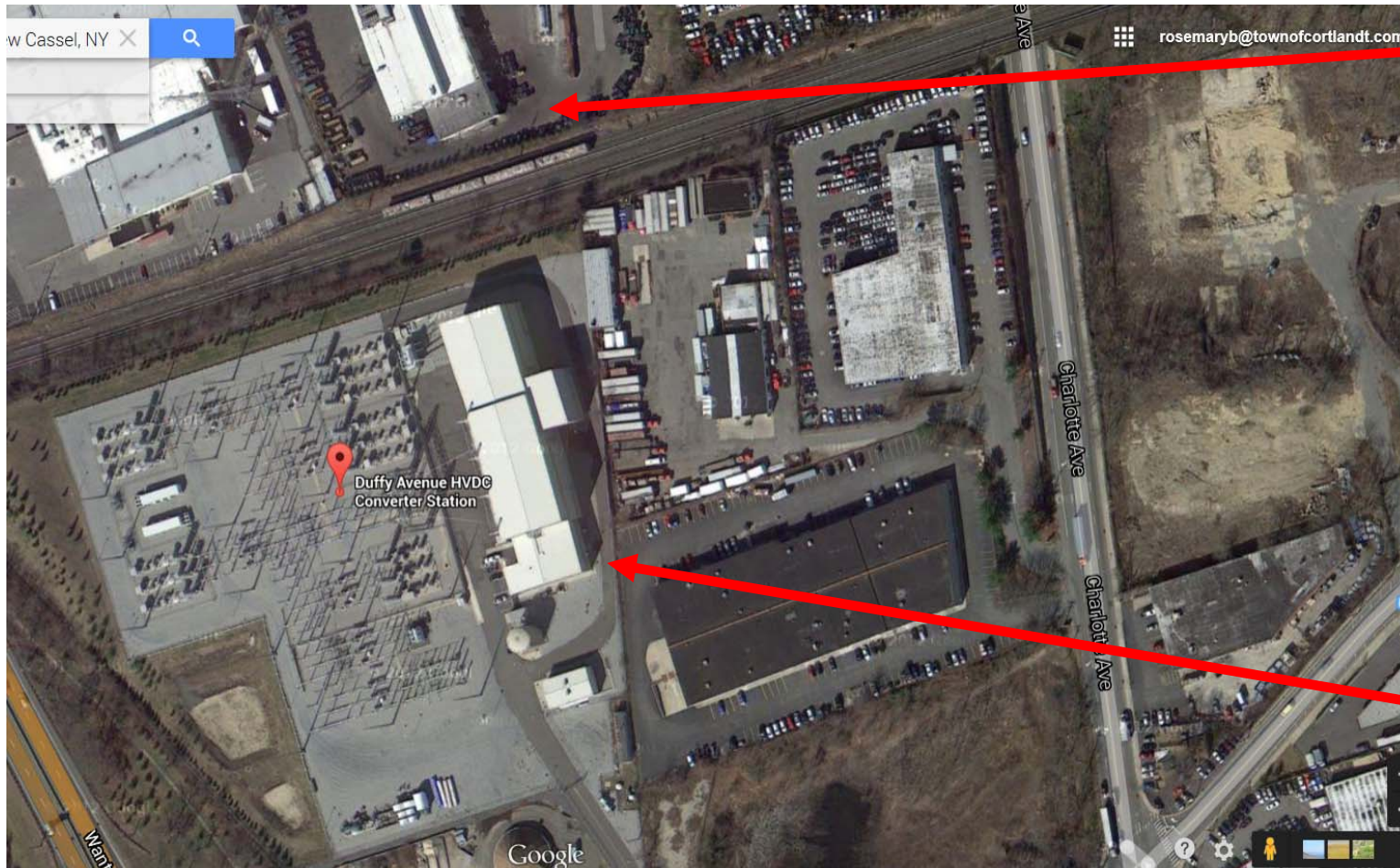
Residential Area to the Northwest of WPP Station



Spoke to resident of “Division Street” who said he can hear the converter station **INSIDE** his house at night. Resident reports “it is **LOUD** at night”

Home is located 0.30 miles or approx. 1,800 feet.

Closest we could get to the ACTUAL Site.



Train
Video Link

<https://www.youtube.com/v/cgnTV-4LzWU&hd=1;autoplay=1>

2 VIDEO
LINKS TO
BUZZ

https://www.youtube.com/v/jEBHz_Azy6w&hd=1;autoplay=1

From this
location

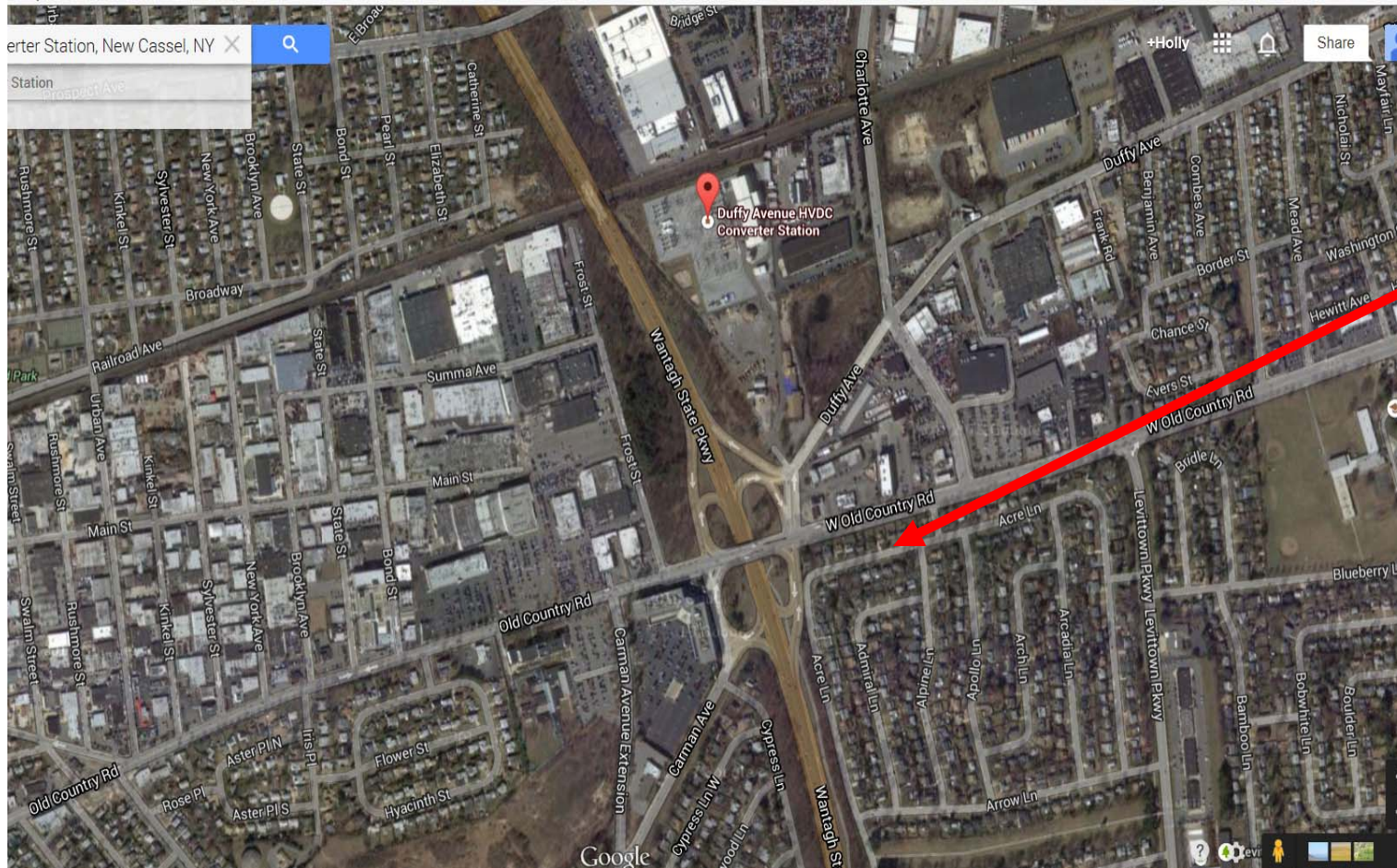
*Unofficial Decibel Reading this location 82!

Images shows size of Converter Station



Height is
3 STORIES HIGH

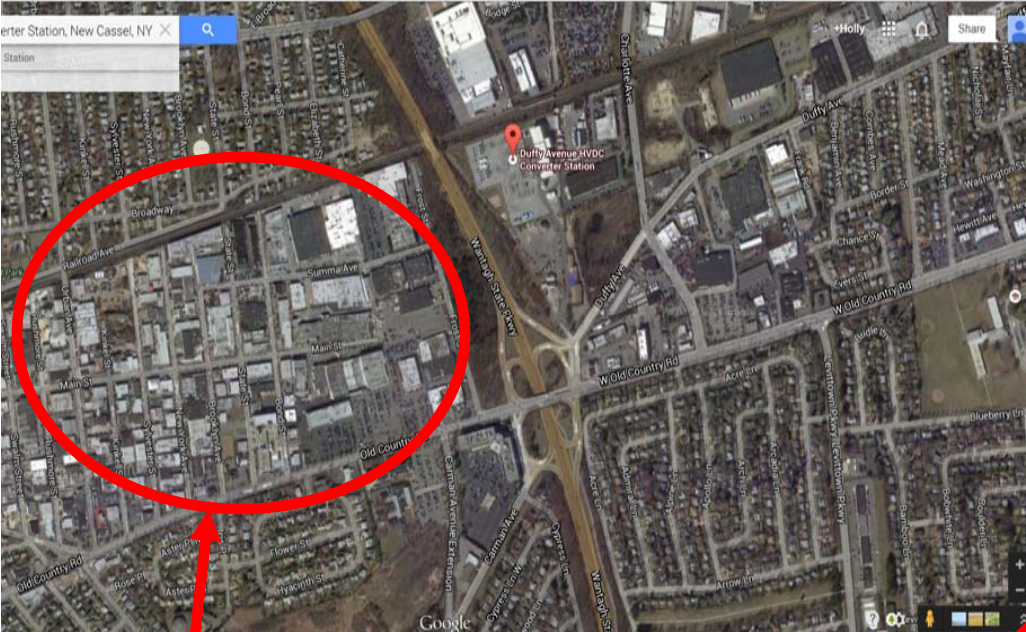
Residential located ACROSS Old Country Road in the “Levittown Parkway Neighborhood”



Spoke to resident in this area who said they can hear “buzzing” at night from the Converter Station

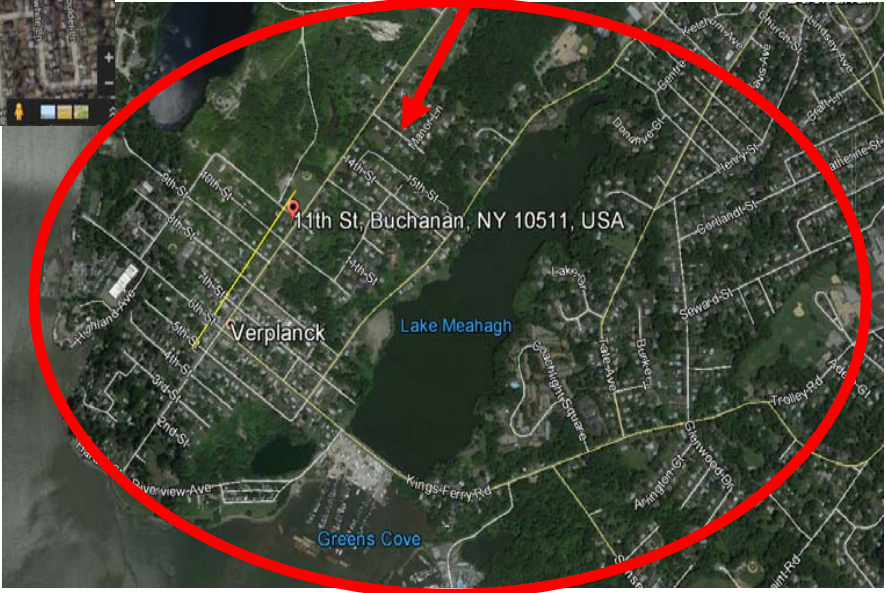
NOTE:
This is 0.30 Miles Away

Comparison of Hicksville vs. Verplanck



INTENSE INDUSTRIAL AREA

Peaceful, Quiet Residential Area



11th Street Verplanck– Proposed Site vs. Area near Duffy Ave. Hicksville

File Edit View Favorites Tools Help

196-238 11th St
Buchanan, NY 10511 – approximate address

STREET VIEW



<https://www.youtube.com/v/Y-OSC4ebQoI%26hd=1;autoplay=1>

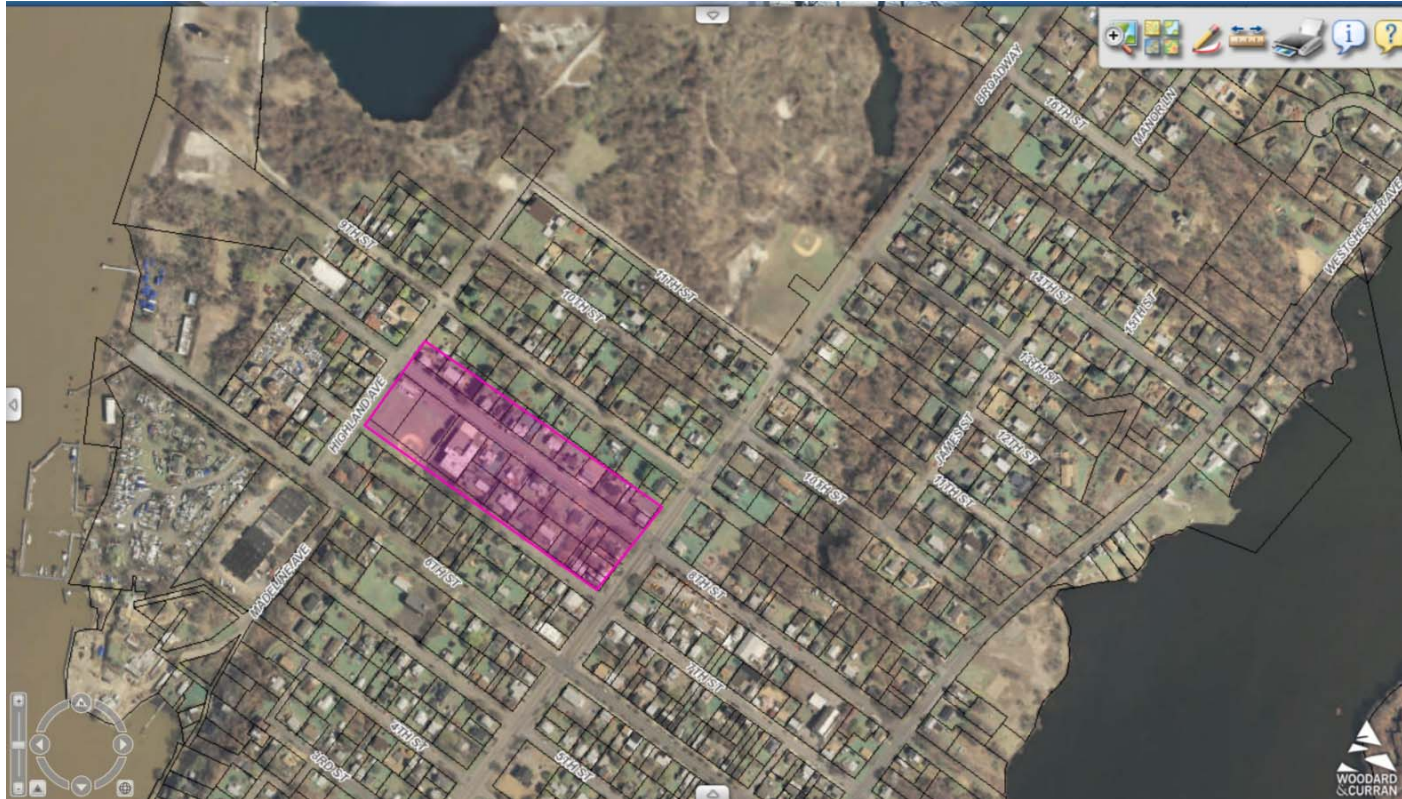


Some Conclusions after Site Visits

- This is **NOT** a “tonal noise”
- It is a constant buzzing noise that can be heard over major industrial and commercial impacts as well as railroad, highway and plane traffic!
- Verplanck/Buchanan/Cortlandt is in **NO WAY** similar to this area of the State at all.

WPP Southerly Landing Site (Verplanck) for HVDC Converter Station

- Proposed plant is **322 feet by 636 feet**.
- Imagine if you started at Broadway, and bulldozed every house from Corner of 7th to Corner of 8th) all the way to the firehouse.



WPP Southerly Landing Site (Verplanck) for HVDC Converter Station

- **NO alternative sites were studied by WPP for this area other than 11th & Broadway**
- At the Athens public informational meeting the company representative Chris Hocker admitted that the WPP project is the 1st time a HVDC project is being proposed in a residential area (both Athens & Verplanck).
- There are **NO BUILDINGS in existence** in the Town of Cortlandt that are as HIGH as the proposed Converter Station in Verplanck. The closest in square footage would be TWO “Best Buy” Buildings in the Town Center.

Letteri Field - Broadway

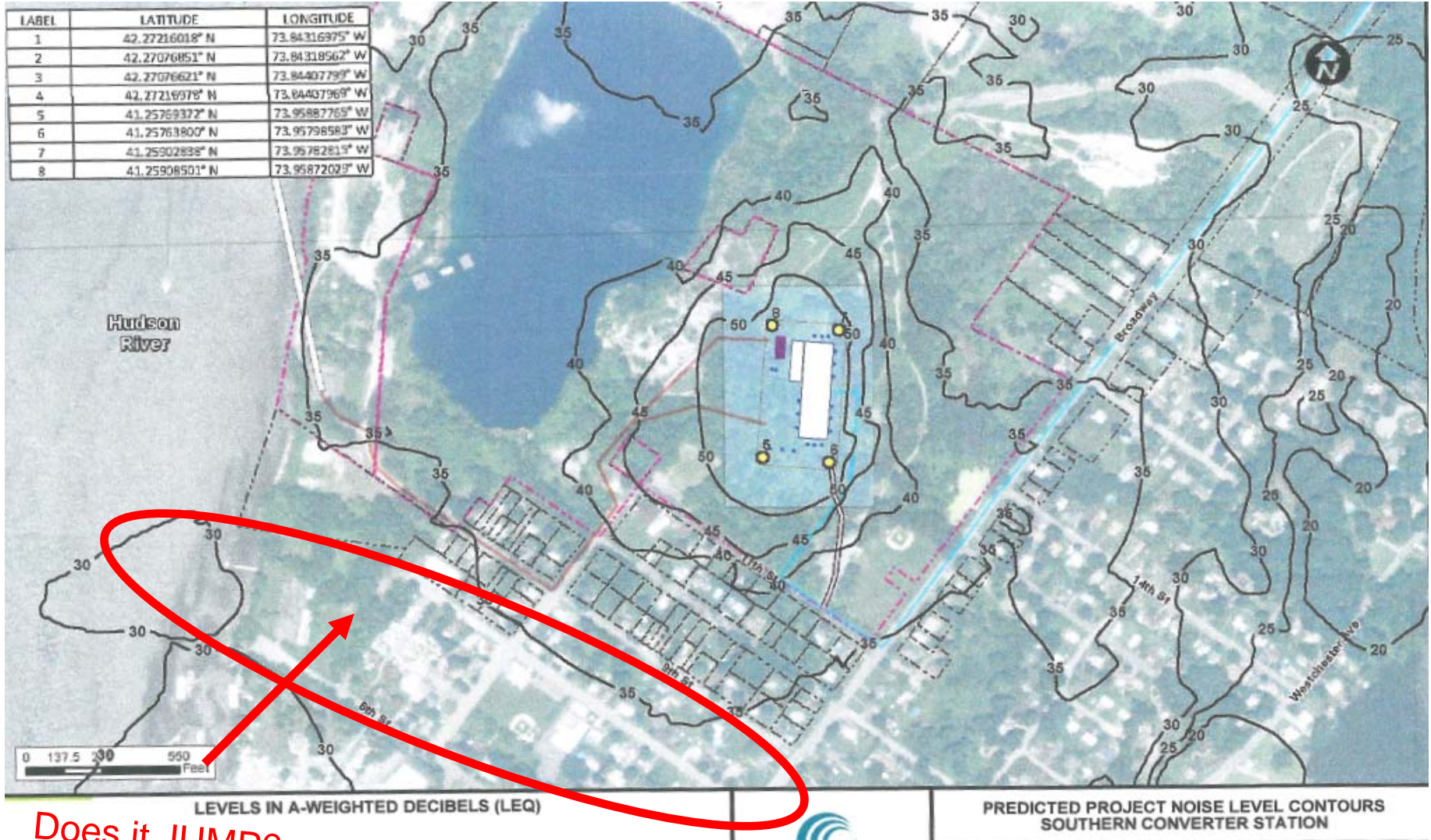
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208-236 Broadway
Buchanan, NY 10511 – approximate address

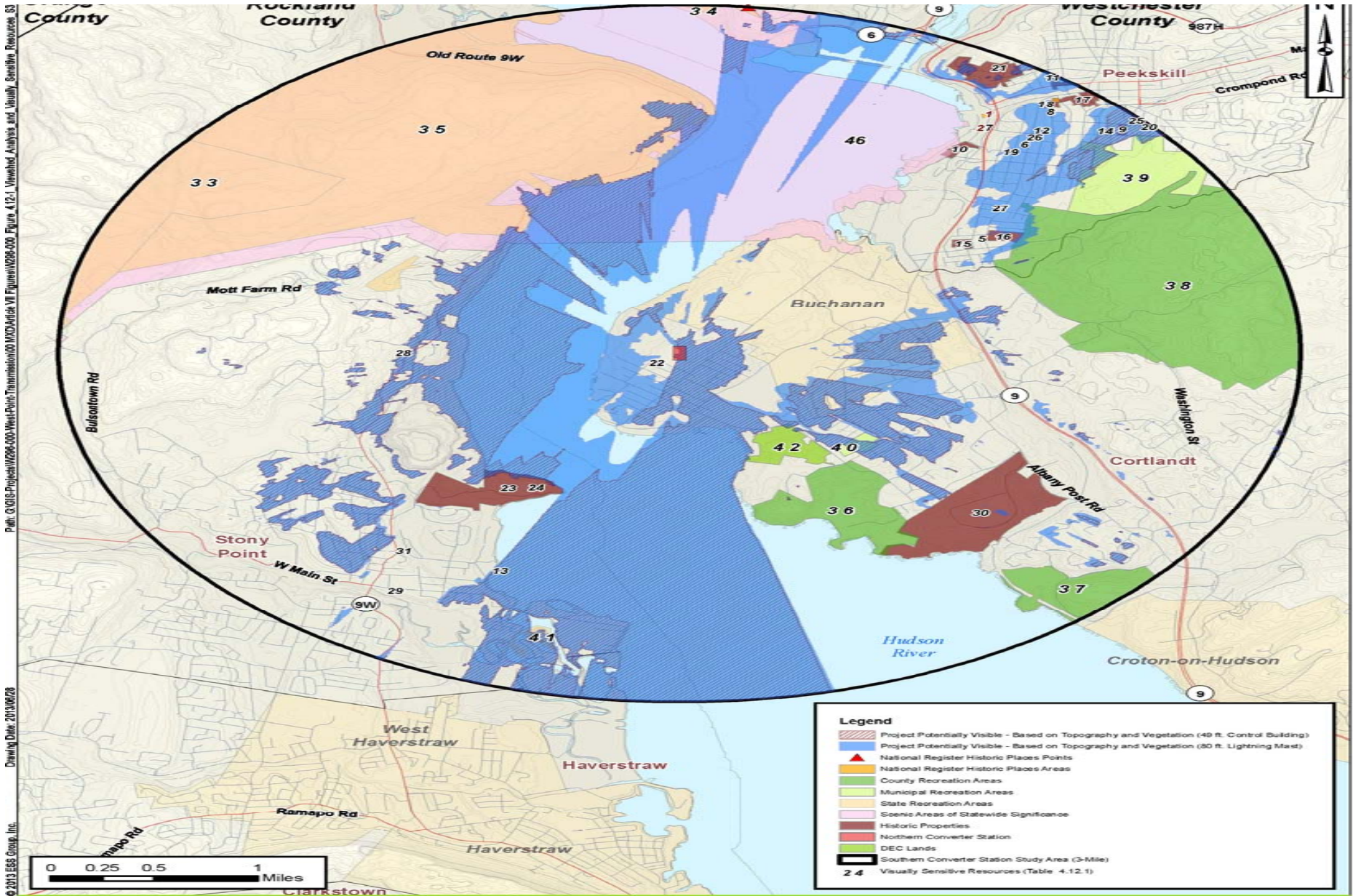
STREET VIEW



Estimated Noise Levels from WPP Submission to PSC.



Does JUMP?



Path: G:\GIS-Projects\1026-000-West-Point-Transmission\1026-000-Map\4.12-1_Vegetated_Analysis_and_Visually_Sensitive_Resources_S3
 Drawing Date: 2013/02/28
 © 2013 ESS Group, Inc.



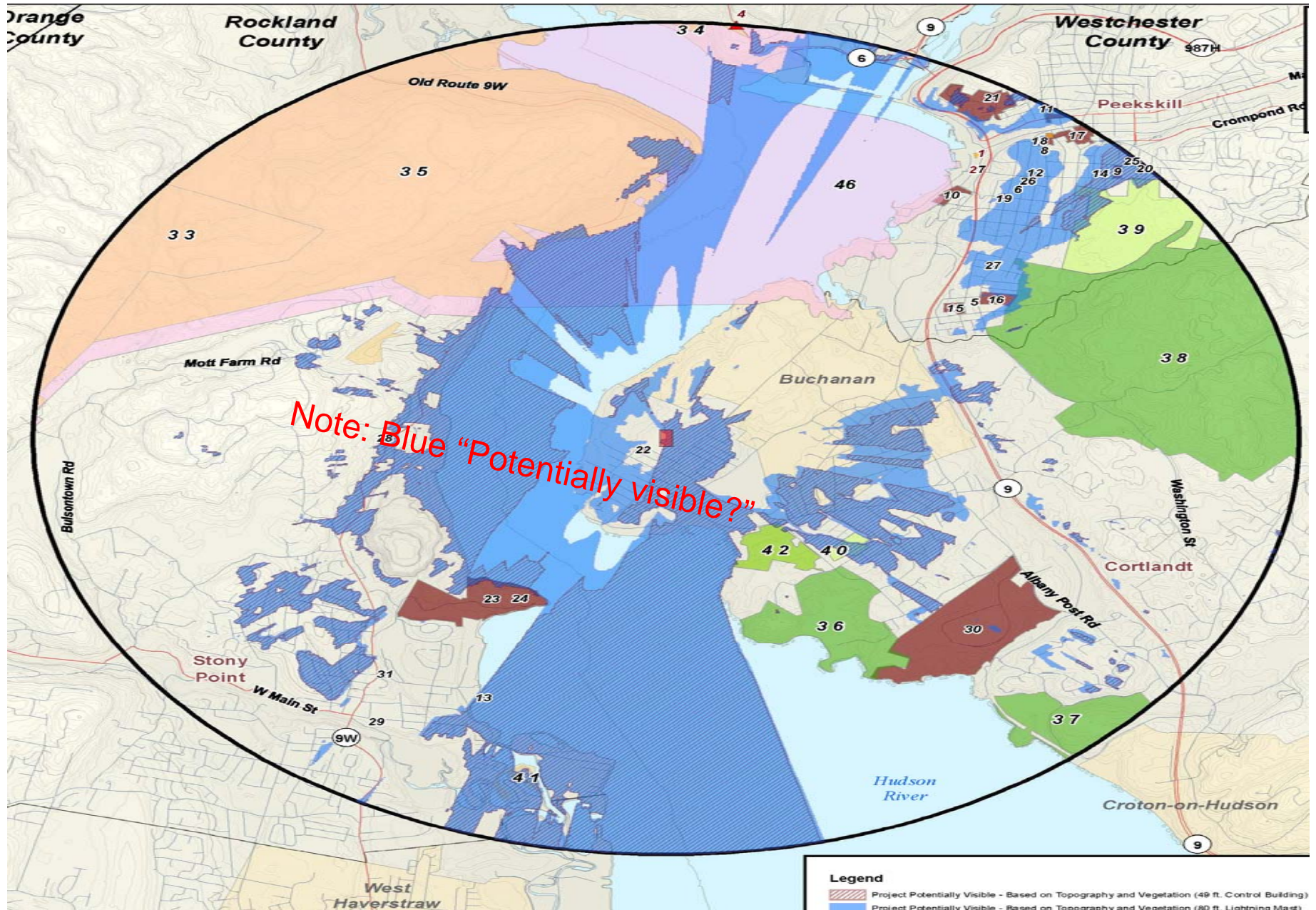
West Point Partners, LLC
 West Point Transmission Project
 Athens to Buchanan, New York
 1 inch = 4,500 feet

Source: 1) NYS GIS Clearinghouse, Resource Layers, 2013
 2) USGS, National Elevation Dataset Topography, 2006,2007,2008
 3) NPS, NRHP Points and Areas, 2007 4) JMA, Historic Properties, 2013

Viewshed Analysis and Visually Sensitive Resources
Southern Converter Station - Vegetated Visibility Results

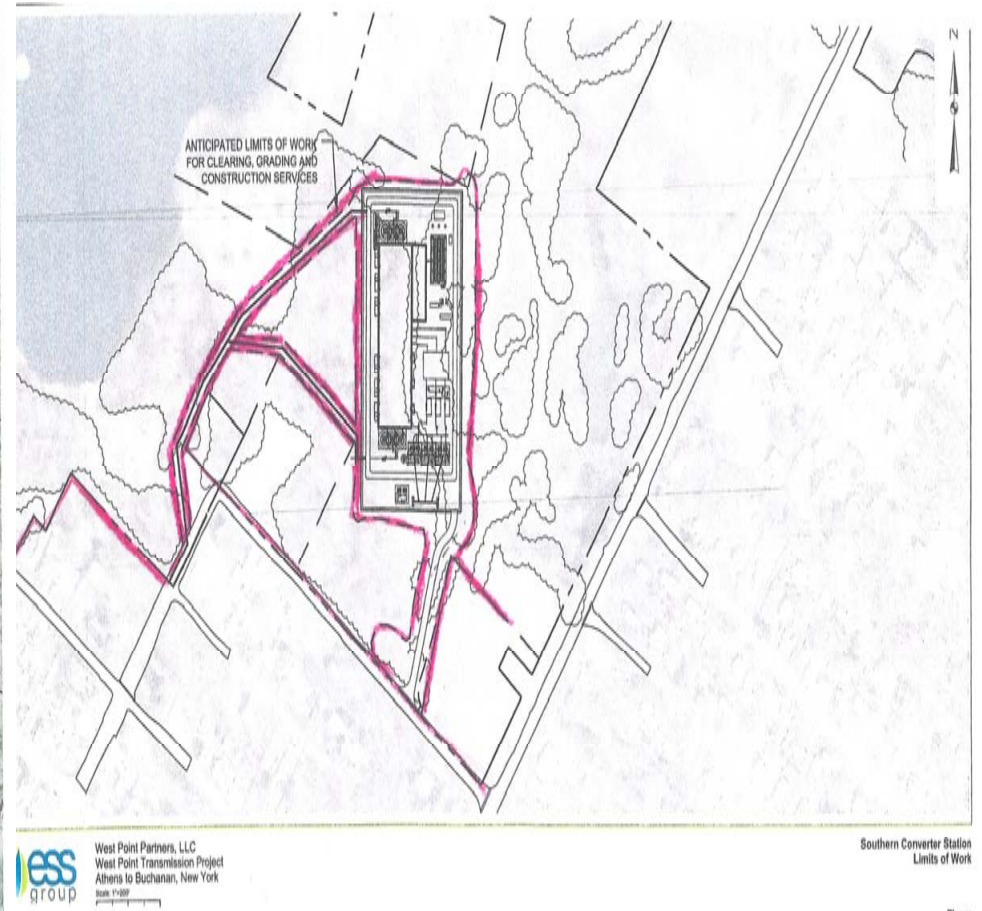
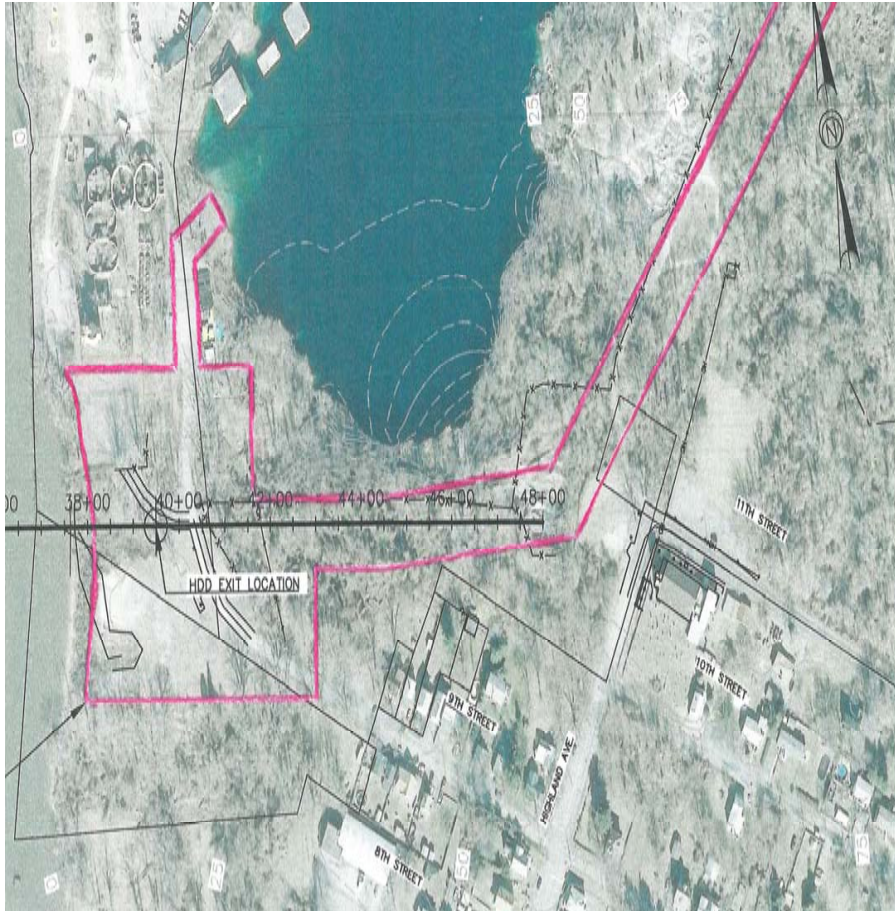
This Viewshed Analysis Assumes a Tree Height of 40 Feet
 and Does Not Consider The Screening Effect of Structures.

Figure 4.12-1
 Sheet 3 of 4



Spectra Energy & West Point HVDC Converter

BOTH want the same Site!



Public Service Commission PUBLIC HEARING

Wednesday, April 30, 2014

Muriel H. Morabito Community Center
29 Westbrook Drive
Cortlandt Manor

Informational Forum:

2:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Public Statement Hearing:

3:30 p.m.

Informational Forum:

6:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.

Public Statement Hearing:

7:00 p.m.

WHAT YOU CAN DO?

**Attend the PSC Public Hearing:
Wednesday, April 30, 2014**

Contact the PSC

<http://www.dps.ny.gov/>

Docket # 13-T-0292

**Pick up Petitions, Fill out and submit to the Public
Service Commission (PSC)**

Speak to your Representatives

The End.



To download a copy of this presentation

visit our website at:

www.townofcortlandt.com

THANK YOU!