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PEAK Coalition Celebrates Discontinuing of Article 10 for Gowanus Repowering Project

The PEAK Coalition—UPROSE, THE POINT CDC, New York City Environmental Justice Alliance (NYC-EJA), New York Lawyers for the Public Interest (NYLPI), and Clean Energy Group (CEG)—welcomes the decision by Astoria Generating Company, L.P. (AGC), a subsidiary of Eastern Generation, LLC, to discontinue their Article 10 process for the Gowanus Repowering Project. The 640 MW Gowanus Generating Station and 352 MW Narrows Generating Station, have been polluting the community with oil and natural gas since 1971. “Re-powering” these facilities would have continued harmful emissions when renewable and battery storage technologies are clean, viable, cost-effective alternatives.

This withdrawal comes on the heels of the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation recently rejected the Astoria Gas Turbine Power Replacement Project and the Danskammer Power Plant on the basis of the state’s Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act, which mandates a 100% zero-emission grid by 2040 along with large-scale developments of renewable energy generation and storage. Generators at the Gowanus site sit idle or run at a fraction of its nameplate capacity most of the time, but have cost taxpayers more than half a billion dollars since 2010. Studies consistently show that distributed energy resources can reliably fulfill peak load capacity in Sunset Park. The Gowanus Repowering Project, which proposed to replace the existing Gowanus and Narrows plants with entirely new, 610 MW gas turbines, has always been inconsistent with the CLCPA goals and environmental justice principles.

UPROSE, a member of the PEAK Coalition located in Sunset Park, has long been engaged with the repowering project in this neighborhood as an intervener throughout the Article 10 process. This is a climate justice victory for PEAK’s fight against polluting peaker plants and more critically a victory for everyone in the community. PEAK celebrates UPROSE’s leadership throughout the process. UPROSE has released a separate [statement](#) in addition to this one with the PEAK Coalition regarding the withdrawal.

PEAK Coalition welcomes Eastern Generation’s decision to not only cease its pursuit for new gas peaker plants in New York City but also actively explore renewable energy and storage solutions on its properties. We strongly discourage AGC to relocate and continue operating these heavily polluting barges elsewhere. Eastern Generation should go beyond Gowanus and Narrows to close all its peaker plants and additional fossil-fuel operations. PEAK remains steadfast in its comprehensive effort to reduce the negative and racially disproportionate health impacts of peaker plants in New York and stand in solidarity with all allies fighting against peaker plants.