

The Village of Floral Park, the hamlet of Elmont, the Town of Hempstead and Nassau County have been hosting communities of Belmont since May 4, 1905: Belmont Park's Opening Day. Floral Park and her neighboring communities have long supported Belmont Park but have grown increasingly concerned since 2007, when NYRA went into receivership.

Power- Sadly the ESD has declined to act or consider our 10 year old proposal for a Clean Energy – Cogeneration facility at Belmont Park. This environmentally responsible proposal would have been the foundation upon which all development would be built. By providing the economic advantage of reliable, independent, inexpensive electricity and then utilizing the waste product of that electric generation, namely heat, to provide the raw material for all Air Conditioning and heating needs – and all new development including NYRA's grandstand, racetracks for its future planning regarding night racing, winter racing as well addressing the future needs of its entire campus thus assuring a more profitable and sustainable future at Belmont Park. But given the lack of consideration this plan has received, whatever future development takes place at Belmont Park, cannot negatively impact Floral Park or any of the hosting communities. The plans for the enormous new power loads must be disclosed. Since Sandy, we have all experienced just how fragile our overburdened and unreliable electric grid system presently is. The DEIS states that this project will be served by power lines running through Floral Park to a huge 42,000 sf substation located on the Belmont Park property. A substation is not a generator of power; it simply provides the ability to distribute electric by transforming high voltage electric to usable line voltage electric. What will these dedicated power poles located in Floral Park look like? Will they be similar to the ones presently in Eastport, the Pine Barrens and Riverhead: 80' high, 9' circumference reinforced steel poles? Will these structures convey high tension power lines from a new substation at the LIRR Mainline down Plainfield Avenue to Belmont Park? The details of this conveyance and the power requirements must be disclosed to the public and our elected officials for review and comment before the project gets the go ahead by the ESD.

Presented by Thomas J. Tweedy,
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