



Long Island Businesses for Responsible Energy, Inc.

(LIBFRE)

Press Release

October 21, 2019

In 2017, Steve Mintz, founding partner of Mintz & Gold LLP, along with partner, Peter Guirguis, joined LIBFRE's legal team in its David and Goliath fight against defendants, PSEG-LI and LIPA, with the goal of removing the 276 toxic poles along the 6.2 mile route from East Hampton to Amagansett, burying the high tension lines, and remediating the soil around the poles.

The poles, laden with Pentachlorophenol, have contaminated East Hampton's air, soil, and groundwater, destroying the aesthetic beauty of its residential areas, devaluing its homes, and creating a situation that negatively effects the health of its residents and its environment.

LIBFRE, a Not-For-Profit organization, was formed back in 2014, with an eye on the future, focused on a safe and responsible electric energy infrastructure upgrade for Long Island. Helene Forst, Chair of LIBFRE, believes that the hardening and upgrading of our electric grid should have been harmonious with the unique nature of the existing character of the East Hampton community, assuring a 21st century, sustainable upgrade that preserves our health, our safety, our environment, our property values, and our significant scenic vistas. East Hampton is, and will continue to be, a green community, a leader in protecting the environment, saving energy, and preserving open space.

LIBFRE is pleased that the Town of East Hampton is now officially seeking to join the fight as a plaintiff. The most recently filed Memo of Law, requests that the Court grant class certification, asserting a claim of fraud on behalf of the Town, and violations by PSEG-LI and LIPA of the Clean Water Act, the Safe Drinking Water Act, and the Resource Conservation Recovery Act.