

THE NEW ENGLAND
**CLEAN
POWER** LINK

*Clean, Affordable,
Reliable Power
for Vermont and
New England*

WHAT IS THE NEW ENGLAND CLEAN POWER LINK?

The New England Clean Power Link is a proposed 1,000-megawatt (MW) High Voltage Direct Current (HVDC) transmission line that will deliver clean, affordable electricity to Vermont and the New England marketplace. The privately financed line would be submerged in Lake Champlain and buried in existing rights of way and would run from the Canadian border to a converter station that would be built in Ludlow, VT.

HOW WILL THE CLEAN POWER LINK WORK?

Two small, approximately five-inch-diameter cables will carry the power. The cables are state-of-the-art, completely solid, do not contain any liquids, and are equipped with fiber-optic technology that can detect any operating issues and automatically shut off in an instant. After installation, the ground is restored and the cables are never seen.

Once installed, the cables are virtually maintenance free. Similar cables have been in use all over the world for more than 60 years. There would be no overhead lines and no new transmission towers.

WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS?

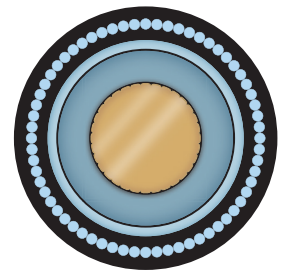
The Clean Power Link will:

- Lower energy prices for New England ratepayers by almost \$2 billion in the first 10 years of operation, \$294 million of which will go to Vermont;
- Reduce emissions to help fight climate change;
- Diversify the region's energy sources;
- Create multiple Vermont-specific benefit funds to assist with phosphorous cleanup in Lake Champlain, improve lake habitat, and help further in-state clean energy development;
- Bring more than \$680 million in tax and lease revenue to Vermont over the life of the project;
- Create over 500 annual jobs in Vermont during construction and over 2,000 annual jobs to New England during operations; and
- Provide \$136 million in additional Vermont ratepayer savings funded through payments to VELCO over the life of the project.

In addition, ratepayers would be protected because the financial risk that comes with developing and constructing the project will be with TDI New England and not consumers.

WHY IS THIS PROJECT BEING PROPOSED?

- The New England marketplace needs fuel source diversity. The fuel mix now includes more than 50 percent natural gas generation. This is likely to increase with the announced retirements of several nuclear, oil, and coal facilities in the Northeast. The Clean Power Link will allow increased imports of clean hydropower, which will benefit consumers and the electric grid, and help develop and integrate other renewable power sources into the electric grid.
- The New England governors have expressed a strong desire to reduce greenhouse gases and provide affordable, clean, and reliable hydroelectricity to power New England businesses and homes.
- The retirement of Vermont Yankee opens up capacity in the New England electric grid, making southeastern Vermont a key interconnection point.



Cross-section of five-inch-diameter HVDC cable used in this project



Affordable Power = Economic Benefits



\$2B

IN ESTIMATED ENERGY SAVINGS TO NEW ENGLAND OVER THE FIRST 10 YEARS OF SERVICE, \$294 MILLION OF WHICH WILL GO TO VERMONT



500

JOBS CREATED IN VERMONT DURING CONSTRUCTION, 2,000 JOBS CREATED IN NEW ENGLAND ONCE OPERATIONAL



\$680M

NEW STATE AND LOCAL TAX REVENUE FOR VERMONT



\$162M

THREE NEW VERMONT PUBLIC BENEFIT FUNDS CREATED



100%

FINANCED BY THE PRIVATE SECTOR

Clean Power = Healthier Environment



SAFE, MINIMALLY INVASIVE, BURIED TRANSMISSION—NO OVERHEAD LINES



CLEAN, RENEWABLE POWER TO LOWER GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS

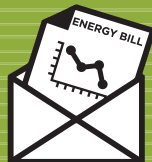


BURIED AND BUILT TO THE HIGHEST ENVIRONMENTAL STANDARDS TO PROTECT LAKE CHAMPLAIN, VERMONT'S NATURAL RESOURCES, AND LOCAL COMMUNITIES

Safe, Reliable Power = Stronger Grid



ENHANCE THE REGION'S FUEL DIVERSITY



LOWER ELECTRICITY PRICES



SAFE, BURIED, PROVEN, HVDC TECHNOLOGY, MINIMAL EMF CONCERNS



TRANSMISSION LINES PROTECTED FROM NATURAL DISASTERS



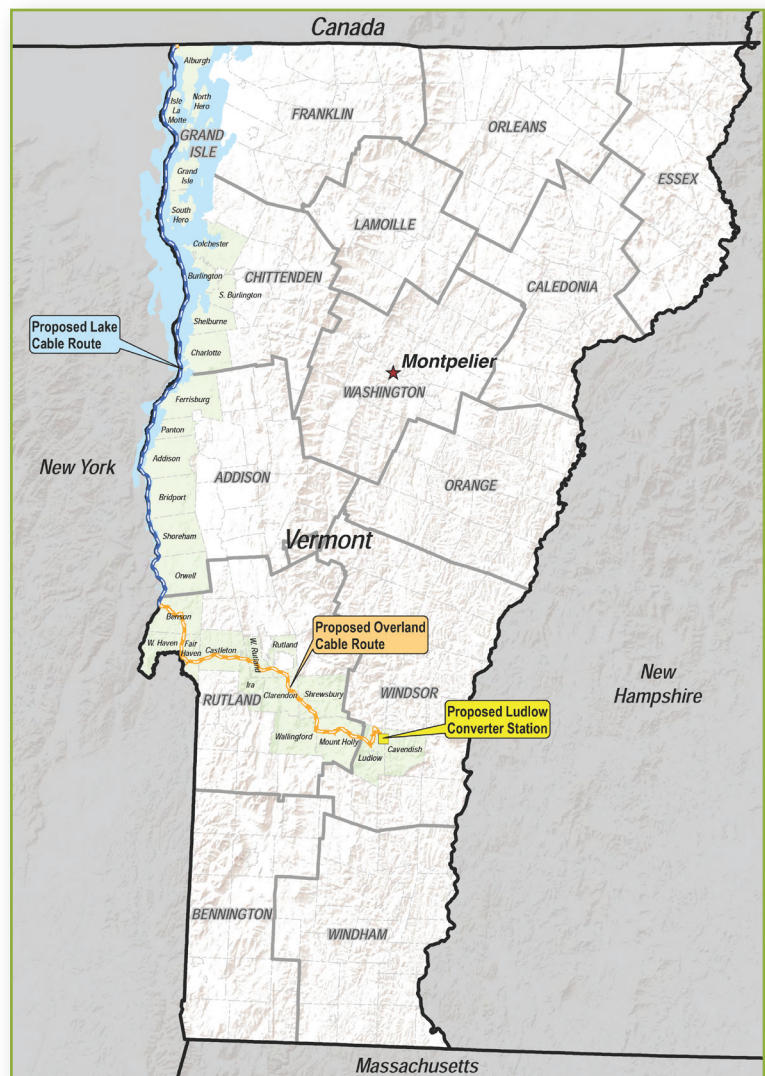
"BLACK START" CAPABILITY CAN QUICKLY RESTART THE ELECTRIC GRID IN CASE OF A BLACKOUT

ABOUT TDI NEW ENGLAND

TDI New England is a Blackstone portfolio company. Blackstone is a leader in alternative asset management with almost \$300 billion currently under management. TDI New England is made up of the same leadership team currently developing the Champlain Hudson Power Express in New York State.

The developers have a strong track record of working in partnership with local communities, residents, elected officials, and other stakeholders to develop projects that meet unique energy needs of growing economies, combating climate change while minimizing local impacts.

More information on the project and the company is available at www.necplink.com.



PROPOSED TIMELINE/ACCOMPLISHMENTS

2013-2014

- SUBMITTED PRESIDENTIAL PERMIT APPLICATION; FEDERAL NEPA PROCESS BEGINS
- SUBMITTED VT SECTION 248 APPLICATION; STATE SITING PROCESS BEGINS
- SUBMITTED ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS PERMIT APPLICATION
- COMMENCED INTERCONNECTION STUDIES
- RECEIVED FERC AUTHORIZATION FOR NEGOTIATED RATE AUTHORITY
- HOSTED EXTENSIVE PUBLIC MEETINGS ACROSS VERMONT

2015

- SUBMITTED VT ENVIRONMENTAL PERMIT APPLICATIONS
- STATE & FEDERAL AGENCIES REVIEW APPLICATIONS; PUBLIC HEARINGS HELD
- AGREEMENTS WITH STATE AGENCIES, KEY STAKEHOLDERS, AND VT UTILITIES COMPLETED
- FINAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STUDY (FEIS) ISSUED BY DOE

2016

- VT STATE SITING PERMIT ISSUED
- US ARMY CORPS PERMIT ISSUED
- PRESIDENTIAL PERMIT ISSUANCE ANTICIPATED
- COMPLETE INTERCONNECTION STUDY

2017

- EXECUTE TRANSMISSION SERVICES AGREEMENTS
- COMPLETE PROJECT FINANCING
- COMMENCE PRECONSTRUCTION ACTIVITIES

2018-2020

- CABLE INSTALLED IN LAKE CHAMPLAIN
- CABLE INSTALLED IN ROADWAYS
- CONVERTER STATION BUILT
- LINE IN SERVICE
- CONSUMER SAVINGS BEGIN
- ENVIRONMENTAL FUNDING COMMENCES
- EMISSION REDUCTIONS BEGIN