



March 6, 2015

Ref: 57666.00

Mr. Jaron Borg
Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation
Watershed Management Division
1 National Life Drive, Main 2
Montpelier VT 05620-3522

Re: TDI – New England
New England Clean Power Link Project
Grand Isle, Rutland, and Windsor Counties, Vermont
Stream Alteration Individual Permit Application

Dear Jaron:

On behalf of TDI-New England ("TDI-NE"), VHB has prepared the enclosed Individual Stream Alteration Permit application, narrative, and supporting documents for the New England Clean Power Link project ("NECPL" or "Project"). The NECPL project is designed to transmit high voltage direct current ("HVDC") electricity with a capacity of 1,000 megawatts ("MW") from Canada to the New England electric grid. This electric transmission line is proposed to extend from the Canadian Border at Alburgh, Vermont to Ludlow, Vermont along underwater and underground routes. In Ludlow, the line will terminate at the proposed converter station, where electricity will be converted from HVDC to alternating current ("AC"), and then extend to the existing Vermont Electric Power Company ("VELCO") 345 kV Coolidge Substation in Cavendish, Vermont, located approximately 0.3 miles to the south of the proposed converter station. The overland portion of the route will traverse through portions of one town in Grand Isle County, Vermont and thirteen towns in Rutland and Windsor Counties, within existing rights-of-way (e.g. roads, railroad). The proposed alignment would intersect a total of 52 perennial streams that would be crossed. Each of these crossings has been documented and the construction method that is proposed to be used to complete the crossing has been identified.

Because of the breadth and complexity of the Project, it is assumed that the Secretary would require coverage as an individual permit rather than authorize coverage for activities that are jurisdictional under the provisions of the General Permit. The following materials are being provided in hard copy as well as being provided on the enclosed CD ROM:

40 IDX Drive, Building 100
Suite 200
South Burlington, Vermont 05403
P 802.497.6100
F 802.495.5130

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- Stream Alteration Individual Permit Application
- Narrative and Supporting Materials
 - Perennial Stream Crossing Index Map and map series
 - Stream Crossing Inventory, including photographs of existing conditions at each crossing site
 - Typical construction details and draft EPSC plan sheets for proposed Open Trench Excavation crossings locations
 - List of abutters to stream crossing activities

In addition to these materials, VHB has enclosed an application fee check in the amount of \$225 made payable to the State of Vermont.

The list of project abutters adjacent to crossings of perennial streams has been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Stream Alteration Individual Permit and has been included as Attachment 5 to the Narrative. As we discussed during our phone call on February 23, 2015, the abutter notifications have been prepared but have not been mailed, pending further discussions with the Agency of Natural Resources and the potential for a unified notification process for the project.

Please let us know if you have any questions or need additional information.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Jeffrey A. Nelson in black ink.

Jeffrey A. Nelson, CPESC, CPSWQ
Director, Energy and Environmental Services

Handwritten signature of Robert Wildey in blue ink.

Robert Wildey, CPESC
Water Resources Consultant

JAN/RAW/jkw
Enclosures

cc: Billy Coster (cover letter and CD only)
Josh Bagnato (cover letter and CD only)
Bob Harrison (cover letter and CD only)
Andy Raubvogel (cover letter and CD only)
Galen Guerrero-Murphy (cover letter and CD only)