#### UNITED STATES OF AMERICA BEFORE THE FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION

TransCanada Hydro Northeast Inc.

Project No. 1904

## NOTICE OF INTENT TO FILE APPLICATION FOR NEW LICENSE

Pursuant to 18 C.F.R. § 5.5, TransCanada Hydro Northeast Inc. ("TransCanada") notifies the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission ("Commission") of its intention to file an Application for New License for the Vernon Hydroelectric Project ("Project"), FERC No. 1904. The following information is provided consistent with the requirements of 18 C.F.R. § 5.5 and 18 C.F.R. § 16.6(b).

#### The exact name and business address of the applicant is:

TransCanada Hydro Northeast Inc. 110 Turnpike Road, Suite 300 Westborough, MA 01581

TransCanada requests that all correspondence and service of documents relating to this notification and subsequent proceedings be addressed to the following persons who are authorized to act as agents for TransCanada Hydro Northeast Inc. pursuant to 18 C.F.R. § 5.6(d)(2)(i):

Mr. John Ragonese Relicensing Project Manager TransCanada Hydro Northeast Inc. 4 Park Street, Suite 402 Concord NH 03301 Telephone: (603) 498-2851 john\_ragonese@transcanada.com

Mr. Michael E. Hachey Vice President, Regulatory Affairs and Compliance TransCanada Hydro Northeast Inc. 110 Turnpike Road, Suite 300 Westborough, MA 01581 Telephone: (508) 871-1852 mike\_hachey@transcanada.com Ms. Erin A. O'Dea, Esq. Legal Counsel TransCanada Hydro Northeast Inc. 110 Turnpike Road, Suite 300 Westborough, MA 01581 Telephone: (508) 599-1434 <u>erin\_odea@transcanada.com</u>

## **Project Number:**

Vernon Project, FERC No. 1904.

# **License Expiration Date:**

The current license for the Project expires on April 30, 2018.

## **Unequivocal Statement of Intent:**

TransCanada unequivocally declares its intent to file an application for a new power license for the Vernon Project utilizing the Commission's Integrated Licensing Process (ILP).

# Type of Principal Project Works to be Licensed:

Project works consisting of:

- 1. A concrete gravity dam comprised of a 600-foot-long overflow spillway with six tainter gates, two hydraulic panel bays, three stanchion bays, and three sluiceways; a 356-foot-long non-overflow section;
- 2. Vernon reservoir extending 26 miles upstream, having a surface area of 2,550 acres at full pool elevation 220.13 msl;
- 3. a powerhouse containing four 2,000-kW, four 4,000-kW, and two 4,200-kW generating units, for a total installed capacity of 32,400 kW;
- 4. transmission interconnection facilities consisting of
  - a. generating leads;
  - b. four 6,000 KVA 13.8/2.3 -kV step-up transformers located within the powerhouse; and
  - c. an underground 13.8-kV interconnection to two outdoor 13.8 to 69-kV step-up transformers.
- 5. fish passage facilities; and
- 6. appurtenant facilities.

## **Location of the Project:**

The Vernon Project is located on the Connecticut River at river mile 141.9 and extends upstream approximately 26 miles. The dam and powerhouse are approximately 2 miles upstream of the Ashuelot River and 7.4 miles downstream of the West River.

State or Territory:	New Hampshire and Vermont		
County:	NH – Cheshire, VT - Windham		
Township or nearby town:	NH – Hinsdale, VT - Vernon		

The installed capacity of the project is: 32,400 kW.

# Names and Mailing Addresses of Entities Listed in 18 C.F.R. § 5.5(b)(8):

In conformance with 18 C.F.R. § 5.5(c), TransCanada will distribute this Notice of Intent (NOI) to interested parties including federal, state and local agencies, non-federally recognized tribes, non-governmental organizations, and members of the public including abutting property owners.

All of the entities listed below in paragraphs (a) through (h) are included on the Project relicensing interested parties distribution list. TransCanada will distribute this NOI to each of those entities.

Distribution of the NOI will be made by email or by U.S. mail. A Distribution List of all entities identified as interested parties (excluding property abutters for privacy reasons) is attached to the letter transmitting this NOI.

(a) Each county in which any part of the Project is located, and in which any Federal Facility that is used or to be used by the Project is located:

Cheshire County Administration 33 West Street Keene, NH 03431 Windham County Clerk P.O. Box 207 Newfane, VT 05345

There are no Federal facilities used by the Project.

(b) Each city or town in which any part of the Project is located, and in which any Federal facility that is used or to be used by the Project is located.

Town of Hinsdale PO Box 13 Hinsdale, NH 03451-0013

Town of Chesterfield PO Box 175 Chesterfield, NH 03443-0175

Town of Westmoreland PO Box 55 Westmoreland, NH 03467-0055

Town of Walpole PO Box 729 Walpole, NH 03608-0729 Town of Vernon PO Box 66 Vernon, VT 05354

Town of Brattleboro 230 Main Street Brattleboro, VT 05301

Town of Putney PO Box 233 Putney, VT 05346

Town of Dummerston 1523 Middle Road E. Dummerston, VT 05346

Town of Westminster PO Box 147 Westminster, VT 05158 There are no Federal facilities used by the Project.

(c) Each city or town that has a population of 5,000 or more people and is located within 15 miles of the existing Project dams:

Town of Swanzey	City of Greenfield
PO Box 10009	14 Court Square
Swanzey, NH 03446	Greenfield, MA 01301

(d) Each irrigation district, drainage district, or similar special purpose political subdivision in which any part of the Project is located, and in which any Federal facility that is used or to be used by the Project is located.

There are no irrigation or drainage districts that meet these criteria.

(e) Each irrigation district, drainage district, or similar special purpose political subdivision that owns, operates, maintains, or uses any Project facility or any Federal facility that is or is proposed to be used by the Project.

There are no irrigation or drainage districts that meet these criteria.

(f) Every other political subdivision in the general area of the Project that there is reason to believe would likely be interested in, or affected by this notification.

TransCanada is not aware of other political subdivisions in the general area of the Project; however, there are regional and inter-state commissions enabled by statute or legislation that TransCanada has identified as interested parties on the Project relicensing Distribution List.

(g) Affected Indian Tribes.

There are no federally recognized Indian tribes that would be affected by the Project; however, TransCanada is aware of non-federally recognized tribes and such tribes are identified as interested parties on the Project relicensing Distribution List.

(h) Other Interested Agencies and Parties.

TransCanada has identified numerous federal, state, local governments, resource agencies, organizations and members of the public (including property abutters) and such other interested agencies and parties are identified as interested parties on the Project relicensing Distribution List.

#### Readily Accessible, Reviewable and Reproducible Information

TransCanada will maintain a virtual Public Reference Room through the website <u>www.transcanada-relicensing.com</u> where copies of the NOI, Pre-Application Document (PAD), PAD supporting materials, unrestricted published studies, Project information, relicensing process schedules and future relicensing documents will be kept.

In addition, a publicly accessible computer terminal with access to the website and public information is located at the TransCanada office located at 2 Killeen Street, North Walpole, New Hampshire. Access to the facility is controlled and requires an escort and advance notice by contacting Mr. John Ragonese at the phone, email, or address below to schedule an appointment to access the computer terminal and review documents.

Paper copies of public reference room information are available (at a reasonable cost of reproduction and postage) by written request to Mr. John Ragonese at the email or mailing address below. A paper copy of the NOI and PAD are also available to the public at the following public libraries located near the Project.

Town	Public Library	Town	Public Library
Hinsdale NH	Hinsdale Public Library 122 Brattleboro Road PO Box 6 Hinsdale, NH 03451-0006 (603-336-5713)	Vernon VT	Vernon Free Library 567 Governor Hunt Road Vernon, VT 05354-0094 (802-257-0150)
Chesterfield NH	Chesterfield Public Library 524 Route 63 Chesterfield, NH 03443-3607 (603-363-4621)	Brattleboro VT	Brooks Memorial Library 224 Main Street Brattleboro, VT 05301 (802-254-5290)
Westmoreland NH	Westmoreland Public Library 33 South Village Road Westmoreland, NH 03467- 4514 (603-399-7750)	Dummerston VT	Lydia Taft Pratt Library 156 West Street PO Box 70 West Dummerston, VT 05357-0070 (802-254-2703)
Walpole NH	Walpole Town Library 48 Main Street PO Box 487 Walpole, NH 03608-0487 (603-756-9806)	Putney VT	Putney Public Library 55 Main Street Putney, VT 05346-0193 (802-387-4407)
		Westminster VT	Butterfield Library Main Street PO Box 123 Westminster, VT 05158- 0123 (802-722-4891)

Dated: October 30, 2012

Respectfully submitted,

## TransCanada Hydro Northeast Inc.

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By:

John R. Ragonese Relicensing Project Manager TransCanada Hydro Northeast Inc. 4 Park Street, Suite 402 Concord NH 03301 Telephone: (603) 498-2851 john\_ragonese@transcanada.com