## FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, DC 20426 November 21, 2013

## OFFICE OF ENERGY PROJECTS

Project No. 1892-026 – New Hampshire / Vermont Project No. 1855-045 – New Hampshire / Vermont Project No. 1904-073 – New Hampshire / Vermont TransCanada Hydro Northeast Inc.

Mr. John Ragonese Relicensing Project Manager TransCanada Hydro Northeast Inc. 4 Park Street, Suite 402 Concord NH 03301

**Reference: Request for Extension of Time** 

Dear Mr. Ragonese:

On September 13, 2013, we issued our study plan determination for 13 of TransCanada Hydro Northeast Inc.'s (TransCanada) proposed 33 studies for the relicensing of the Wilder, Bellows Falls, and Vernon hydroelectric projects. The study plan determination required TransCanada to modify, in consultation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (collectively, the agencies), its Study 4 – Hydraulic Modeling Study, and to file the modified study for Commission approval no later than December 12, 2013.

On November 8, 2013, TransCanada filed with the Commission a request for an extension of time (until January 31, 2014) to file the modified study plan. TransCanada notes that it needs the additional time to select a consultant to implement the hydraulic model specified in Study 4, which will facilitate the required agency consultation. TransCanada also notes that its earlier consultation efforts with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) were hindered by the federal government shutdown from October 1 through October 16.

Given that the requested extension would not prohibit the implementation of Study 4 during the 2014 field season, I am approving the request and extending the due date for

TransCanada to modify and file with the Commission Study 4 - Hydraulic Modeling Study, to January 31, 2014.

If you have any questions please contact Ken Hogan at: (202) 502-8434, or email me at: Kenneth.Hogan@ferc.gov.

Sincerely,

Vince Yearick Director Division of Hydropower Licensing

cc: Mailing List Public Files