

US Northeast Hydro Region Concord Hydro Office 4 Park Street, Suite 402 Concord NH 03301-6373

tel 603.225.5528 fax 603.225.3260 web www.transcanada.com

October 30, 2012 VIA E-FILING

Honorable Kimberly D. Bose, Secretary Federal Energy Regulatory Commission 888 First Street, NE Washington, D.C. 20426

Re: TransCanada Hydro Northeast Inc.; Bellows Falls Project (FERC No. 1855); Notice of Intent to File Application for New License and Pre-Application Document CEII Letter – Pre-Application Document contains Critical Energy Infrastructure Information

Dear Secretary Bose:

Pursuant to Section 15(b)(1) of the Federal Power Act, 16 U.S.C. § 808(b)(1), and 18 C.F.R. §§ 5.5 and 5.6, TransCanada Hydro Northeast Inc. ("TransCanada"), herewith electronically files with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission ("Commission") the attached Notice of Intent to File Application for New License ("NOI") and the Pre-Application Document ("PAD") for the Bellows Falls Hydroelectric Project (FERC No. 1855). The current license for the Bellows Falls Project expires on April 30, 2018. This letter references Critical Energy Infrastructure Information found in the PAD and therefore TransCanada respectfully requests FERC to classify the PAD as CEII. A Public version of the PAD, with the CEII material redacted, will be filed with the Commission simultaneously.

In accordance with Sections 5.5(c) and 5.6(a)(1) of the Commission's regulations (18 C.F.R. §§ 5.5(c) and 5.6(a)(1)), TransCanada is providing copies of the NOI and PAD via email, weblink, U.S. mail or parcel service to appropriate federal and state agencies, Indian tribes, local governments, non-governmental organizations and members of the public likely to be interested in the proceeding, as set forth on the attached distribution list. Documents can be downloaded at <u>www.transcanada-relicensing.com</u>. In addition, we are providing courtesy paper copies of the NOI and PAD to Commission staff in the Office of Energy Projects, and Office of General Counsel – Energy Projects, as required by the Commission's filing guidelines.

In accordance with Section 5.5(e) of the Commission's regulations (18 C.F.R. § 5.5(e)), TransCanada hereby requests the Commission's authorization for TransCanada to initiate consultation on the Commission's behalf pursuant to 36 C.F.R. § 800.2(c)(4) of the regulations implementing Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act. We understand, however, that the Commission remains ultimately responsible for all findings and determinations.

TransCanada has identified one mussel species (dwarf wedge mussel) and one plant species (Jesup's milk vetch) at the Bellows Falls Project that are listed under the Endangered Species Act ("ESA") (16 U.S.C. § 1536). In addition, American eel has been identified at the Bellows Falls Project and this species, along with blueback herring (not found at the Bellows Falls Project but present in the Connecticut River downstream), are both currently under review for potential listing under the ESA. Therefore, TransCanada also hereby requests to be designated as the Commission's non-Federal representative for purposes of consultation under section 7 of the ESA and the joint agency regulations thereunder at 50 C.F.R. Part 402, Section 305(b) of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act and the implementing regulations at 50 C.F.R. § 600.920, should such consultation become necessary in the future.

If there are further questions regarding this matter, please contact me at 603-498-2851or john ragonese@transcanada.com.

Sincerely,

the Ge

John L. Ragonese FERC License Manager

Attachments: Distribution List Notice of Intent Preliminary Application Document

cc: Distribution List

Executive Director Advisory Council on Historic Preservation 1100 Pennsylvania Ave NW, Suite 803 Washington, DC 20004

Kenneth Hogan Connecticut River Relicensing Team Leader Federal Energy Regulatory Commission 888 First Street NE RM 63-16 Washington, DC 20426 Kenneth.Hogan@ferc.gov

Office of General Counsel Federal Energy Regulatory Commission 888 First Street NE RM 101-56 Washington, DC 20426

Ed Cappone Service Coordinator Hydrologist National Weather Service, Northeast River Forecast Ctr 445 Myles Standish Blvd. Taunton, MA 02780 Edward.Capone@noaa.gov

Col. Charles P. Samaris Comander and Dist. Engineer U.S. Army Corps of Engineers 696 Virginia Road Concord, MA 01742-2751 cenae-pa@usace.army.mil

Ralph Abele Water Quality Control Branch (WQB) U.S. EPA Region 1 - New England 5 Post Office Sq, Suite 100 - MailCode OEP06-02 Boston, MA 02109-3912

Kenneth Sprankle Connecticut River Coordinator U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service 103 E. Plumtree Road Sunderland, MA 01375-9480 Ken_Sprankle@fws.gov Paul Ford
Acting Regional Administrator
Federal Emergency Management Agency,
Region 1
99 High Street, 6th Floor
Boston, MA 02110

Office of Energy Projects Federal Energy Regulatory Commission 888 First Street NE RM 61-02 Washington, DC 20426

Kevin Mendik Hydro Program Coordinator National Park Service, Northeast Region 15 State Street, 10th Floor Boston, MA 02109 Kevin_Mendik@nps.gov

John K. Bullard Regional Administrator NOAA Fisheries Service Northeast Regional Office 55 Great Republic Drive Gloucester, MA 01930-2298 iohn.bullard@noaa.gov

Christopher Hatfield, P.E. Planning Branch U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New England District 695 Virginia Road Concord, MA 01742-2750 Christopher.L.Hatfield@usace.army.mil

John Warner Asst Supervisor, Conservation Planning Assistance and Endangered Species U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service 70 Commercial Street Concord, NH 03301-5087 John_Warner@fws.gov

Regional Director U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service 300 Westgate Center Drive Hadley, MA 01305-9589 Andrew French Project leader U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Silvio O. Conte National Fish and Wildlife Refuge 103 E. Plumtree Road Sunderland, MA 01375-9480 andrew french@fws.gov

Keith Robinson Director U.S. Geological Survey 331 Commerce Way Pembroke, NH 03275 dc_nh@usgs.gov

Giovanna Peebles State Historic Preservation Officer Vermont Div. of Historic Preservation National Life Building, Drawer 20 Montpelier, VT 05620-0501 giovanna.peebles@state.vt.us

Rachel Ruppel Connecticut River Joint Commissions / UVLSPRC 10 Water Street, Suite 225 Lebanon, NH 03766 rruppel@uvlsrpc.org

Brad Simpkins Interim Director/State Forester New Hampshire Div of Forests and Lands 172 Pembroke Road, P.O. Box 1856 Concord, NH 03301-1856 brad.simpkins@dred.state.nh.us

Owen David 401 WQC Coordinator New Hampshire Dept of Environmental Services P.O. Box 95 Concord, NH 03302-0095 Owen.David@des.nh.gov

Harry T Stewart NHDES Water Division Director New Hampshire Dept of Environmental Services P.O. Box 95 Concord, NH 03302-0095 Harry.Stewart@des.nh.gov Barnaby J. Watten Chief U.S. Geological Survey One Migratory Way, .O. Box 796 Turners Falls, MA 01376-0796 bwatten@usgs.gov

Regional Director U.S. Geological Survey 10 Bearfoot Road Northboro, MA 01532-1528 dc_ma@usgs.gov

Rebecca Brown Connecticut River Joint Commissions 10 Water Street, Suite 225 Lebanon, NH 03766 rbrown@aconservationtrust.org

Connecticut Valley Flood Control Commission P.O. Box 511 Greenfield, MA 01302 crvfcc@crocker.com

Sara Cairns Environmentalist III New Hampshire Div of Forests and Lands -Natural Heritage Bureau 172 Pembroke Road, P.O. Box 1856 Concord, NH 03301-1856 Sara.Cairns@dred.state.nh.us

Jacquie Colburn Coordinator New Hampshire Dept of Environmental Services P.O. Box 95 Concord, NH 03302-0095 jacquie.colburn@des.nh.gov

Gregg Comstock Supervisor, Water Quality Planning Section New Hampshire Dept of Environmental Services P.O. Box 95 Concord, NH 03302-0095 gregg.comstock@des.nh.gov

Edna M. Feighner Review & Compliance Coordinator New Hampshire Dept of Historical Resources 19 Pillsbury Street - 2nd floor Concord, NH 03301-3570 Edna.Feighner@dcr.nh.gov

Gabe Gries Warmwater Project Leader New Hampshire Fish and Game Dept 15 Ash Brook Court Keene, NH 03431 gabe.gries@wildlife.nh.gov

Daniel St. Hilaire Executive Councilor State of NH Executive Council 107 No. Main Street - State House Rm 207 Concord, NH 03301 dst.hilaire@nh.gov

Rod Wentworth Environmental Assessment Vermont Dept of Fish & Wildlife 103 South Main St, Bldg 10 South Waterbury, VT 05671-0408 rod.wentworth@state.vt.us

Ken Cox Fisheries Biologist Vermont Dept of Fish & Wildlife - Natural Heritage Project 100 Mineral St, Suite 303 Springfield, VT 05641 ken.cox@state.vt.us

Brian T. Fitzgerald Streamflow Protection Coordinator Vermont Dept of Environmental Conservation 1 National Life Drive, Main 2 Montpelier, VT 05620-3522 brian.fitzgerald@state.vt.us

John H. Churchill Chief Abenaki Nation of Missisquoi P.O. Box 133 Swanton, VT 05488 Dawnland@Missisquoi.comcastbiz.net Matt Carpenter Biologist II New Hampshire Fish and Game Dept 11 Hazen Drive Concord, NH 03301 matthew.carpenter@wildlife.nh.gov

Raymond S. Burton Executive Councilor State of NH Executive Council 338 River Road Bath, NH 03740 rburton@nh.gov

David K. Wheeler Executive Councilor State of NH Executive Council 523 Mason Road Milford, NH 03055 dwheeler@nh.gov

Bob Popp Department Botanist Vermont Dept of Fish & Wildlife - Natural Heritage Project 5 Perry St. Suite 40 Barre, VT 05641 bob.popp@state.vt.us

Justin Johnson Deputy Commisioner Vermont Dept of Environmental Conservation 1 National Life Drive, Main 2 Montpelier, VT 05620-3522 justin.johnson@state.vt.us

Marie Levesque Caduto Watershed Coordinator Vermont Dept of Environmental Conservation 100 Mineral St, Suite 303 Springfield, VT 05671-0408 marie.caduto@state.vt.us

Wade Blackwood Executive Director American Canoe Assocoation 1340 Central Blvd., Suite 210 Fredericksburg, VA 22401 wblackwood@americancanoe.org Amy Singler Assoc. Director, River Restoration American Rivers 25 Main Street, Suite 220 Northampton, MA 01060 asingler@americanrivers.org

Mark Singleton Executive Director American Whitewater P.O. Box 1540 Cullowhee, NC 28723 mark@americanwhitewater.org

Ken Kimball Director of Research Appalachian Mountain Club P.O. Box 298 Gorham, NH 03581 kkimball@amcinfo.org

Atlantic Salmon Federation P.O. Box 807 Calais, ME 04619-0807 savesalmon@asf.ca

Kelly and John Stettner Black River Action Team & Mt. Ascutney Local River Subcommittee 101 Perley Gordon Road Springfield, VT 05156 blackrivercleanup@yahoo.com

David Dean River Steward Connecticut River Watershed Council P.O. Box 206 Saxtons River, VT 05154-0206 ddeen@ctriver.org

Ken Alton Trustee Connecticut River Watershed Council P.O. Box 3 Strafford, VT 05072 kindredalton@gmail.com John Seebach Chairman, HRC and Director, Hydropower Reform Initiative American Rivers / Hydro Reform Coalition 1101 14th Street NW, Suite 1400 Washington, DC 20005 jseebach@americanrivers.org

Kevin Colburn National Stewardship Director American Whitewater P.O. Box 1540 Cullowhee, NC 28723 kevin@americanwhitewater.org

Appalachian Trail Conservancy P.O. Box 264 South Egremont, MA 01258 atc-nero@appalachiantrail.org

Doug Rarker Executive Director Audubon Society of Vermont 255 Sherman Hollow Road Huntington, VT 05462 dparker@audobon.org

Andrea Donelon River Steward Connecticut River Watershed Council 15 Bank Row Street Greenfield, MA 01301 adonlon@ctriver.org

Ron Rhodes River Steward Connecticut River Watershed Council P.O. Box 94 South Pomfret, VT 05067 rrhodes@ctriver.org

Liz Austin Trustee Connecticut River Watershed Council c/o 15 Bank Row Greenfield, MA 01301 lizaustin44@comcast.net

Jonathan Peress Dir. Clean Energy and Climate Change Program Conservation Law Foundation 27 North Main Street Concord, NH 03801-4930 njperess@clf.org

Chris Kilian VP and Director Conservation Law Foundation 15 State Street, Suite 4 Montpelier, VT 05602 ckilian@clf.org

Nancy Millette Doucet Chief Koasek Traditional Abenaki of the KOAS Main Street North Haverhill, NH 03774 Info@KoasekAbenaki.Org

Curtis Fisher Regional Exec. Dir. National Wildlife Federation 149 State Street, Suite 1 Montpelier, VT 05602 fisherc@nwf.org

Carol Foss Director of Conservation New Hampshire Audubon 84 Silk Farm Road Concord, NH 03301 cfoss@nhaudubon.org

Janice Boynton Executive Director New Hampshire Wildlife Federation 54 Portsmouth Street Concord, NH 03301 ed@nhwf.org

Kathryn Kennedy Applied River Scientist The Nature Conservancy 25 Main Street, Suite 220 Northampton, MA 01060 kkennedy@tnc.org John Kassell President Conservation Law Foundation 62 Summer Street Boston, MA 02110 jkassel@clf.org

Paul Pouliot Council Chief and Speaker Cowasuck Band of the Pennacook - Abenaki People P.O. Box 52, 840 Suncook Valley Rd Alton, NH 03809-0052 cowasuck@cowasuck.org

Paul Bunnell Co-Chief Koasek Traditional Band of the Sovereign Abenaki Nation P.O. Box 147 Post Mills, VT 05058-0147 Koasek@ymail.com

Tom Christopher New England FLOW 252 Fort Pond Inn Road Lancaster, MA 05123 tom.christopher@comcast.net

Beth Flagler Program Administrator New Hampshire Rivers Council 54 Portsmouth Street Concord, NH 03301 info@NHRivers.org

Will Abbott VP for Policy & Land Management Society for the Protection of NH Forests 54 Portsmouth Street Concord, NH 03301 wabbott@forestsociety.org

Rose Paul Director of Science and Stewardship The Nature Conservancy 27 State Street, Suite 4 Montpelier, VT 05602 rpaul@tnc.org

Daryl Burtnett State Director The Nature Conservancy 22 Bridge Street, 4th Floor Concord, NH 03301 dburtnett@tnc.org

Ken Grecsek Member Trout Unlimited P.O. Box 713 Lebanon, NH 03766 Kenneth.Grecsek@tomtom.com

Jim MacCartney River Restoration Specialist Trout Unlimited P.O. Box 3302 Concord, NH 03302 jmaccartney@tu.org

Don Pugh Menber-Consultant Trout Unlimited 10 Old Stage Rd Wendell, MA 01379 don.pugh@yahoo.com

Ryan McCall President Vermont Paddlers Club/Vermont River Conservancy 29 Main Street, Suite 11 Montpelier, VT 05602 ryanmtnman@gmail.com

Anne Bussler and David Bussler 305 Missing Link Rd. Rockingham, VT 05101 abussler@k12s.phast.umass.edu

John Howard First Light-GDF Suez 99 Millers Falls Road Northfield, MA 01360 john.howard@gdfsuezna.com Chris Moore Chair, Vermont TU Trout Unlimited P.O. Box 713 Lebanon, NH 03766 vermont.tu@gmail.com

Ray Obar Member Trout Unlimited P.O. Box 713 Lebanon, NH 03766 robar1949@comcast.net

Elizabeth Maclin VP for Eastern Conservation Trout Unlimited 1300 N. 17th St, Suite 500 Arlington, VA 22209-2404 emaclin@tu.org

Brian Shupe Executive Director Vermont Natural Resources Council 9 Bailey Avenue Montpelier, VT 05602 bshupe@vnrc.org

Steve Libby Executive Director Vermont River Conservancy 29 Main Street, Suite 11 Montpelier, VT 05602 vrc@vermontriverconservancy.org

Bernard Folta P.O. 148 Claremont, NH 03743 bernief@atlof.net

Paul Ducheny Holyoke Gas and Electric 99 Suffolk Street Holyoke, MA 01040 ducheney@hged.com Stewart Read Owner Island Corporation 33 Bridge Street Bellows Falls, VT 05101

Anita Milman Asst. Professor, Environmental Policy University of Massachusetts Room 210; 160 Holdsworth Way Amherst, MA 01003-9285 amilman@eco.umass.edu

Guy A. Santagate City Manager City of Claremont 58 Opera House Square Claremont, NH 03743

George H. Stowell Free Library School Street Cornish Flat, NH 03746-0360

Rockingham Free Public Library 65 Westminster Street Bellows Falls, VT 05101

Tom Kennedy Director of Planning Southern Windsor County RPC Ascutney Professional Building - Route 5, P.O. Box 320 Ascutney, VT 05030 Tkennedy@swcrpc.net

Springfield Town Library 43 Main Street Springfield, VT 05156-2997 Eve Vogel Assistant Professor, Dept. of Geosciences University of Massachusetts 233 Morrill Science Ctr, 611 N. Pleasant St Amherst, MA 01003-9297 evevogel@geo.umass.edu

Administrator Cheshire County 33 West Street Keene, NH 03431

Fiske Free Library 108 Broad Street Claremont, NH 03743-2673

Proctor Library 5181 Route 5 Ascutney, VT 05030-0519

Silsby Free Public Library 226 Main St, P.O. Box 307 Charlestown, NH 03603-0307

Tim Murphy Executive Director Southwest Regional Planning Commission 20 Central Square, 2nd Floor Keene, NH 03431 tmurphy@swrpc.org

Administrator Sullivan County 14 Main Street Newport, NH 03773

Steven A. Neill Chairman, Selectboard Town of Charlestown P.O. Box 385 Charlestown, NH 03603-0385

Tim Cullenen Town Manager Town of Rockingham P.O. Box 370 Bellows Falls, VT 05101-0370

Whitney R. Aldrich Chairman, Selectboard Town of Walpole P.O. Box 729 Walpole, NH 03608-0729

John Tansey Chairman, Selectboard Town of Windsor 29 Union St. Windsor, VT 05089

County Clerk Windham County P.O. Box 207 Newfane, VT 05345-0207

County Clerk Windsor County 12 The Greene #101 Woodstock, VT 05091

John Ragonese FERC License Manager TransCanada Hydro Northeast Inc 4 Park St., Suite 402 Concord, NH 03301 john_ragonese@transcanada.com John Hammond Chairman, Selectboard Town of Cornish 488 Town House Rd Cornish, NH 03745

Kristi Morris Chairman, Selectboard Town of Springfield 96 Main St Springfield, VT 05156

James Mullen Town Manager Town of Weathersfield P.O. Box 550 Ascutney, VT 05030-0550

Walpole Town Library 48 Main Street, P.O. Box 487 Walpole, NH 03608-0487

Chris Campany Executive Director Windham Regional Commission 139 Main St. Suite 505 Brattleboro, VT 05301 ccampany@sover.net

Windsor Public Library 43 State Street Windsor, VT 05089-1213

Erin O'Dea Legal Counsel TransCanada Hydro Northeast Inc 110 Turnpike Road, Suite 300 Westborough, MA 01581 erin_odea@transcanada.com

Michael Hatchey VP Regulatory Affairs and Compliance TransCanada Hydro Northeast Inc 110 Turnpike Road, Suite 300 Westborough, MA 01581 mike_hatchey@transcanada.com John Whittaker Partner Winston & Strawn LLP 1700 K Street, N.W. Washington, DC 20006-3817 JWhittak@winston.com