



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

March 23, 2016

VIA ELECTRONIC FILING

Kimberly D. Bose, Secretary
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
888 First Street, N.E.
Washington, DC 20426

Re: TransCanada Hydro Northeast Inc.'s Revised Study Plan, Project Nos. 1892-026, 1855-045, and 1904-073 – Phase IB Archaeological Identification Surveys, Wilder, Bellows Falls, and Vernon Hydroelectric Projects

CLASSIFICATION: Cover Letter PUBLIC, Surveys PRIVILEGED

Dear Secretary Bose:

TransCanada Hydro Northeast Inc. (“TransCanada”) is the owner and licensee of the Wilder Hydroelectric Project (FERC No. 1892), the Bellows Falls Hydroelectric Project (FERC No. 1855), and the Vernon Hydroelectric Project (FERC No. 1904). The current licenses for these projects each expire on April 30, 2018. On October 31, 2012, TransCanada initiated the Integrated Licensing Process by filing with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (“FERC” or “Commission”) its Notice of Intent to seek new licenses for each project, along with a separate Pre-Application Document for each project.

TransCanada submitted its Revised Study Plan for the three projects, as required by 18 C.F.R. §5.15(c)(1) on August 14, 2013. In accordance with Revised Study 33-Cultural and Historic Resources Study, enclosed please find the following reports for your review and comment:

- *Phase IB Archaeological Identification Survey, Wilder Hydroelectric Project (FERC No. 1892-026), Bellows Falls Hydroelectric Project (FERC No. 1855-*

045), and Vernon Hydroelectric Project (FERC No. 1904-073), Orange, Windham, and Windsor Counties, Vermont.

- *Phase IB Archaeological Identification Survey, Wilder Hydroelectric Project (FERC No. 1892-026), Bellows Falls Hydroelectric Project (FERC No. 1855-045), Vernon Hydroelectric Project (FERC No. 1904-073), Cheshire, Grafton and Sullivan Counties, New Hampshire.*

The enclosed reports were also sent to the Vermont and New Hampshire State Historic Preservation Offices (respectively) and to the Narragansett Indian Tribe and The Nolumbeka Project Inc., as indicated by the attached transmittal letters.

On September 14, 2015 the Commission issued a Revised Process Plan and Schedule for the Connecticut River Projects that identified March 1, 2016 as a “target” filing deadline for Updated Study Reports on studies yet to be completed. Any remaining study reports that could not be filed by March 1, 2016 would be identified along with a respective filing date. In its March 1, 2016 Updated Study Report, TransCanada included: ten final study reports and supporting data; three interim study reports; a schedule for completing and filing the remaining study reports; and, proposed comment period deadlines with the understanding that FERC will make the final determination on formal comment deadlines.

TransCanada has recommended a comment period until July 15, 2016 for final study reports filed between March 2 and May 15, 2016, which includes the enclosed Phase IB Archaeological Identification Surveys.

If there are any questions regarding the information provided in this filing, please contact John Ragonese at 603-498-2851 or by emailing john_ragonese@transcanada.com.

Sincerely,



John L. Ragonese
FERC License Manager

Enclosures: Phase IB Archaeological Identification Surveys, NH and VT
Transmittal letter to Narragansett Indian Tribe
Transmittal letter to The Nolumbeka Project Inc.
Transmittal letter to VT SHPO
Transmittal memo to NH SHPO



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March 23, 2016

VIA FEDEX

John Brown, Tribal Historic Preservation Officer
Narragansett Indian Tribe
4425-A South County Trail
Charlestown, RI 02813

Re: TransCanada Hydro Northeast Inc.'s Revised Study Plan, Project Nos. 1892-026, 1855-045, and 1904-073 – Phase IB Archaeological Identification Surveys, Wilder, Bellows Falls, and Vernon Hydroelectric Projects

Dear Mr. Brown:

TransCanada Hydro Northeast Inc. (“TransCanada”) is the owner and licensee of the Wilder Hydroelectric Project (FERC No. 1892), the Bellows Falls Hydroelectric Project (FERC No. 1855), and the Vernon Hydroelectric Project (FERC No. 1904). The current licenses for these projects each expire on April 30, 2018. On October 31, 2012, TransCanada initiated the Integrated Licensing Process by filing with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (“FERC” or “Commission”) its Notice of Intent to seek new licenses for each project, along with a separate Pre-Application Document for each project.

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Historic Resources Study, enclosed please find the following reports for your review and comment:

- *Phase IB Archaeological Identification Survey, Wilder Hydroelectric Project (FERC No. 1892-026), Bellows Falls Hydroelectric Project (FERC No. 1855-045), and Vernon Hydroelectric Project (FERC No. 1904-073), Orange, Windham, and Windsor Counties, Vermont.*
- *Phase IB Archaeological Identification Survey, Wilder Hydroelectric Project (FERC No. 1892-026), Bellows Falls Hydroelectric Project (FERC No. 1855-045), Vernon Hydroelectric Project (FERC No. 1904-073), Cheshire, Grafton and Sullivan Counties, New Hampshire.*

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Sincerely,



John L. Ragonese
FERC License Manager

Enclosures: Phase IB Archaeological Identification Survey reports

Cc: Kimberly D. Bose, Secretary, FERC (w/o encl.)
Joseph Graveline, President, The Nolumbeka Project Inc. (w/o encl.)
Laura Trieschmann, VT SHPO (w/o encl.)
Elizabeth H. Muzzey, NH SHPO (w/o encl.)



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March 23, 2016

VIA FEDEX

Joseph Graveline, President
The Nolumbeka Project Inc.
88 Columbus Avenue
Greenfield, MA 01301

Re: TransCanada Hydro Northeast Inc.’s Revised Study Plan, Project Nos. 1892-026, 1855-045, and 1904-073 – Phase IB Archaeological Identification Surveys, Wilder, Bellows Falls, and Vernon Hydroelectric Projects

Dear Mr. Graveline:

TransCanada Hydro Northeast Inc. (“TransCanada”) is the owner and licensee of the Wilder Hydroelectric Project (FERC No. 1892), the Bellows Falls Hydroelectric Project (FERC No. 1855), and the Vernon Hydroelectric Project (FERC No. 1904). The current licenses for these projects each expire on April 30, 2018. On October 31, 2012, TransCanada initiated the Integrated Licensing Process by filing with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (“FERC” or “Commission”) its Notice of Intent to seek new licenses for each project, along with a separate Pre-Application Document for each project.

TransCanada submitted its Revised Study Plan for the three projects, as required by 18 C.F.R. §5.15(c)(1) on August 14, 2013. In accordance with Revised Study 33-Cultural and

Historic Resources Study, enclosed please find the following reports for your review and comment:


- *Phase IB Archaeological Identification Survey, Wilder Hydroelectric Project (FERC No. 1892-026), Bellows Falls Hydroelectric Project (FERC No. 1855-045), and Vernon Hydroelectric Project (FERC No. 1904-073), Orange, Windham, and Windsor Counties, Vermont.*
- *Phase IB Archaeological Identification Survey, Wilder Hydroelectric Project (FERC No. 1892-026), Bellows Falls Hydroelectric Project (FERC No. 1855-045), Vernon Hydroelectric Project (FERC No. 1904-073), Cheshire, Grafton and Sullivan Counties, New Hampshire.*

On September 14, 2015 the Commission issued a Revised Process Plan and Schedule for the Connecticut River Projects that identified March 1, 2016 as a “target” filing deadline for Updated Study Reports on studies yet to be completed. Any remaining study reports that could not be filed by March 1, 2016 would be identified along with a respective filing date. In its March 1, 2016 Updated Study Report, TransCanada included: ten final study reports and supporting data; three interim study reports; a schedule for completing and filing the remaining study reports; and, proposed comment period deadlines with the understanding that FERC will make the final determination on formal comment deadlines.

TransCanada has recommended a comment period until July 15, 2016 for final study reports filed between March 2 and May 15, 2016, which includes the enclosed Phase IB Archaeological Identification Surveys.

If there are any questions regarding the information provided in this filing, please contact John Ragonese at 603-498-2851 or by emailing john_ragonese@transcanada.com.

Sincerely,



John L. Ragonese
FERC License Manager

Enclosures: Phase IB Archaeological Identification Survey reports

Cc: Kimberly D. Bose, Secretary, FERC (w/o encl.)
John Brown, Narragansett THPO (w/o encl.)
Laura Trieschmann, VT SHPO (w/o encl.)
Elizabeth H. Muzzey, NH SHPO (w/o encl.)



March 14, 2016

Laura Trieschmann
State Historic Preservation Officer
Vermont Division for Historic Preservation
1 National Life Drive, Davis Building, 6th Floor
Montpelier, Vermont 05620-1201

Re: TransCanada Hydro Northeast Inc.'s Revised Study Plan
Project Nos. 1892-026, 1855-045, and 1904-073
Phase IB Archaeological Identification Survey
Wilder, Bellows Falls & Vernon Hydroelectric Projects, Vermont
PAL #2956

Dear Ms. Trieschmann:

On behalf of TransCanada Hydro Northeast Inc. ("TransCanada") and in accordance with Revised Study Plan for the pending relicensing of the Wilder Hydroelectric Project (FERC No. 1892), the Bellows Falls Hydroelectric Project (FERC No. 1855), and the Vernon Hydroelectric Project (FERC No. 1904), enclosed please find a CD containing the technical report titled *Phase IB Archaeological Identification Survey, Wilder Hydroelectric Project (FERC No. 1892-026), Bellows Falls Hydroelectric Project (FERC No. 1855-045), and Vernon Hydroelectric Project (FERC No. 1904-073), Orange, Windham, and Windsor Counties, Vermont*, prepared for your review and comment.

Appendix H of the report includes the proposed research design and testing methodology for Phase II archaeological site evaluation of six sites recommended as potentially eligible for listing in the National and State Registers of Historic Places. We would like to begin the Phase II field investigations as soon as possible.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact Suzanne Cherau, Principal Investigator, or me at your convenience.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Stephen Olausen". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Stephen Olausen
Executive Director

Enclosure

cc: John Ragonese, TransCanada (w/o encl.)



LETTER OF TRANSMITTAL

To: Edna Feighner
 Review and Compliance
 Coordinator/Historical Archaeologist
 NH Division of Historical Resources
 19 Pillsbury Street, Second Floor
 Concord, NH 03301

Date: October 29, 2015	Project No. 2956
Project: Vernon, Bellows Falls, and Wilder Hydroelectric Projects	
Re: Draft Phase IB Survey Report	

WE ARE SENDING YOU:

Attached or Under separate cover via _____ the following items:

Reports Letters Plans Samples Permits Prints Applications

ITEMS ATTACHED:

Date	Copies	No.	Description
10/2015	1		Draft Phase IB Archaeological Identification Survey Report

THESE ARE TRANSMITTED AS CHECKED BELOW:

- | | | |
|---|---|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> For your approval | <input type="checkbox"/> For your use | <input type="checkbox"/> Resubmit _____ copies for approval |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Approved as noted | <input type="checkbox"/> For your signature | <input type="checkbox"/> Submit _____ copies for approval |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Approved as submitted | <input type="checkbox"/> For review and comment | <input type="checkbox"/> Return _____ copies for approval |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Returned for corrections | <input type="checkbox"/> As requested | <input type="checkbox"/> ITEMS RETURNED AFTER LOAN TO US |

REMARKS:

COPY TO: _____

SIGNATURE:
 NAME: Deborah C. Cox

If enclosures are not as noted, please notify us at once