

Tara Bamford, East Thetford, VT.  
VIA ELECTRONIC FILING

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

Re: Comments on TransCanada Hydro Northeast Inc.'s Updated Study  
Results for Vernon Hydroelectric Project Nos. 1904-073

may 2, 2016

Dear Secretary Bose,

Under the New Hampshire Rivers Management and Protection Act, the Connecticut River Joint Commissions Subcommittees have a responsibility to consider and comment on any federal, state, or local governmental plans to approve, license, fund or construct facilities that would alter the resource values and characteristics for which the river or segment is designated. (RSA 483-8a) The resource values upon which the river designation was based included: geologic, wildlife, plant and fish resources; water quality; scenic values; water withdrawals; wastewater discharges; hydroelectric resources; historic and archaeological resources; community resources; and recreational resources. The CRJC Wantastiquet Subcommittee fulfills this role for the segment of Connecticut River on which the Vernon Hydroelectric Project is located. I provide staff support to this Subcommittee including meeting minutes.

On April 11, the CRJC Wantastiquet Subcommittee met and discussed the Updated Study Results for the Vernon Hydroelectric Project. The Subcommittee voted to request, in light of the ongoing issues around riverbank erosion and siltation, to request that FERC in issuing the new permit for this facility, consider the following two permit conditions:

1. Require the owner to establish a mitigation fund for riverbank restoration and stabilization projects to protect public and private property.
2. Require that the operational model be optimized to manage ramping in a manner that will minimize riverbank erosion.

Thank you for considering the comments of the CRJC Wantastiquet Subcommittee.

Sincerely,

Tara E. Bamford  
On behalf of the CRJC Wantastiquet Subcommittee

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