



**US Northeast Hydro Region**  
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May 16, 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 May 16, 2016 Updated Study Report  
Project Nos. 1892-026, 1855-045, and 1904-073**

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). On October 31, 2012, TransCanada initiated the Integrated Licensing Process ("ILP") 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. The current licenses for these projects each expire on April 30, 2019.

With this filing, TransCanada submits its May 16, 2016 Updated Study Report (USR) as required under 18 C.F.R. §5.15(f). This filing is made in accordance with the Revised Process Plan and Schedule for the ILP issued May 5, 2016 by the Commission.

This May 16, 2016 USR is being filed electronically as indicated below. Not all reports listed in the Commission's current schedule for filing by May 15 are ready to be filed. The USR provides a summary status table with a schedule for completion of studies not yet completed, study reports for studies that have been completed to date and supplementary information related to some study reports. Many of these delayed studies require us to conduct additional unanticipated analysis of hydraulic and operations model data prior to being deemed complete. Commission staff was consulted on this issue. More recently we concluded that the sheer volume of data associated with Study 21 requires further analysis and it will be delayed also. We

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have a target date of June 17, 2016 for completion and distribution of those reports in order to provide the reports to stakeholders for review and consultation prior to the final study report filing deadline of August 1, 2016. Those studies and their status are included in the USR status summary table that follows this letter.

This USR includes the following electronic documents:

1. Status Summary of all Studies
2. Study Reports:
  - i. Study 8 – Channel Morphology and Benthic Habitat Study Final Report
  - ii. Study 17 – Upstream Passage of Riverine Fish Species Study Report, and Appendices filed in a single zipfile
  - iii. Study 19 – American Eel Downstream Passage Assessment Study Report
  - iv. Study 22 – Downstream Migration of Juvenile American Shad at Vernon Study Report and Appendices filed in Excel format
  - v. Study 23 – Fish Impingement, Entrainment, and Survival Study Report
  - vi. Study 24 – Dwarf Wedgemussel Delphi Panel Report
  - vii. Study 33 – Traditional Cultural Properties Study Report
  - viii. Supporting Geodatabase with ArcGIS Shapefiles for Study 21, filed in a single zipfile.

In accordance with 18 C.F.R. § 5.15(c)(2), TransCanada will hold a meeting to discuss its progress in implementing the study plan and schedule, and the data collected, including any variances from the study plan and schedule if necessary. Based upon consultation with FERC staff, TransCanada will hold its study meeting from 9:00 am – 4:30 pm on Wednesday, June 1, 2016 in the conference room at TransCanada's River Operations Center (ROC) at Wilder Dam in Wilder, Vermont. Please park in the area to the right of the access road before you reach the fence and building. Please wait for someone to open the gate as this is a NERC-secure facility. The proposed meeting agenda is attached to this letter.

WebEx sessions have been created for remote audio and video attendees. Please use the information on the WebEx Meeting Information page attached to this letter.

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If there are any questions regarding the information provided in this filing or the process, please contact John Ragonese at 603-498-2851 or by emailing [john\\_ragonese@transcanada.com](mailto:john_ragonese@transcanada.com).

Sincerely,



John L. Ragonese  
FERC License Manager

Attachments:

1. Study Meeting Agenda and WebEx Information
2. May 16, 2016 Updated Study Report

cc: Interested Parties List (distribution through email notification of availability and download from TransCanada's relicensing web site [www.transcanada-relicensing.com](http://www.transcanada-relicensing.com))

## Updated Study Report Meeting Agenda

### Wednesday, June 1, 2016

- 9 am – Introductions
- 9:15 – Summary of the following ILP Studies:

Study No.	Study Title
17	Upstream Passage of Riverine Fish Species Assessment
19	American Eel Downstream Passage Assessment
22	Downstream Migration of Juvenile American Shad – Vernon
Break ~ 11:00 – 11:15	
23	Fish Impingement, Entrainment and Survival Study
24	Dwarf Wedgemussel and Co-occurring Mussel Study – Delphi Panel Report
Lunch ~ 12:45 – 1:15 pm - brought in	
33	Cultural and Historic Resources Studies and Traditional Cultural Properties Report
8	Channel Morphology and Benthic Habitat Study Final Report
9	Instream Flow Study – consultation
Questions and wrap up	

### WebEx Meeting Access Information Hydro Relicensing Updated Study Report Mtg. 6-01-16

Wednesday, June 1, 2016 9:00 am | Eastern Daylight Time (New York, GMT-04:00) | 8 hrs

[Join WebEx meeting](#) (click on the link to open)

Meeting number: 924 818 853

Meeting password: Abcde12345

#### Join by phone

**1-866-469-3239** Call-in toll-free number (US/Canada)

**001-800-514-3550** Mexico toll free

Access code: 924 818 853