

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
 Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs
 Massachusetts Environmental Policy Act (MEPA) Office

Environmental Notification Form

<p><i>For Office Use Only</i></p> <p>EEA#: <u>11663</u></p> <p>MEPA Analyst: <u>Alex Stegsky</u></p>
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The information requested on this form must be completed in order to submit a document electronically for review under the Massachusetts Environmental Policy Act, 301 CMR 11.00.

Project Name: <i>National Grid North River Bank Stabilization Project</i>		
Street Address: <i>N/A - West Branch and East Branch of the North River</i>		
Municipality: <i>Colrain</i>	Watershed: <i>West Branch and East Branch of the North River</i>	
Universal Transverse Mercator Coordinates: <i>UTM 18</i>	Latitude: <i>42.664444</i>	Longitude: <i>72.718611</i>
Estimated commencement date: <i>Fall 2020</i>	Estimated completion date: <i>Winter 2021</i>	
Project Type: <i>Riverbank Stabilization/Restoration</i>	Status of project design:	<i>90%complete</i>
Proponent: <i>New England Power Company d/b/a National Grid (NEP)</i>		
Street Address: <i>40 Sylvan Road</i>		
Municipality: <i>Waltham</i>	State: <i>MA</i>	Zip Code: <i>02451</i>
Name of Contact Person: <i>Dan Herzlinger</i>		
Firm/Agency: <i>TRC Companies</i>	Street Address: <i>6 Ashley Drive, 1st Floor</i>	
Municipality: <i>Scarborough</i>	State: <i>ME</i>	Zip Code: <i>04074</i>
Phone: <i>(207) 274-2655</i>	Fax: <i>(207) 879-9293</i>	E-mail: <i>dherzlinger@trcsolutions.com</i>

Does this project meet or exceed a mandatory EIR threshold (see 301 CMR 11.03)?

Yes No

If this is an Expanded Environmental Notification Form (ENF) (see 301 CMR 11.05(7)) or a Notice of Project Change (NPC), are you requesting:

a Single EIR? (see 301 CMR 11.06(8)) Yes No

a Special Review Procedure? (see 301CMR 11.09) Yes No

a Waiver of mandatory EIR? (see 301 CMR 11.11) Yes No

a Phase I Waiver? (see 301 CMR 11.11) Yes No

(Note: Greenhouse Gas Emissions analysis must be included in the Expanded ENF.)

Which MEPA review threshold(s) does the project meet or exceed (see 301 CMR 11.03)?

301 CMR 11.03 (3) (b): 1. e. New fill or structure within regulatory floodway

Which State Agency Permits will the project require?

Individual 401 Water Quality Certification, Conservation and Management Permit

Identify any financial assistance or land transfer from an Agency of the Commonwealth, including the Agency name and the amount of funding or land area in acres:

None

Summary of Project Size & Environmental Impacts	Existing	Change	Total
LAND			
Total site acreage			
New acres of land altered		66,500 sf (temporary) (1.5 acres)	
Acres of impervious area	None	None	None
Square feet of new bordering vegetated wetlands alteration		None	
Square feet of new other wetland alteration (Land Under Water)		3,200 sf (permanent) 6,968 sf (temporary)	
Acres of new non-water dependent use of tidelands or waterways		None	
STRUCTURES			
Gross square footage	N/A	N/A	N/A
Number of housing units			
Maximum height (feet)			
TRANSPORTATION			
Vehicle trips per day			
Parking spaces			
WASTEWATER			
Water Use (Gallons per day)			
Water withdrawal (GPD)			
Wastewater generation/treatment (GPD)			
Length of water mains (miles)			
Length of sewer mains (miles)			
Has this project been filed with MEPA before? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes (EEA # _____) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No			
Has any project on this site been filed with MEPA before? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes (EEA # _____) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No			

GENERAL PROJECT INFORMATION – all proponents must fill out this section

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

Describe the existing conditions and land uses on the project site:

The site consists primarily of agricultural farmland and is located within a rural zoned area. The project is located on a peninsula that is bounded by the West Branch and the East Branch of the North River. To the south of the West Branch of the North River is Adamsville Road and to the north of the site is the Branch Cemetery. Low density residential and agricultural use primarily make up the surrounding area. Please see attached narrative for a full description of the existing conditions.

Describe the proposed project and its programmatic and physical elements:

National Grid's transmission line structures for the A127/B128 line cross the North River in Colrain. As a result of the flooding that occurred during Tropical Storm Irene in August 2011, a significant amount of erosion took place on the banks of the West and East branches of the North River, which ultimately caused A127/B128 Structure 100 to topple and significantly reduced the stability of the banks on the peninsula, undermining the stability of other structures. To rectify these issues, NEP has chosen two specific areas to stabilize the bank of the East Branch of the North River as well as install sheet pile cells on five structures for further protection. Please see attached narrative for a full Project description.

NOTE: The project description should summarize both the project's direct and indirect impacts (including construction period impacts) in terms of their magnitude, geographic extent, duration and frequency, and reversibility, as applicable. It should also discuss the infrastructure requirements of the project and the capacity of the municipal and/or regional infrastructure to sustain these requirements into the future.

Describe the on-site project alternatives (and alternative off-site locations, if applicable), considered by the proponent, including at least one feasible alternative that is allowed under current zoning, and the reasons(s) that they were not selected as the preferred alternative:

Please see Project Alternatives Analysis in the attached narrative.

NOTE: The purpose of the alternatives analysis is to consider what effect changing the parameters and/or siting of a project, or components thereof, will have on the environment, keeping in mind that the objective of the MEPA review process is to avoid or minimize damage to the environment to the greatest extent feasible. Examples of alternative projects include alternative site locations, alternative site uses, and alternative site configurations.

Summarize the mitigation measures proposed to offset the impacts of the preferred alternative:

No mitigation measures are proposed. All of the impacts are temporary except for the addition of organic material consisting of trees and branches for the biostabilization measures.

If the project is proposed to be constructed in phases, please describe each phase:

The proposed work will not be conducted in phases.

AREAS OF CRITICAL ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERN:

Is the project within or adjacent to an Area of Critical Environmental Concern?

- Yes (Specify _____)
 No

if yes, does the ACEC have an approved Resource Management Plan ___ Yes ___ No

If yes, describe how the project complies with this plan.

N/A

Will there be stormwater runoff or discharge to the designated ACEC? ___ Yes ___ No

If yes, describe and assess the potential impacts of such stormwater runoff/discharge to the designated ACEC.

N/A

RARE SPECIES:

Does the project site include Estimated and/or Priority Habitat of State-Listed Rare Species? (see http://www.mass.gov/dfwele/dfw/nhosp/regulatory_review/priority_habitat/priority_habitat_home.htm)

Yes (Specify: Ocellated darner (*Boyeria grafiانا*), Longnose sucker (*Catostomus catostomus*) No

HISTORICAL /ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESOURCES:

Does the project site include any structure, site or district listed in the State Register of Historic Place or the inventory of Historic and Archaeological Assets of the Commonwealth?

Yes (Specify _____) No

If yes, does the project involve any demolition or destruction of any listed or inventoried historic or archaeological resources? Yes (Specify _____) No

WATER RESOURCES:

Is there an Outstanding Resource Water (ORW) on or within a half-mile radius of the project site? ___ Yes X No
if yes, identify the ORW and its location. _____

(NOTE: Outstanding Resource Waters include Class A public water supplies, their tributaries, and bordering wetlands; active and inactive reservoirs approved by MassDEP; certain waters within Areas of Critical Environmental Concern, and certified vernal pools. Outstanding resource waters are listed in the Surface Water Quality Standards, 314 CMR 4.00.)

Are there any impaired water bodies on or within a half-mile radius of the project site? ___ Yes X No; if yes, identify the water body and pollutant(s) causing the impairment: _____.

Is the project within a medium or high stress basin, as established by the Massachusetts Water Resources Commission? X Yes ___ No

STORMWATER MANAGEMENT:

Generally describe the project's stormwater impacts and measures that the project will take to comply with the standards found in MassDEP's Stormwater Management Regulations:

The Project is assumed to require more than one acre of earth-disturbing activities. Therefore, a U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Construction General Permit (CGP) will be required.

There will be no new impervious areas associated with the Project that would increase runoff, therefore, drainage patterns at the Site will generally remain consistent with existing conditions.

MASSACHUSETTS CONTINGENCY PLAN:

Has the project site been, or is it currently being, regulated under M.G.L.c.21E or the Massachusetts Contingency Plan? Yes ___ No X; if yes, please describe the current status of the site (including Release Tracking Number (RTN), cleanup phase, and Response Action Outcome classification): _____

Is there an Activity and Use Limitation (AUL) on any portion of the project site? Yes ___ No X;
if yes, describe which portion of the site and how the project will be consistent with the AUL: _____.

Are you aware of any Reportable Conditions at the property that have not yet been assigned an RTN?
Yes ___ No X ; if yes, please describe: _____

SOLID AND HAZARDOUS WASTE:

If the project will generate solid waste during demolition or construction, describe alternatives considered for re-use, recycling, and disposal of, e.g., asphalt, brick, concrete, gypsum, metal, wood: No _____

(NOTE: Asphalt pavement, brick, concrete and metal are banned from disposal at Massachusetts landfills and waste combustion facilities and wood is banned from disposal at Massachusetts landfills. See 310 CMR 19.017 for the complete list of banned materials.)

Will your project disturb asbestos containing materials? Yes ___ No X ;
if yes, please consult state asbestos requirements at <http://mass.gov/MassDEP/air/asbhom01.htm>

Describe anti-idling and other measures to limit emissions from construction equipment: *NEP will abide by the regulations found in Massachusetts state laws (M.G.L. Chapter 90, Section 16A) and MassDEP regulations (310 CMR 7.11(1)(b)).*

DESIGNATED WILD AND SCENIC RIVER:

Is this project site located wholly or partially within a defined river corridor of a federally designated Wild and Scenic River or a state designated Scenic River? Yes ___ No X ;
if yes, specify name of river and designation:

If yes, does the project have the potential to impact any of the "outstandingly remarkable" resources of a federally Wild and Scenic River or the stated purpose of a state designated Scenic River?
Yes ___ No ___ ; if yes, specify name of river and designation: _____;

if yes, will the project will result in any impacts to any of the designated "outstandingly remarkable" resources of the Wild and Scenic River or the stated purposes of a Scenic River.

Yes ___ No ___ ;

if yes, describe the potential impacts to one or more of the "outstandingly remarkable" resources or stated purposes and mitigation measures proposed.

ATTACHMENTS:

1. List of all attachments to this document.
2. U.S.G.S. map (good quality color copy, 8-½ x 11 inches or larger, at a scale of 1:24,000) indicating the project location and boundaries.
3. Plan, at an appropriate scale, of existing conditions on the project site and its immediate environs, showing all known structures, roadways and parking lots, railroad rights-of-way, wetlands and water bodies, wooded areas, farmland, steep slopes, public open spaces, and major utilities.
4. Plan, at an appropriate scale, depicting environmental constraints on or adjacent to the project site such as Priority and/or Estimated Habitat of state-listed rare species, Areas of Critical Environmental Concern, Chapter 91 jurisdictional areas, Article 97 lands, wetland resource area delineations, water supply protection areas, and historic resources and/or districts.
5. Plan, at an appropriate scale, of proposed conditions upon completion of project (if construction of the project is proposed to be phased, there should be a site plan showing conditions upon the completion of each phase).
6. List of all agencies and persons to whom the proponent circulated the ENF, in accordance with 301 CMR 11.16(2).
7. List of municipal and federal permits and reviews required by the project, as applicable.