# US Department of Energy

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## UNITED STATES OF AMERICA **DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY** OFFICE OF ELECTRICITY DELIVERY AND Electricity Delivery and Energy Reliability **ENERGY RELIABILITY**

## New England Clean Power Link Project )

Docket No. PP-400

## MOTION TO INTERVENE OF THE NORTHEAST POWER COORDINATING COUNCIL, INC.

Pursuant to Rules 212 and 214 of the Rules of Practice and Procedure of the Federal

Energy Regulatory Commission ("FERC")<sup>1</sup> and in accordance with the Notice of Application

issued in the above-captioned proceeding,<sup>2</sup> the Northeast Power Coordinating Council, Inc.

("NPCC") hereby submits its Motion to Intervene.

#### I. **COMMUNICATIONS**

Notices and communications with respect to this filing may be addressed to the

following:

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Edward A. Schwerdt President and Chief Executive Officer Northeast Power Coordinating Council, Inc. 1040 Avenue of the Americas, 10<sup>th</sup> Floor New York, NY 10018 212.840.1070 eschwerdt@npcc.org

Kristin S. Halper **Regulatory Attorney** Northeast Power Coordinating Council. Inc. 1040 Avenue of the Americas, 10<sup>th</sup> Floor New York, NY 10018 212.840.1070 khalper@npcc.org

#### II. **DESCRIPTION OF MOVANTS**

NPCC is a not for profit corporation responsible for promoting and improving the

reliability of the international, interconnected bulk power system in Northeastern North America

through (i) the development of regional reliability standards and compliance assessment and

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>18 C.F.R.§ 385.385.212 and 214 (2012).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Notice of Application for Presidential Permit; New England Clean Power Link Project, 79 FR 38869 (July 9, 2014).

enforcement of continent-wide and regional reliability standards, coordination of system planning, design and operations, and assessment of reliability and (ii) the establishment of regionally-specific criteria, and monitoring and enforcement of compliance with such criteria.

NPCC's geographic area includes the six New England states, the state of New York and the provinces of Ontario, Quebec and the Maritime provinces of New Brunswick and Nova Scotia. Overall, NPCC covers an area of nearly 1.2 million square miles, populated by more than 55 million people. In total, from a net energy for load perspective, NPCC is approximately 45% U.S. and 55% Canadian. With regard to Canada, approximately 70% of Canadian net energy for load is within the NPCC region.

NPCC is one of eight Regional Entities to which NERC has delegated certain statutory functions under Section 215 of the Federal Power Act pursuant to a Delegation Agreement between NERC and NPCC that was approved by FERC. The Amended and Restated Delegation Agreement between the NERC and NPCC sets forth NPCC's corresponding responsibilities and obligations. This agreement also recognizes that NPCC meets the qualifications for delegation of certain roles, responsibilities and authorities of a cross-border regional entity as defined by Section 215 of the Federal Power Act in the United States and through Canadian provincial regulatory and/or governmental Memoranda of Understanding.

## III. BASIS FOR INTERVENTION

On May 20, 2014, Champlain Vermont, LLC d/b/a TDI-New England ("TDI-NE"), an entity principally based in Albany, New York, filed an application with the Office of Electricity Delivery and Energy Reliability of the Department of Energy for a Presidential permit pursuant to Executive Order (EO) 10485, as amended by EO 12038. On June 23, 2014, TDI-NE filed supplemental information regarding its application. TDI-NE proposes to construct, operate,

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maintain and connect a 1000-megawatt high voltage direct current underground and underwater electric transmission system, comprised of two electric cables that will connect from a HVDC transmission line in the Canadian province of Quebec and transmit electric power to a proposed HVDC converter station in the Town of Ludlow, Vermont ("New England Clean Power Link Project"). TDI-NE would own and operate the transmission facilities with functional control being turned over to the Independent System Operator of New England once the project is in service.<sup>3</sup> On July 9, 2014, a Notice of Application was published in the Federal Register seeking comment on the application.<sup>4</sup>

As the FERC-approved Regional Entity for the northeastern North American region in the Eastern Interconnection in which TDI-NE proposes to construct, own and operate transmission facilities, NPCC has a direct and substantial interest in this proceeding which no other party can adequately represent. NPCC is responsible for assuring the reliability of the international, interconnected bulk power system in the Northeastern United States and Eastern Canada by the establishment of reliability criteria, coordination of system design and operations and assessment and enforcement of compliance with such. Therefore, it is appropriate and in the public interest that NPCC be granted intervenor status in this proceeding with full rights as a party. For these reasons, NPCC respectfully submits that it has satisfied the rules for intervention and requests that NPCC be made a party to the proceeding.<sup>5</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> On March 10, 2014, the FERC issued an order conditionally authorizing TDI-NE to sell transmission rights for the Project at negotiated rates. *Order Conditionally Authorizing Proposal and Granting Waiver re: Champlain VT*, LLC, 146 FERC 61,167 (2014).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Notice of Application for Presidential Permit; New England Clean Power Link Project, 79 FR 38869 (July 9, 2014).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Pursuant to Rule 214(b) of FERC's Rules of Practice and Procedure, 18 C.F.R. § 385.214(b), a party is permitted to intervene in a proceeding if it is able to demonstrate it may be directly affected by the outcome of the proceeding, or if it can otherwise demonstrate its participation is in the public interest.

## **IV.** CONCLUSION

WHEREFORE, NPCC respectfully requests that the Department of Energy grant its intervention in the above-captioned proceeding with all rights associated therewith.

Respectfully submitted,

By: <u>/s/ Kristin Halper</u> Kristin S. Halper Regulatory Attorney Northeast Power Coordinating Council, Inc. 1040 Avenue of the Americas 10<sup>th</sup> Floor New York, NY 10018

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Dated: August 4, 2014

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## **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that I have electronically served a copy of the foregoing Motion to Intervene on behalf of Northeast Power Coordinating Council, Inc. on all those persons listed on the service list maintained by the Secretary of the Commission.

Certified this 4<sup>th</sup> day of August 2014.

By: /s/ Kristin S. Halper



NOR THEAST POWER COORDINATING COUNCIL, INC. 1040 AVE. OF THE AMERICAS, NEW YORK, NY 10018 (212) 840-1070 FAX (212) 302-2782

US Department of Energy

August 4, 2014

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Electricity Delivery and Energy Reliability

Mr. Christopher Lawrence
Office of Electricity Delivery and Energy Reliability (OE-20)
U.S. Department of Energy
1000 Independence Avenue, S.W.
Washington, DC 20585

Dear Mr. Lawrence:

Enclosed are two copies of the Motion to Intervene of the Northeast Power Coordinating Council, Inc. to be filed in Docket No. PP-400. Please let me know if you have any questions. Thank you.

Respectfully submitted,

Edward A. Schwerdt Edward A. Schwerdt President & CEO

Enclosure cc: Mr. Donald Jessome - General Manager, TDI-New England