## HISCOCK & BARCLAY

Ekin Senlet Associate

Kathleen H. Burgess Secretary New York State Public Service Commission Three Empire State Plaza Albany, NY 12223-1350 March 24, 2014

Re: Application of Champlain Hudson Power Express, Inc. for a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need Pursuant to Article VII of the PSL for the Construction, Operation and Maintenance of a High Voltage Direct Current Circuit from the Canadian Border to New York City

Case 10-T-0139

## Dear Secretary Burgess:

Champlain Hudson Power Express, Inc. and CHPE Properties, Inc. (the "Certificate Holders") submit this Third Status Report pursuant to their December 13, 2013 Status Report (the "Second Status Report") and the Commission's Order dated June 17, 2013 approving the Governance Agreement for the Hudson River and Lake Champlain Habitat Enhancement, Restoration, and Research/Habitat Improvement Project Trust (the "Trust").

Since the submission of the Second Status Report, the Certificate Holders and the Trust Administrator have conducted interviews with six New York banks to discuss services, rate schedules and the day-to-day administration of the Trust. After extensive interviews with each of these banks, the Certificate Holders and the Trust Administrator selected BNY Mellon to act as the Trustee Bank for the Trust. Our interviews revealed that BNY Mellon has acted as a Trustee Bank for numerous other environmental trusts similar to the CHPEI Environmental Trust and has substantial expertise with working with federal and state agencies. BNY Mellon's rates were also attractive compared to other qualified candidates. Both the Certificate Holders and the Trust Administrator look forward to working with BNY Mellon in the upcoming years.

Currently, the Certificate Holders and BNY Mellon are working to finalize the Trust Agreement. We anticipate that this process will be concluded by June 23, 2014.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned.

Secretary Burgess March 24, 2014 Page 2

Very truly yours,

## <u> Ekín Senlet</u>

Ekin Senlet

Counsel for Champlain Hudson Power

Express, Inc. and CHPE Properties, Inc.

cc/

Active Parties in Case 10-T-0139 (via electronic delivery)