

Case 10-T-0139

Champlain-Hudson Power Express Project

Environmental Trust Governance Committee Meeting Minutes

March 16, 2021

On March 16, 2021, the Governance Committee for the Hudson River and Lake Champlain Habitat Enhancement, Restoration, and Research/Habitat Improvement Project Trust (the “Trust”) held its regularly scheduled meeting.

Pursuant to Executive Order 202.1, the meeting took place via phone.

Attendees:

On the phone were Certificate Holders: Bill Helmer, Josh Bagnato, Jen White, Steve Wilson (Young Sommer); Department of Public Service (DPS): Heather Behnke, Andy Davis; Department Environmental Conservation (DEC): Gregg Kenney, Heather Gierloff, Nicole Balk; Department of State (DOS): Matthew Maraglio, Laura McLean, Mark Woythal; City of NY: Justin Fung; Trout Unlimited (TU): Roger Olsen, Bill Wellman; Adirondack Park Association (APA): Daniel Kelleher; Riverkeeper: Richard Webster; Hudson River Foundation (HRF): Jim Lodge, Jonathan Kramer, Clay Hiles. Scenic Hudson: Hayley Carlock

Preliminary Items:

The meeting was called to order at 10:43 a.m. and a quorum was confirmed.

Minutes of the December 17, 2020 meeting were approved with no discussion. **Moved by DOS, Seconded by DPS, motion carried unanimously.**

Projected Timeline and Approvals Updates:

Certificate Holders reported on the status of the Project and responded to questions.

1. Certificate Holders are preparing to participate in a bid that will be responding to the State’s recent (January 2021) Tier 4 Request for Proposals (RFP) for renewable energy credits for renewable energy that will be delivered within New York City. The bid will be submitted by their partnering entity, Hydro Quebec by the deadline in May 2021. The RFP was issued by the New York State Energy Research & Development Authority (NYSERDA) who expects to award contracts in Q3 2021. Unlike other Renewable Energy Contracts, the NYSERDA award must be approved by the Public Service Commission (PSC).
2. Certificate Holders filed minor amendment with PSC to increase capacity of CHPE to 1,250 MW.

3. Outreach in towns and villages along the route continues. With at least 30 resolutions of support from municipalities, this task is almost complete. Resolutions of support have been issued for each municipality with a route modification.
4. Permit applications for route modifications have been approved at the state level and federal approvals are pending (e.g., Department of Energy and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers).
5. Certificate Holders are working with industrial development agencies along the route.
6. New York Independent Service Operator (NYISO) Class Year (CY) 2021 is about to begin. Certificate Holders anticipate entering two (2) projects into CY 2021: 1,000 MW at Queue 631 and the incremental 250 MW at Queue 887. An additional queue position may be pursued in CY 2022 if the NYSERDA award requires an in-state onramp.
7. NYC inquired on the status of the CY 2019. Certificate holders replied that CY 2019 has been concluded and they will not be posting security.
8. Certificate Holders' obligation to fund the Trust is tied to financial closing which is anticipated to end in calendar year 2021.

Members discussed other business:

1. Technical working groups: Self-selected committee members will be meeting at 11 am, following the full committee meeting to discuss the priority projects list and technical working groups.
2. Elections for Chair, Vice Chair, and Secretary: Certificate Holders for Chair, DPS for Vice Chair, DOS for Secretary. **Moved by TU (Roger Olsen), seconded by TU (Bill Wellman), motion carried unanimously.**

The meeting was adjourned at 10:58 a.m. Moved by DPS, seconded by DOS, motion carried unanimously.

Next meeting date(s):

Tentatively scheduled for 2021:

- June 15, 2021, 10:30am
- September 14, 2021, 10:30am
- December 14, 2021, 10:30am

Action Items:

Ongoing action items:

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- Certificate Holders to report by email to the committee members after each TPAS meeting occurs in which CHPE is material to the meeting.
- Vice-Chair to confirm room availability, as applicable, and send invitations for future meetings.
