

Appendix 7.4.TDI-NE.1

NECPL - Letter From Governor Philip B. Scott (June 16, 2017)

PHILIP B. SCOTT
Governor



State of Vermont
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

June 16, 2017

Commissioner Judith Judson
Department of Energy Resources
100 Cambridge St., Suite 1020
Boston, MA 02114

Re: TDI New England – New England Clean Energy Power Link (1,000 MW DC line)

Dear Commissioner Judson:

I am writing to affirm Vermont's approval of the New England Clean Power Link (NECPL) proposed by TDI New England and provide background information that you may find helpful in your analysis of responses to the Clean Energy Request for Proposals required under Section 83D of your Green Communities Act.

I understand the weight of the decision will be on quantitative factors, and that 25 out of 100 points will be awarded based on qualitative factors such as project viability, siting and permitting considerations. This letter is directed at those qualitative factors by providing Vermont's input regarding NECPL, which is routed through our State.

The NECPL is a 1,000 MW DC line designed to import power from Quebec, through Vermont, and into southern New England. The transmission project received a certificate of public good (CPG) from the Vermont Public Service Board (recently renamed the Vermont Public Utilities Commission) in January of 2016. The project also received a Presidential Permit from the Department of Energy in December of 2016, and a construction permit from the Vermont Agency of Transportation (much of the proposed project will be located within state highway right-of-way) in February of 2017. TDI has been able to achieve this success largely because of its thoughtful and positive outreach efforts to interested stakeholders, including our communities and individual landowners along the route.

While a few collateral permits remain to be issued, TDI has cleared the key regulatory review processes in Vermont and, from our perspective, is poised to move quickly to construction. Their transparent approach to community-relations, success in our rigorous regulatory process, and shared commitment to our regional energy and environmental goals are factors we hope you will consider.

Commissioner Judith Judson

June 16, 2017

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If you have any questions regarding the siting process involving the New England Clean Power Link, please contact Ed McNamara, the Director of Energy Policy and Planning at the Vermont Department of Public Service. He can be reached at ed.mcnamara@vermont.gov or 802-461-5326.

Thank you for considering Vermont's point of view on this matter.

Sincerely,

Philip B. Scott
Governor

PBS/kp