

**Vermont Agency of Natural Resources
Department of Environmental Conservation**

**NOTICE OF COMPLETED APPLICATION AND PUBLIC HEARING
MORRISVILLE HYDROELECTRIC PROJECT
OWNED BY: MORRISVILLE WATER AND LIGHT
857 ELMORE STREET
MORRISVILLE, VERMONT 05661-8408**

JANUARY 7, 2016

Morrisville Water and Light of Morrisville, Vermont has initiated the process to obtain a new license from the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission to continue to operate the existing Morrisville Hydroelectric Project on the Lamoille River and two tributaries. The project consists of three generation facilities and one storage facility. The Cadys Falls and Morrisville generation facilities are located on the main stem of the Lamoille River, the Green River generation facilities located on the Green River and the Lake Elmore storage facility the flows into Elmore Brook.

As part of this process, the Agency of Natural Resources (ANR) is reviewing an application for a Clean Water Act §401 Water Quality Certification, required pursuant to the provisions of Section 401 of the federal Clean Water Act, 33 USC §1341.

The applicant proposes to operate the Cadys Falls facility and Morrisville facility to maintain instantaneous run-of-river operation below the project. Additionally, the applicant is proposing to continue operations at the Green River facility in a store and release peaking mode. For the Lake Elmore facilities, the applicant proposes eliminate the drawdown and operate the facility in a crested controlled run-of-river operation below the facility which will protect water quality and aquatic habitat in Elmore Brook. Additional measures include improving recreational facilities and dissolved oxygen monitoring at the Green River facility.

The applicant must demonstrate that the project will be in compliance with the Vermont Water Quality Standards by not having an undue adverse impact on the aquatic environment, or the designated and existing uses of the waters of the State. ANR's tentative determination is to grant the certification with conditions to mitigate impacts on water quality.

Public Hearing: A public hearing will be held on **16th day, February, 2016 at 7:00 pm** at the Morrisville Elementary School. Persons having an interest in the project and the affected waters are encouraged to attend and provide oral testimony or written statements and data that would bear on the final water quality certification decision. Written comments will be accepted at the address below, or via e-mail to jeff.crocker@vermont.gov, until **4:30 p.m. on Friday, February 19, 2016**.

Copies of the draft certification and Vermont Water Quality Standards are available by mail or on the Agency website: <http://www.watershedmanagement.vt.gov/cfm/notices/notices.cfm>

For information on the application, access to related documents, or copies of the Vermont Water Quality Standards, interested persons should contact:

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