

Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation

Watershed Management Division One National Life Drive, Main Building, 2nd Floor Montpelier, VT 05602-3522 Agency of Natural Resources

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NOTICE OF PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD APPLICATION FOR CLEAN WATER ACT §401 December 26, 2017

A request for a Section §401 Water Quality Certification, required pursuant to the provisions of Section 401 of the federal Clean Water Act, 33 U.S.C §1341, has been received by the Vermont Agency of Natural Resources (ANR) from the Vermont Agency of Transportation (Applicant).

Approval is being requested for the replacement of Bridge 8, a historic double leaf bascule bridge, that carries U.S. Route 2 over Lake Champlain beginning at a point in North Hero approximately 0.22 miles west of the North Hero-Grand Isle town line, and continuing easterly on US Route 2 for approximately 0.30 miles. The bridge is the only vehicular movable bridge (i.e. drawbridge) in the state of Vermont. The bridge will be replaced with a double leaf bascule bridge on a new foundation, with similar aesthetic and same draw width as the 1953 bridge it's replacing.

The Department is seeking public comments on this tentative determination, during a 30-day public notice period. All timely comments will be considered in the formulation of a final decision. During this notice period, a person may request a public informational meeting regarding this draft decision. Any meeting request must state the person's interest and the reasons why a meeting is warranted. Such a meeting will be held if there is sufficient interest. Pursuant to 10 V.S.A. Chapter 220, any appeal of this decision must be filed with the Vermont Public Service Board pursuant to 10 V.S.A. § 8506 within 30 days of the date of this decision. For further information, see the Rules and General Orders of the Public Service Board, available on line at www.psb.vermont.gov. The address for the Public Service Board is 112 State Street, Montpelier, Vermont, 05620-2701 (Telephone: # 802-828-2358).

Copies of the application and the draft determination can be obtained at the Watershed Management Division web address: <u>http://dec.vermont.gov/watershed/permits/public-notices/401</u>. Comments regarding the draft determination may be filed in writing using the below address or using the below email through **January 24, 2018** with:

Laura Woods 401 Program Coordinator Watershed Management Division One National Life Drive Main Building, 2nd Floor Montpelier, VT 05620 <u>ANR.WSMD401@vermont.gov</u>

cc: Distribution List

To preserve, enhance, restore, and conserve Vermont's natural resources, and protect human health, for the benefit of this and future generations.

