

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

**NOTICE OF COMPLETED APPLICATION AND PUBLIC HEARING
APPLICATION FOR CLEAN WATER ACT § 401**

August 1, 2019

A request for a Section 401 Water Quality Certification, required pursuant to the provisions of Section 401 of the federal Clean Water Act, 33 USC §1341, has been received by the Vermont Agency of Natural Resources (Agency) from Killington / Pico Ski Resorts Partners.

The applicant proposes to replace an existing intake on the Ottauquechee River and construct a pipeline that interconnect the Killington snowmaking system to the Pico Mountain system. Additionally, the proposal involves increasing conservation flows in Roaring Brook and Falls Brook to the site-specific February median flow (FMF), recalculation of the site-specific FMF for the Ottauquechee River, and increasing conservation flows at the lower withdrawal points on Mendon Brook to the statewide FMF once the interconnect pipeline is operational. Killington also proposes to maintain the prioritization of water sources at Killington, allow withdrawal start dates of October 15 for Woodward Reservoir and Falls Brook, utilize the Ottauquechee intake outside of the snowmaking season, and modify the drawdown schedule for Woodward Reservoir.

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. Agency's tentative determination is to grant the certification with conditions to mitigate impacts on water quality. The certification constitutes the Agency's draft flow determination under the *Environmental Protection Rules – Chapter 16: Water Withdrawals for Snowmaking* for the Killington / Pico snowmaking system.

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. Written comments will be accepted at the address below, or via e-mail to Jeff.Crocker@vermont.gov, until **4:30 PM on September 4th, 2019**.

Public Hearing: a public hearing will be held on **September 4th, 2019 at 1:00 PM** at the Sherburne Memorial Library in Killington, Vermont. 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.

Copies of the draft determination can be obtained at the Watershed Management Division web address: <http://dec.vermont.gov/watershed/permits/public-notices/401>.

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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