

Flood Hazard Area & River Corridor Individual Permit 10 V.S.A. § 754

PERMIT #: FP-2-0004-IND

Date: 11/9/2015

Applicant: Vermont Agency of Transportation (VTrans)

Contact: Jennifer Fitch, Project Manager

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Project Location: Route 110, Chelsea, Vermont; 0.2 miles south of junction with Route 113;

Latitude/Longitude: 43d 59m 10s, 72d 26m 53s

Flooding Source: First Branch of White River

Project Description: Chelsea BHF 0169(9); Bridge #9 Improvements

Based upon the Findings contained in this permit, the Secretary has determined that the proposed project will comply with the Flood Hazard Area & River Corridor Rule (Environmental Protection Rule, Chapter 29) and is hereby approved under the following conditions and specifications.

I. Findings

The Secretary of Natural Resources has determined that:

- (a) The project is located within the special flood hazard area (Zone AE) and floodway. The project is also located within the river corridor.
- (b) This project is exempt from municipal regulation because it is a State-owned and operated institution or facility.
- (c) This project authorization includes widening of bridge, replacement of superstructure, abutment rehabilitation, and ancillary roadway approach and channel work.
- (d) This project meets the Standards of the Flood Hazard Area & River Corridor Rule (Subchapter 4), based on the following:
 - (1) The project qualifies as an existing functionally dependent use (bridge) allowed in the river corridor. Therefore, the project will not cause the stream reach to depart from or further depart from the channel width, depth, meander pattern, and slope associated with natural stream process and equilibrium conditions; and will not result in an immediate need or anticipated future need for stream channelization, as a result of the proposed development, that would increase flood elevations and velocities or alter the sediment regime triggering channel adjustments and erosion in adjacent downstream locations.
 - (2) The project has been approved by the ANR River Management Engineer during Title 19 consultation.

- (3) The proposed hydraulic opening of the bridge is slightly larger than the current opening. Hydrologic and hydraulic analyses demonstrate that the project will not increase base flood elevations or velocities.
- (4) The net change in material below base flood elevation is an increase of 15.4 cubic yards within the entire disturbed area, which is expected to have no more than a minimal effect on floodwater storage and will not divert floodwaters onto adjacent property.
- (5) The project will not adversely affect the public safety by increasing flood elevations, flood velocities, or decreasing flood storage volume.

II. Specific Conditions

- (a) The development shall be accomplished according to plans submitted with the permit application (dated 10/14/15 and stamped by Joshua Olund, P.E.) and accompanying permit information. Final signatures on the plans shall be submitted or made accessible to the Floodplain Manager before construction begins. Pursuant to Condition III(c) of this permit, no changes shall be made to the approved plans or permit information without prior written approval from this office.
- (b) The permittee must notify the Floodplain Manager by phone or email when construction begins and when the project is complete.
- (c) As-built documentation prepared by a licensed land surveyor or professional engineer shall be submitted or made accessible to the Floodplain Manager when the project is complete.

III. General Conditions

- (a) **Access to property.** By conducting any activity authorized under this permit, the permittee agrees to allow Agency representatives access to the property covered by this permit, at reasonable times and upon presentation of credentials, for the purpose of ascertaining compliance with the Vermont Flood Hazard Area & River Corridor Rule and this permit. This permit does not grant the permittee the right to enter onto any property not owned by the permittee.
- (b) **Changes to authorized activity.** All activity shall be completed and maintained in accordance with the terms and conditions of this permit. The permittee shall notify the Secretary of any planned changes to the authorized activity prior to carrying out such changes. The Secretary may require the permittee to submit additional information on the proposed change. The Secretary may require an amendment to this permit, which may require re-noticing of the project for public comment.
- (c) **Remedial measures.** The Secretary maintains continuing jurisdiction over an activity authorized under this permit and may at any time order remedial measures if it appears the activity is not in compliance with this permit.
- (d) **Compliance with other regulations.** This permit does not relieve the permittee of the responsibility to comply with any other applicable federal, state, and local laws, regulations, and permits.
- (e) **Legal responsibilities for damages.** The Secretary, by issuing permit, accepts no legal responsibility for any damage direct or indirect of whatever nature and by whomever suffered arising out of the approved activity.
- (f) **Revocation.** The Secretary may, after notice and opportunity for a hearing, revoke or suspend, in whole or in part, this permit for cause, including:
 - (1) Violation of the terms or conditions of this permit;
 - (2) Obtaining authorization by misrepresentation or failure to fully disclose all relevant facts;
 - (3) A change in any condition or new information that requires either a temporary or permanent reduction or elimination of the authorized activity.
- (g) **Duty to comply; enforcement.** The permittee shall comply with all terms and conditions of this permit. Any permit noncompliance constitutes a violation of the Flood Hazard Area & River Corridor Rule and


may be cause for an enforcement action and/or revocation and reissuance, modification, or termination of this permit.

- (h) **Transfer of permit.** The permittee may transfer this permit by submitting a notice of transfer on a form provided by the Secretary. The notice shall be submitted at least 10 days prior to transfer and shall include at a minimum, the name and address of the new permittee, the name and address of the former permittee, the date of transfer, and a statement signed by the new permittee stating that he/she has read and is familiar with the terms and conditions of this permit and agrees to comply with it.
- (i) **Reopener.** If, after granting this permit, the Secretary determines, at his or her discretion, that there is evidence indicating that an authorized activity does not comply with the requirements of the Flood Hazard Area & River Corridor Rule, the Secretary may reopen and modify this permit to include different limitations and requirements.
- (j) **Limitations.** This permit conveys no vested rights or exclusive privileges. This permit conveys no title to land nor authorizes any injury to public or private property.
- (k) **Appeals.**
 - (1) **Renewable Energy Project.** If this decision relates to a renewable energy plant for which a certificate of public good is required under 30 V.S.A. § 248, any appeal of this decision must be filed with the Vermont Public Service Board pursuant to 10 V.S.A. § 8506. This section does not apply to a facility that is subject to 10 V.S.A. § 1004 (dams before the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission), 10 V.S.A. § 1006 (certification of hydroelectric projects), or 10 V.S.A. Chapter 43 (dams). Any appeal under this section must be filed with the Clerk of the Public Service Board within 30 days of the date of this decision; the appellant must file with the Clerk an original and six copies of its appeal. The appellant shall provide notice of the filing of an appeal in accordance with 10 V.S.A. § 8504(c)(2), and shall also serve a copy of the Notice of Appeal on the Vermont Department of Public Service. For further information, see the Rules and General Orders of the Public Service Board, available online at www.psb.vermont.gov. The address for the Public Service Board is 112 State Street, Montpelier, Vermont, 05620-2701 (Tel. # 802-828-2358).
 - (2) **All Other Projects.** Pursuant to 10 V.S.A. Chapter 220, any appeal of this decision must be filed with the clerk of the Environmental Division of the Superior Court within 30 days of the date of the decision. The Notice of Appeal must specify the parties taking the appeal and the statutory provision under which each party claims party status; must designate the act or decision appealed from; must name the Environmental Division; and must be signed by the appellant or the appellant's attorney. In addition, the appeal must give the address or location and description of the property, project, or facility with which the appeal is concerned and the name of the applicant or any permit involved in the appeal. The appellant must also serve a copy of the Notice of Appeal in accordance with Rule 5(b)(4)(B) of the Vermont Rules for Environmental Court Proceedings. For further information, see the Vermont Rules for Environmental Court Proceedings, available on line at www.vermontjudiciary.org. The address for the Environmental Division is: 32 Cherry St.; 2nd Floor, Suite 303; Burlington, VT 05401. Telephone # 802-951-1740.

If the development is constructed as described and according to the above conditions, there is no reason to expect an adverse impact on either the river corridor or flood hazard area.

This permit shall be effective on the date of signing and shall be valid for a period of five years.

Alyssa B. Schuren, Commissioner
Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation

By  dated 11/9/2015
Rob Evans, River Corridor & Floodplain Manager
Rivers Program

cc: Abutters:
Emily & Gordon Newman; Sunnybrook Holdings, LLC; Robert Button, Jr.; Janet McElhany; Maurice & Beverly McCullough
Town Clerk, Town of Chelsea: Karen Lathrop
Zoning Administrator, Town of Chelsea: Preston Bristow
Regional Planning Commission: Two-Rivers Ottauquechee Regional Commission