

No Practicable Alternative—Request for Approval

VERMONT AGENCY OF NATURAL RESOURCES

FLOOD HAZARD AREA & RIVER CORRIDOR RULE

§29-401 (d)(1)

Please respond to the following questions and submit this form with Permit Application to:

Department of Environmental Conservation— Rivers Program

One National Life Drive, Main 2—Montpelier, VT 05622-3522

ANRWSMDRivers@vermont.gov

A) Describe why the impacts of the transportation or utility networks within the flood hazard area or river corridor cannot be avoided.

The proposed transportation project is being designed to increase vehicular safety and replace a temporary bridge. Different alternatives were explored in the flood hazard areas and the best viable option is proposed. The fill was minimized by steepening the side slopes as much as possible without requiring guardrail.

B) Describe alternatives to the transportation or utility network proposal and why they are not viable.

Two alternatives would be steepening the side slopes along the corridor or make no improvement to the corridor. The first alternative would result in less fill within the flood hazard area, however, steepening the slopes further would require guardrail. Guardrail will increase the cost of construction and maintenance. Guardrail is also visually less appealing and is a roadside hazard itself and should be avoided when possible. The second alternative is to make no improvements to the corridor, given that the project will improve vehicular safety and replace a temporary bridge this option was not considered to be viable.

C) Summarize the impacts of the transportation or utility network to the flood hazard area or river corridor. Attach supporting data and analysis to this form.

The proposed transportation network will fill a small portion of the flood hazard area. Fill was minimized by steepening side slopes. See attached application and supporting documents for detailed fill information.

D) Describe actions proposed to mitigate or minimize the impact.

The side slopes of the roadway were steepened to minimize the fill within the flood hazard area.