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## LOW IMPACT HYDROPOWER QUESTIONNAIRE

APPLICATION REVISED JANUARY 16, 2012

Excerpted from Part VI, Section E of the Low Impact Hydropower Certification Program. This Questionnaire must be completed based upon the Line-By-Line instructions available in Chapter VI, Section D of the program, available on-line in Word format at <a href="http://www.lowimpacthydro.org">http://www.lowimpacthydro.org</a>. PLEASE SUBMIT THIS QUESTIONNAIRE IN WORD FORMAT.

## E. LOW IMPACT HYDROPOWER QUESTIONNAIRE

Background Information	
1) Name of the Facility as used in the FERC license/exemption.	<ul><li>Middlebury Lower Hydroelectric Project (P-2737)</li><li>Weybridge Hydroelectric Project (P-2731)</li></ul>

2)	Applicant's name, contact information and relationship to the Facility. If the Applicant is not the Facility owner/operator, also provide the name and contact information for the Facility owner and operator.	Beth Eliason, P.E. Central Vermont Public Serv 77 Grove Street Rutland, VT 05701 <u>beliaso@cvps.com</u> 802-747-5594 Applicant Representative: Maryalice Fischer Normandeau Associates, Inc. <u>mfischer@normandeau.com</u> 603-664-5097	-
3)	Location of Facility including (a) the state in which Facility is located; (b) the river on which Facility is located; (c) the river-mile location of the Facility dam; (d) the Facility's location relative to other dams on the river upstream and downstream of the Facility, and (e) the exact longitude and latitude of the Facility dam.	Middlebury LowerVermontOtter CreekRM 24Proctor Development (P-2558) is located upstream.Beldens Project is locateddownstream. Both arepart of Otter CreekHydro.Latitude: 44.0258Longitude: -73.1778Map attached in jpeg format	WeybridgeVermontOtter CreekRM 19.5Huntington Falls Project, part of Otter Creek Hydro is located upstream.Vergennes (P-2674) is located downstreamLatitude: 44.0665 Longitude: -73.2162,
4)	Installed capacity.	Middlebury Lower 2.25 MW Licensed	Weybridge       3.0 MW       Capacity

5) Average annual generation.		Middlebury Lower	Weybridge	
		8,300 MWH	14,000 MWH	
		10-yea	r average	
6) Regulatory status.		Middlebury Lower	Weybridge	
		Project No. 2737, FERC license issued 08/01/2001 for a 30-year term.	Project No. 2737, FERC license issued 08/01/2001 for a 30-year term. Relevant License amendments are discussed in applicable sections of Attachment D.	
		For Middlebury Lower, a licer change in minimum reservoir original license proceeding. S Question A.1 below and attack document.		
		original license proceeding. on results of flow monitorin structure, wherein it was de minimum flow of 125 cfs co maintained around Wyman	mum flow occurred after the The amendment was based og of the fish diversion termined that the original buld not be consistently Island but that a flow of 100 ficiently protective of aquatic	
		There have been no compliance issues or other regu proceedings related to these Projects.		
7) Reservoir volume and surface area me	asured at the normal maximum operating level.	Middlebury Lower	Weybridge	
		16 acres, 46 acre-ft	62 acres, 600 acre-ft	
			02 deres, 000 dere it	

8) Area occupied by non-reservoir facilities ( <i>e.g.</i> , dam, penstocks, powerhouse).	Middlebury Lower0.6 acres3.6 acres recreation area	Weybridge0.1 acre1.8 acres recreation area
9) Number of acres inundated by the Facility.	Middlebury Lower 16 acres	Weybridge       62 acres
10) Number of acres contained in a 200-foot zone extending around entire reservoir.	Middlebury Lower 59	Weybridge 76.5
11) Contacts for Resource Agencies and non-governmental organizations	1) See Attachment B -	revised
12) Description of the Facility, its mode of operation ( <i>i.e.</i> , peaking/run of river) and photographs, maps and diagrams.	Middlebury Lower         Run of river         Summary of facilities, photo         included in Attachment C.	WeybridgeDaily cycling in normal and low flows; run of river in high flowss, and maps/diagrams are
Questions for "New" Facilities Only: If the Facility you are applying for is "new" (i.e., an existing dam that added or increased power generation capacity after August of 1998) please answer the following questions to determine eligibility for the program	N/A	
13) When was the dam associated with the Facility completed?		
<ul> <li>14) When did the added or increased generation first generate electricity? If the added or increased generation is not yet operational, please answer question 18 as well.</li> <li>15) Did the added or increased power generation capacity require or include any new dam or other diversion structure?</li> </ul>		
<ul><li>16) Did the added or increased capacity include or require a change in water flow through the facility that worsened conditions for fish, wildlife, or water quality (for example, did operations change from run-of-river to peaking)?</li></ul>		

<ul> <li>17 (a) Was the existing dam recommended for removal or decommissioning by resource agencies, or recommended for removal or decommissioning by a broad representation of interested persons and organizations in the local and/or regional community prior to the added or increased capacity?</li> <li>(b) If you answered "yes" to question 17(a), the Facility is not eligible for certification, unless you can show that the added or increased capacity resulted in specific measures to improve fish, wildlife, or water quality protection at the existing dam. If such measures were a result, please explain.</li> </ul>			
<ul> <li>18 (a) If the added or increased generation is not yet operational, has the increased or added generation received regulatory authorization (e.g., approval by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission)? If not, the facility is not eligible for consideration; and</li> <li>(b) Are there any pending appeals or litigation regarding that authorization? If so, the facility is not eligible for consideration.</li> </ul>			1
A. Flows PASS			FAIL
	ddlebury Lower	Weybridge	
after December 31, 1986 regarding flow conditions for fish and wildlife	Yes	Yes	
both the reach below the tailrace and all bypassed reaches? were in Certific Agency	cluded in the License ations. See Attachme letter requested		NO = Fail
YES =	Pass, Go to B		

2)	If there is no flow condition recommended by any Resource Agency for the Facility, or if the recommendation was issued prior to January 1, 1987, is the Facility in Compliance with a flow release schedule, both below the tailrace and in all bypassed reaches, that at a minimum meets Aquatic Base Flow standards or "good" habitat flow standards calculated using the Montana-Tennant method?	YES = Pass, go to B NO = Go to A3		
3)	If the Facility is unable to meet the flow standards in A.2., has the Applicant demonstrated, and obtained a letter from the relevant Resource Agency confirming that demonstration, that the flow conditions at the Facility are appropriately protective of fish, wildlife, and water quality?	YES = Pass, go to B		NO = Fail
B	Water Quality	PASS		FAIL
1)	Is the Facility either:	Middlebury Lower           Yes	<b>Weybridge</b> Yes	NO = Fail
a)	In Compliance with all conditions issued pursuant to a Clean Water Act Section 401 water quality certification issued for the Facility after December 31, 1986? Or	a) YES – See Attachment D. Certifications are included in		
b)	In Compliance with the quantitative water quality standards established by the state that support designated uses pursuant to the federal Clean Water Act in the Facility area and in the downstream reach?	Agency letter requested YES = Go to B2		
2)	Is the Facility area or the downstream reach currently identified by the state as	Middlebury Lower	Weybridge	
	not meeting water quality standards (including narrative and numeric criteria and designated uses) pursuant to Section 303(d) of the Clean Water Act?	Yes	No	
	designated uses) pursuant to Section 505(d) of the Clean water Act?	YES – See Attachment D.		
		<b>YES = Go to B3</b> NO = Pass		
3)	If the answer to question B.2 is yes, has there been a determination that the Facility does not cause, or contribute to, the violation?	YES –See Attachment D. YES = Pass		NO = Fail

C. Fish Passage and Protection	PASS		FAIL
1) Is the Facility in Compliance with <i>Mandatory Fish Passage Prescriptions</i> for	Middlebury Lower	Weybridge	
upstream and downstream passage of anadromous and catadromous fish issued	N/A	N/A	NO = Fail
by Resource Agencies after December 31, 1986?			
	N/A - There is no federal ma		
	for the passage of riverine fis		
	the Projects, however Licens		
	Middlebury Lower, and 405		
	reserve future FERC authorit		
	fishways as prescribed by the	e Secretary of	
	Interior.		
	YES = Go to C5		
	N/A = Go to C2		

2)	Are there historic records of anadromous and/or catadromous fish movement	Middlebury Lower	Weybridge	
	through the Facility area, but anadromous and/or catadromous fish do not	No	No	
	presently move through the Facility area ( <i>e.g.</i> , because passage is blocked at a			
	downstream dam or the fish no longer have a migratory run)?	On page 51 of the Environn	nental Assessment for	
		the projects (attached) FER	C reported that there	
	a) If the fish are extinct or extirpated from the Facility area or downstream	are no anadromous or migra		
	reach, has the Applicant demonstrated that the extinction or extirpation was	Creek above the most down	stream dam	NO = Fail
	not due in whole or part to the Facility?	(Vergennes Project (P-2674		
		Mountain Power); and agen		
	b) If a Resource Agency Recommended adoption of upstream and/or	plans to introduce such spec		
	downstream fish passage measures at a specific future date, or when a	Vergennes was constructed		
	triggering event occurs (such as completion of passage through a	the construction of the next		NO = Fail
	downstream obstruction or the completion of a specified process), has the	Weybridge in 1922, and thu		
	Facility owner/operator made a legally enforceable commitment to provide	species (if they existed) ups	e	
	such passage?	The record does not indicate		
		species were present prior to	o the construction of	
		Vergennes.		
		NEG C C		
		YES = Go to C2a		
		NO = Go to C3		
		YES = Go to C2b		
		N/A = Go to C2b		
		$I_{N/A} = GO IO C2D$		
		YES = Go to C5		
		N/A = Go to C3		
		10/A = 0010 C3		
L				

3)	If,	since December 31, 1986:	Middlebury Lower	Weybridge	
- /	,	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	No	No	YES = Fail
	a)	Resource Agencies have had the opportunity to issue, and considered issuing, a Mandatory Fish Passage Prescription for upstream and/or downstream passage of anadromous or catadromous fish (including delayed installation as described in C2a above), and	<b>NO = Go to C5</b> N/A = Go to C4		
	b)	The Resource Agencies declined to issue a Mandatory Fish Passage Prescription,			
	c)	Was a reason for the Resource Agencies' declining to issue a Mandatory Fish Passage Prescription one of the following: (1) the technological infeasibility of passage, (2) the absence of habitat upstream of the Facility due at least in part to inundation by the Facility impoundment, or (3) the anadromous or catadromous fish are no longer present in the Facility area and/or downstream reach due in whole or part to the presence of the Facility?			
4)	If C	C3 was not applicable:	YES = Go to C5		NO = Fail
a)	cat	e upstream and downstream fish passage survival rates for anadromous and adromous fish at the dam each documented at greater than 95% over 80% of run using a generally accepted monitoring methodology? Or			
b)	Ap Wi der at t cor lett	he Facility is unable to meet the fish passage standards in 4.a, has the plicant either i) demonstrated, and obtained a letter from the U.S. Fish and ldlife Service or National Marine Fisheries Service confirming that nonstration, that the upstream and downstream fish passage measures (if any) he Facility are appropriately protective of the fishery resource, or ii) nmitted to the provision of fish passage measures in the future and obtained a er from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service or the National Marine Fisheries vice indicating that passage measures are not currently warranted?			

5) Is the Facility in Compliance with Mandatory Fish Passage Prescription	s for Middlebury Lower	Weybridge	NO =	= Fail
upstream and/or downstream passage of Riverine fish?	N/A	Yes		
	<ul> <li>There is no federal mandate passage of riverine fish with however License Article 40 Lower, and Article 405 for reserve future FERC authon fishways as prescribed by the Interior.</li> <li>At Weybridge, License Article Art</li></ul>	hin the Project, 44 for Middlebury Weybridge each ity to order such he Secretary of icle 402 and WQS te installation and ion structure including		
N/A = Go to C6				
6) Is the Facility in Compliance with Resource Agency Recommendations Riverine, anadromous and catadromous fish entrainment protection, suc tailrace barriers?	h as Yes YES - WQS Condition F for and Condition J for Weybr consultation with resource design if/when trashracks a replacement. There are no replacement within the nex	YES - WQS Condition F for Middlebury Lower, and Condition J for Weybridge each stipulate consultation with resource agencies on trashrack design if/when trashracks are planned for replacement. There are no plans for trashrack replacement within the next five years; however, if such replacement becomes warranted in the		= Fail
D. Watershed Protection	YES       = Pass, go to D         N/A       = Pass, go to D         PASS		FAII	

1) Is there a buffer zone dedicated for conservation purposes (to protect fish and	Middlebury Lower	Weybridge		
wildlife habitat, water quality, aesthetics and/or low-impact recreation) extending 200	No	No		= go to
feet from the normal maximum reservoir level of the reservoir for at least 50% of the shoreline, including all of the undeveloped shoreline?	YES = Pass, go to E and receiv certification	ve 3 extra years of	D2	
2) Has the Facility owner/operator established an approved watershed enhancement	Middlebury Lower	Weybridge		
fund that: 1) could achieve within the project's watershed the ecological and	No	No	NO	= go to
recreational equivalent of land protection in D.1, and 2) has the agreement of appropriate stakeholders and state and federal resource agencies?	YES = Pass, go to E and receiv certification	ve 3 extra years of	D3	
3) Has the Facility owner/operator established through a settlement agreement with	Middlebury Lower	Weybridge	NO	= go to
appropriate stakeholders, with state and federal resource agencies agreement, an	No	No	D4	0
appropriate shoreland buffer or equivalent watershed land protection plan for conservation purposes (to protect fish and wildlife habitat, water quality, aesthetics and/or low impact recreation)?	$\mathbf{YES} = \mathbf{Pass, go to E}$			
4) Is the facility in compliance with both state and federal resource agencies	Middlebury Lower	Weybridge	No	= Fail
recommendations in a license approved shoreland management plan regarding	N/A	N/A		
protection, mitigation or enhancement of shorelands surrounding the project?	YES = Pass, go to E N/A = Pass go to E			
E. Threatened and Endangered Species Protection	PASS		FAI	L
<ol> <li>Are threatened or endangered species listed under state or federal Endangered</li> </ol>	1100		1711	L
Species Acts present in the Facility area and/or downstream reach?	The EA for the projects is attac	ched.		
	YES - See Attachment D - rev	vised		
	YES = Go to E2			
	NO = Pass, go to F			

2)	If a recovery plan has been adopted for the threatened or endangered species	Middlebury Lower	Weybridge		
	pursuant to Section 4(f) of the Endangered Species Act or similar state provision,	YES	YES	NO	= Fail
	is the Facility in Compliance with all recommendations in the plan relevant to the				
	Facility?	YES – The VT recovery pla	n for Bald eagle		
		includes a recommendation			
		projects but only in a genera			
		with other utilities, is a part			
		Wildlife in a program to mo			
		presence of potential eagle i			
		are identified. To date, no nesting sites have been			
		identified in the project area			
		was observed and reported b			
		CVPS is also a partner in th			
		Basin restoration program (see <u>http://www.vtfishandwildlife.com/wildlife_nonga</u> <u>me.cfm</u> ) but that program does not include these			
		project areas. CVPS also de			
		state's bald eagle restoration			
		http://www.cvps.com/eagles			
			_		
		Agency letter requested			
		YES = Go to E3			
		N/A = Go to E3			
3)	If the Facility has received authorization to incidentally Take a listed species				
	through: (i) Having a relevant agency complete consultation pursuant to ESA	N/A		NO	= Fail
1	Section 7 resulting in a biological opinion, a habitat recovery plan, and/or (if				
	needed) an incidental Take statement; (ii) Obtaining an incidental Take permit	YES = Go to E4			
	pursuant to ESA Section 10; or (iii) For species listed by a state and not by the	N/A = Go to E5			
	federal government, obtaining authorization pursuant to similar state procedures;				
	is the Facility in Compliance with conditions pursuant to that authorization?				

4)	If a biological opinion applicable to the Facility for the threatened or endangered species has been issued, can the Applicant demonstrate that:	N/A	NO = Fail
	a) The biological opinion was accompanied by a FERC license or exemption or a habitat conservation plan? Or	YES = Pass, go to F	
	b) The biological opinion was issued pursuant to or consistent with a recovery plan for the endangered or threatened species? Or		
	c) There is no recovery plan for the threatened or endangered species under active development by the relevant Resource Agency? Or		
	d) The recovery plan under active development will have no material effect on the Facility's operations?		
5)	If E.2 and E.3 are not applicable, has the Applicant demonstrated that the Facility and Facility operations do not negatively affect listed species?	YES – Project operation is extremely limited geographically, and there are no License or WQC requirements related to listed species, for either Project.	NO = Fail
		YES = Pass, go to F	
F	Cultural Resource Protection	PASS	FAIL
	If FERC-regulated, is the Facility in Compliance with all requirements regarding Cultural Resource protection, mitigation or enhancement included in the FERC license or exemption?	Middlebury LowerWeybridgeYesYes	NO = Fail
		See Attachment D.	
		Agency letter requested	
		<b>YES = Pass, go to G</b> N/A = Go to F2	

2)	If not FERC-regulated, does the Facility owner/operator have in place (and is in Compliance with) a plan for the protection, mitigation or enhancement of impacts to Cultural Resources approved by the relevant state or federal agency or <i>Native American Tribe</i> , or a letter from a senior officer of the relevant agency or Tribe that no plan is needed because Cultural Resources are not negatively affected by the Facility?	YES = Pass, go to G		NO = Fail
0		D400		
	Recreation	PASS		FAIL
1)	If FERC-regulated, is the Facility in Compliance with the recreational access,	Middlebury Lower	Weybridge	NO = Fail
	accommodation (including recreational flow releases) and facilities conditions in	Yes	Yes	
	its FERC license or exemption?			
		See Attachment D.		
		Agency letter requested		
		VES Cata C2		
		YES = Go to G3		
2)	If not FEDC monitored does the Envillement ide monotional access	N/A = Go to G2		NO = Fail
2)	If not FERC-regulated, does the Facility provide recreational access,	YES = Go to G3		NO = Fail
	accommodation (including recreational flow releases) and facilities, as Recommended by Resource Agencies or other agencies responsible for			
	recreation?			
	recreation?			
3)	Does the Facility allow access to the reservoir and downstream reaches without	Middlebury Lower	Weybridge	
3)	fees or charges?	Yes	Yes	NO = Fail
		105	103	
		YES = Pass, go to H		
		115 – 1 435, 50 to 11		
H.	Facilities Recommended for Removal	PASS		FAIL
1)	Is there a Resource Agency Recommendation for removal of the dam associated	Middlebury Lower	Weybridge	YES = Fail
	with the Facility?	No	No	
		NO = Pass, Facility is Low Impact		