

APPENDIX 8-2

**COMMENT LETTER FROM TIMOTHY J. APPLETON, VERMONT AGENCY OF NATURAL
RESOURCES DATED MAY 13, 2014**



Fish and Wildlife Department

5 Perry Street, Suite 40
Barre, VT 05641-4266

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May 13, 2014

Mr. Stephen Hickey
Hydro Management Group, LLC
55 Union Street, 4th Floor
Boston, MA 02108
sjh@essexhydro.com

Re: Downers Mill Hydro LIHI Certification. Ottauquechee River/Village of Quechee/Town of Hartford, VT.

Dear Mr. Hickey:

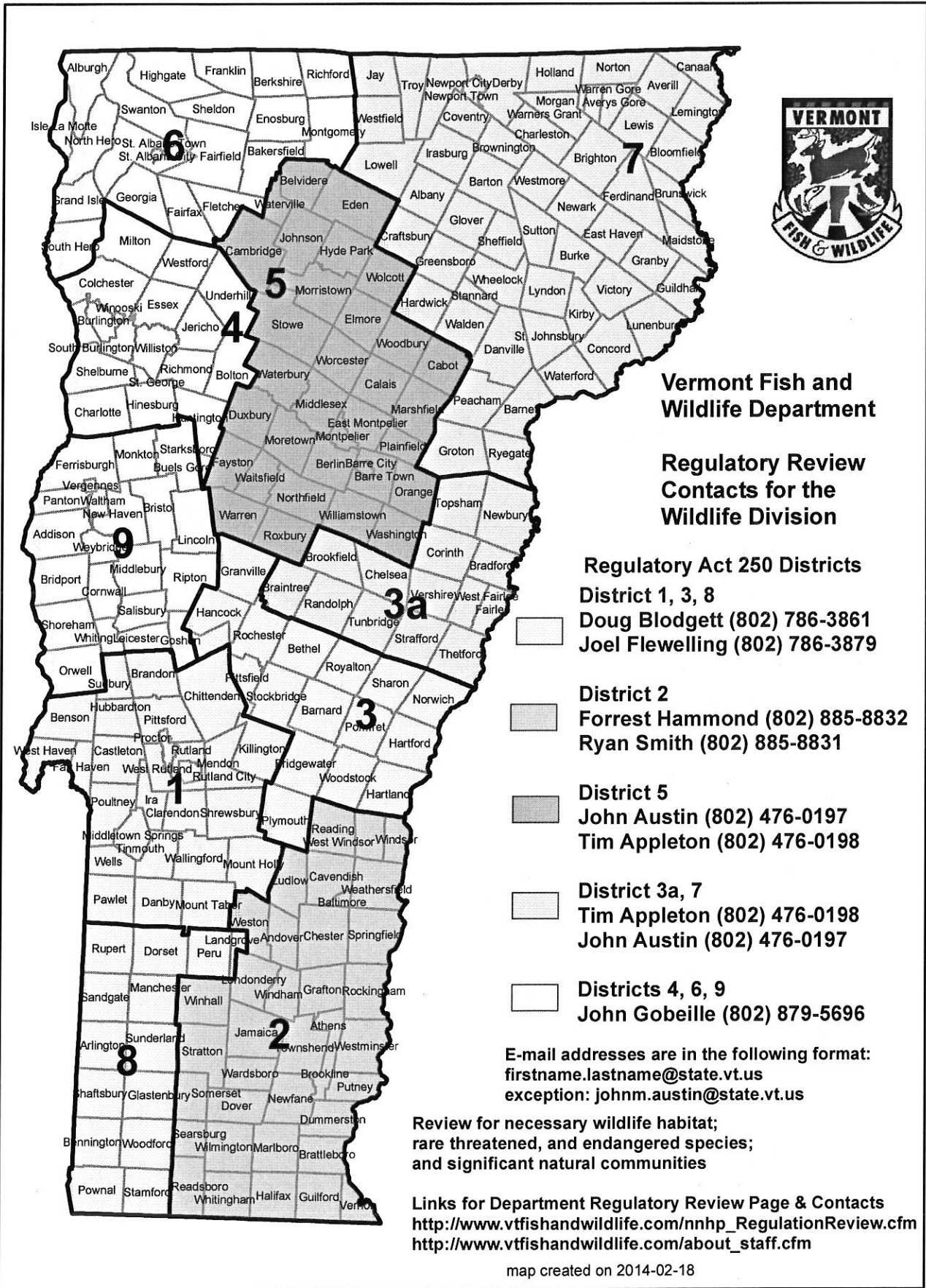
I am in receipt of your May 5, 2014 email to John Austin and Amy Alfieri requesting information regarding the presence of threatened and endangered species located in the project area. I have been directed to respond to your request. A search of our database indicates that there are no state or federally listed threatened or endangered species documented in the area associated with the dam, or the impoundment upstream to the mouth of Whitman Brook. The area of the Ottauquechee River beginning at the dam and extending upstream approximately 3,000 feet is mapped as a Class II wetland that is protected by the Vermont Wetland Rules. The wetland is approximately 25 acres in size.

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me at (802) 476-0198, or by email at time.appleton@state.vt.us. For your information, I have attached a map indicating areas of responsibility for project review, and direct your attention to the Department's website vtfishandwildlife.com for additional information under tabs *wildlife programs* and then *regulatory review*. Amy Alfieri is no longer doing environmental review and has taken another position within the VT Fish and Wildlife Department.

Sincerely,






Timothy J. Appleton
Fish & Wildlife Specialist

cc: John Austin, VTFWD Wildlife Biologist
Rich Kim, VTFWD Fisheries Biologist
Eric Davis, VTDEC



Vermont Fish and Wildlife Department

Regulatory Review Contacts for the Wildlife Division

-  **Regulatory Act 250 Districts**
District 1, 3, 8
Doug Blodgett (802) 786-3861
Joel Flewelling (802) 786-3879
-  **District 2**
Forrest Hammond (802) 885-8832
Ryan Smith (802) 885-8831
-  **District 5**
John Austin (802) 476-0197
Tim Appleton (802) 476-0198
-  **District 3a, 7**
Tim Appleton (802) 476-0198
John Austin (802) 476-0197
-  **Districts 4, 6, 9**
John Gobeille (802) 879-5696

E-mail addresses are in the following format:
 firstname.lastname@state.vt.us
 exception: johnm.austin@state.vt.us

**Review for necessary wildlife habitat;
 rare threatened, and endangered species;
 and significant natural communities**

Links for Department Regulatory Review Page & Contacts
http://www.vtfishandwildlife.com/nnhp_RegulationReview.cfm
http://www.vtfishandwildlife.com/about_staff.cfm