

CENTRAL VERMONT PUBLIC SERVICE CORP.

GAGE PROJECT FERC NO. 2397

RECREATION PLAN

INTRODUCTION

Article 413 of the license for the Gage Hydroelectric Project requires a recreation plan. The plan is detailed in Figure 1.

PLAN DETAILS

- 1) The picnic tables are in place as shown in Figure 1. The tables were constructed with concrete frames and pressure treated table tops and benches.
- 2) An interpretive sign will be located as shown on Figure 1. Proposed layout of the interpretive sign is shown in Figure 2.
- 3) Directional and warning signs detailed in Figure 3 will be installed as shown in Figure 1.

ARCHITECTURAL AND TRANSPORTATION BOARD COMPLIANCE

The picnic area is accessible by boat only. Hence no special provisions for disabled users are proposed.

EROSION AND SEDIMENT CONTROL MEASURES

The picnic area did not require ground disturbance. CVPS is proposing to not submit a detailed erosion control plan per Article 401 for recreational facilities.

ENTITY RESPONSIBLE FOR OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE

The CVPS operating personnel that take of the hydroelectric station operation will see to the operation and maintenance of the recreational facilities.

IMPLEMENTATION SCHEDULE

The picnic area requires no further work. Installation of the signs will be within 90 days of the receipt of the plan's approval.



SITE ASSESSMENT

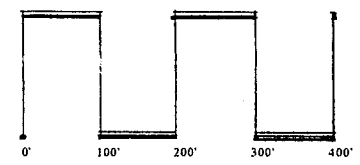
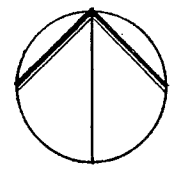
1. **SITE VISIBILITY**
There is no visibility of the facility from Route 5 due to the abrupt topographic change.
2. **SITE ACCESSIBILITY**
The access drive to the facility is extremely steep, making entering and exiting hazardous. Access at this location is not recommended for the public.

CONCEPT PROPOSAL

- A. **CANOE PORTAGE**
- B. **PICNIC IN THE PINES**
A picnic area is proposed for the Pine Woods at location B. This area may be used by canoeists only, as access across the railroad ROW is limited to CVPSC only.

Central Vermont Public Service Corporation

**GAGE STATION L.P. 2397
RECREATION PLAN
FIGURE 1**



**GAGE STATION L.P. 2397
RECREATION PLAN
FIGURE 2
INTERPRETIVE SIGN**

The Gage hydroelectric station was built in 1919- 1920 by the Twin State Gas & Electric Company. The dam was destroyed in the flood of 1927, although the powerhouse was largely undamaged. A concrete dam was constructed in 1929. The facility is significant (and eligible for the National Register of Historic Places) because it is among the very few genuinely low-head stations featuring an open channel and generating units in an open pit setting. The powerhouse is also among the limited number of such buildings constructed entirely of steel and concrete without the brick facade typical of the 1920's powerhouses.

The remains of the first hydroelectric station in St. Johnsbury, reportedly built in 1898, are tied into the north abutment of the dam and support the cableway tower.

Gage Station which is owned and operated by Central Vermont Public Service Company still generates in excess of 2.8 million kilowatt hours of electricity per year, enough to supply approximately 220 homes.

Up to 700 cubic feet per second of water passes through the canal from the dam to the powerhouse. The water powers two vertical shaft Francis units, rated at approximately 300 and 400 kilowatts each.

The project is operated under the jurisdiction of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission and was issued a new forty year license in 1994.

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RECREATION PLAN
FIGURE 3 - SIGNS**

