FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION
Washington, D. C. 20426

OFFICE OF ENERGY PROJECTS

Project No. 7320-034 -- New York
Chasm Project
Erie Boulevard Hydropower, L.P.

Mr. Thomas M. Skutnik, PE
St. Lawrence Production Center
Erie Boulevard Hydropower, L.P.
225 Greenfield Parkway, Suite 201
Liverpool, NY 13088

SEP 0 9 2005

Subject: Chasm Project - Sediment Management Plan

Dear Mr. Skutnik:

We received your letter, dated August 24, 2005, regarding the status of the Final Draft Sediment Management Plan (FDSMP) for the Salmon River, as provided by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC).

BACKGROUND

The Commission, in a letter dated December 19, 2001, required the licensee to develop in consultation with the DEC and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, a plan for sediment management at three hydropower projects on the Salmon River (Macomb, No. 7321; Chasm, No. 7320; and Salmon River, No. 11408).

On May 18, 2004, Erie Boulevard Hydropower, L.P. (Erie), the licensee, filed the FDSMP for the Chasm Project and stated that Erie was in agreement with the "Conclusions and Recommendations" of the Plan that was prepared by the previous licensee. Erie said it agreed to initiate the flow release recommendations at the Chasm and Macomb impoundments, as appropriate.

On June 1, 2004, DEC filed its response to the FDSMP's "Conclusions and Recommendations" by stating that the State has not approved the FDSMP and does not accept the "Conclusions and Recommendations" outlined in the FDSMP, at this time. However, in a letter dated August 16, 2005, DEC stated that Erie's continued operation of the Macomb and Chasm projects, in compliance with the interim SMP that was already approved by DEC, is an acceptable operating mode until such time as DEC approves a

final SMP. DEC also states that, in order to facilitate an understanding of the steps that the DEC contemplates will need to be taken before a final SMP can be proposed, the DEC will continue the present data-gathering program for two to three more years. The data-gathering program will seek to collect information on: (a) sediment contaminants, and (b) sediment composition. The DEC will be prepared to review and determine whether to approve a final SMP only after appropriate and sufficient data from both programs have been acquired. The DEC anticipates that subsequent SMP finalization could take approximately two additional years after completion of the data-gathering program.

CONCLUSION

Erie will continue operation of the Macomb and Chasm projects, in compliance with the DEC's approved ISMP, until such time as DEC approves a final SMP. Erie should file its final SMP within 60 days after DEC approval.

Thank you for your cooperation. If you have any questions, please contact Jake Tung at (202) 502-8757.

Sincerely,

Mohamad Fayyad
Engineering Team Lead
Division of Hydropower Administration
and Compliance

file copy

New York State Department of Environmental Conservation
Office of Environmental Quality, Region 5
1115 NYS Route 86 – PO Box 296, Ray Brook, NY 12977
Phone: (518) 897-1241/1242 • **Fax:** (518) 897-1245
Website: www.dec.ny.gov

Joe Martens
Commissioner

May 25, 2011

Mr. Daniel Daoust
New York West Operations
Erie Boulevard Hydropower, LP
33 West 1st Street South
Fulton, NY 13069

RE: Chasm Project (P-7320) Sediment Management Plan Approval

Dear Mr. Daoust:

The Department has reviewed and approved your May 25, 2011 sediment management plan for the Chasm Hydroelectric Facility located in the Town of Malone, New York.

If you have any questions, please contact me at (518) 897-1268.

Sincerely,

Dominic Fontana, P.E.
Environmental Engineer 2

DCF:slq

Brookfield

CHASM PROJECT (P-7320)
N. SALMON RIVER

FINAL CHASM SEDIMENT MANAGEMENT PLAN

The Final Chasm Sediment Management Plan (FSMP) has been developed in consultation with the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) (approved by letter dated May 23 2011). The FSMP is intended to guide Erie Boulevard Hydropower, LP (Erie) through the process of managing sediment and outline the necessary steps to flush sediments from the Chasm impoundment. **This FSMP address the Chasm Facility only.**

1. **When inflows exceed *700 cubic feet per second* (cfs), sediment can be flushed**

   Flushing of sediment will only occur when inflows equal or exceed 700 cfs. The inflows will be determined based on the quantity of water passing through the units at the Chasm Hydroelectric Facility in conjunction with the quantity of water spilling over the Chasm dam. Continued flows of 700 cfs must be anticipated for 24 hours with flows of at least 500 cfs continuing for another 24 hour period following the sediment flush. Due to fluctuations in the flow of the river beyond Erie's control, Erie will, to the best of its ability, maintain a flow of 500 cfs for a 24 hour period after the sediment release.

2. **Provide the downstream dam operators with as much advance notice of a sediment flushing as possible**

   If a sediment flushing event is anticipated based on weather forecasts of rain for an extended period of time, snow melt, or other conditions that may result in high river flows (700 cfs) appropriate for flushing sediments, as much advance notice as possible must be provided to the downstream dam operators. Erie is responsible for contacting the downstream dam owners to advise of the details of the flushing event. The downstream operators contact information is provided as Attachment A.

3. **Notify NYSDEC 24 hours prior to the flushing of sediment**

   Contact Information: Mr. Dominic Fontana
   NYSDEC – Region 5
   1115 NYS Route 86, PO Box 296
   Ray Brook, NY 12977
   518-897-1268

4. **Perform pre-flush monitoring at Monitoring Locations 1 and 2 (2012-2016)**

   If a sediment flushing event is anticipated and safe access to the river is possible, pre-flush monitoring must be performed at the selected monitoring locations. Monitoring

Location 1 is approximately 1 mile downstream of the dam. The monitoring location is located at the downstream end of the first substantial pool found below the dam. The monitoring location is approximately two-thirds downstream from the head of the pool and is characterized by a transitional area between existing sediment deposits and a cobble area in the river. The second location, Monitoring Location 2, is approximately 3.5 miles downstream of the dam. The monitoring location is located at the downstream end of an existing island situate in the middle of the river. This island is located approximately 300 feet upstream of the County Highway 26 bridge were it crosses the Salmon River. It is characterized by existing sediment deposits immediately downstream of the island and the remainder of the river bottom in the area contains cobbles. Monitoring locations are shown in Attachment B.

Pre-flush monitoring will include collecting the depth of sediment across the river from bank-to-bank at locations that best represent the sediment conditions of the river before the release. The measurements will be measured to the nearest foot from the left bank of the river when facing upstream. The depth of the sediments will be measured to the nearest one-tenth (0.1) of a foot. All monitoring measurements will be recorded on the monitoring form provided in Attachment B.

5. **Notify the downstream dam operators the day of the sediment release**
   The downstream operators contact information is included as Attachment A. Erie is responsible for contacting the downstream dam owners the day of the release to advise of the flush event.

6. **Open the sluice gate to flush sediments.** The sluice can remain open for up to 24 hours as long as the flow remains 700 cfs or more. The date, time and height the sluice gate is opened is to be logged by the operator.

7. **After 24 hours *or* if inflows drop below 700 cfs,** close the sluice gate and continue to pass at least 500 cfs for another 24 hours.

8. **Perform post-flush monitoring at Monitoring Locations 1 and 2 (2012-2016)**
   Once the flows have decreased enough to allow for safe access to the river post-flush monitoring will be performed at the selected monitoring locations.

   Post-flush monitoring will include collecting the depth of sediment across the river from bank-to-bank at locations that best represent the sediment conditions of the river before the release. The measurements will be measured to the nearest foot from the left bank of the river when facing upstream. The depth of the sediments will be measured to the nearest one-tenth (0.1) of a foot. All monitoring measurements will be recorded on the monitoring form provided in Attachment B.

9. **Immediately notify NYSDEC and FERC if problems develop from the sediment flushing process**

10. Submit annual report to NYSDEC (2012-2016)

Erie will submit an annual report to the NYSDEC and FERC by March 15 documenting the results of the plan for the past year. This report will contain a brief description of when the release(s) occurred and a summary of the before and after monitoring, a copy of the bathymetric survey of the impoundment (in the corresponding years), dates, times, and names of the downstream dam operators that were contacted, and a copy of the Monitoring Location forms.

11. Bathymetric Survey (2012, 2014 and 2016)

Erie will perform a bathymetric survey of the impoundment area (the area between the dam upstream to the bridge on Route 41) for the first, third, and fifth years of the program to measure the effects on sediment accumulations within the impoundment.

ATTACHMENT A

OWNER CONTACT INFORMATION
DAMS DOWNSTREAM OF CHASM HYDROELECTRIC FACILITY
(BETWEEN CHASM FACILITY and MACOMB FACILITY)

Whittlesey Hydro
Malone, New York

Contact Information:
John Webster
Whittlesey, Inc.
PO Box 178
South Berwick, Maine 03908
Telephone: 207-384-5334 (office)
207-468-5113 (cell)

Ballard Mill Hydro
Malone, New York

Contact Information:
Bruce Dumas
North Country Community College
23 Santanoni Avenue
PO Box 89
Saranac Lake, New York 12983
Telephone: 518-483-4757 (office)
518-483-5878 (hydro plant)

ATTACHMENT B

BROOKFIELD RENEWABLE POWER

SEDIMENT MANAGEMENT PLAN
SALMON RIVER CHASM HYDROELECTRIC FACILITY
MALONE, NEW YORK

SEDIMENT MONITORING

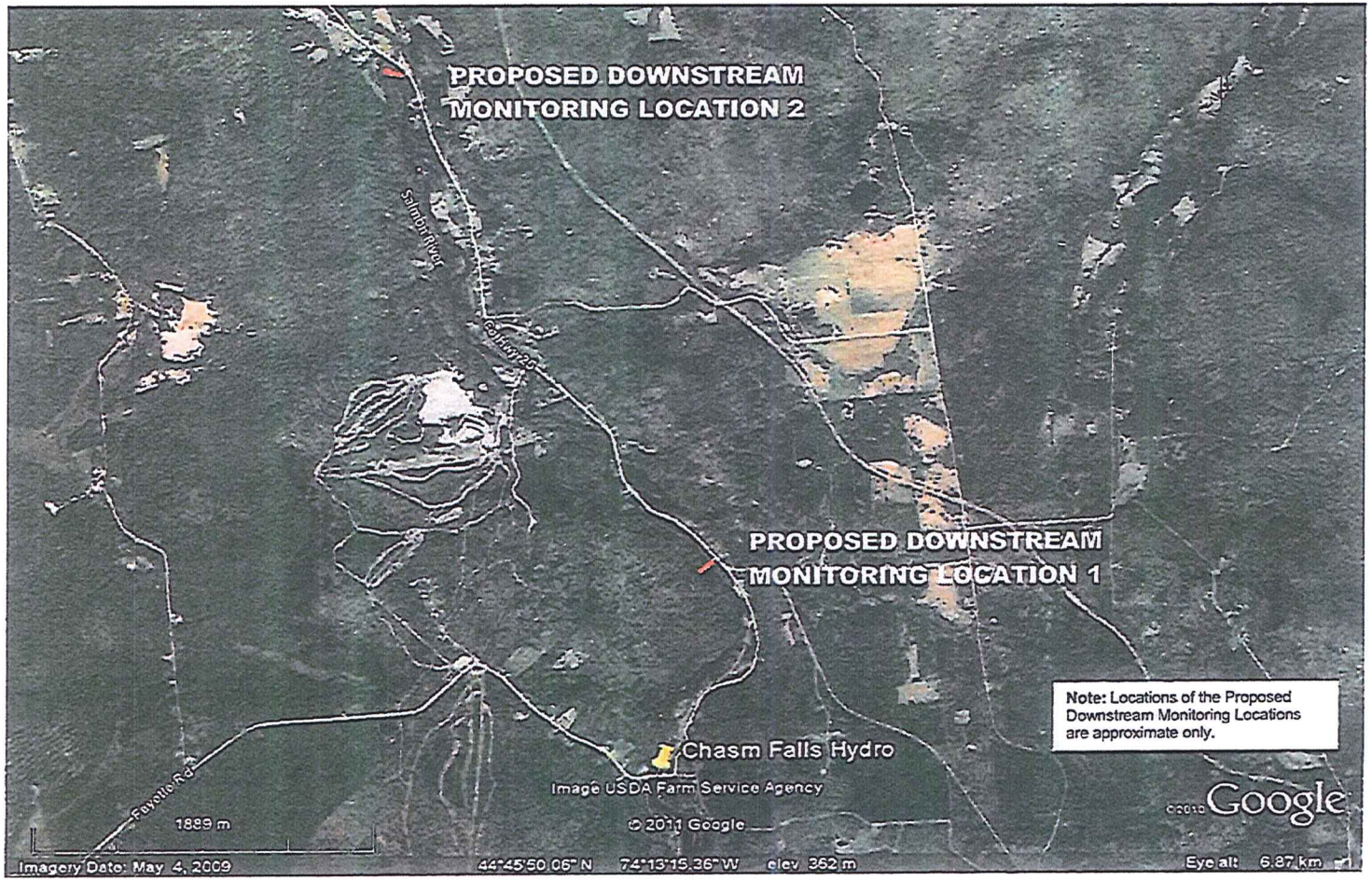
Downstream Monitoring Location: _____
Date: _____
Time: _____
Water Flow (cfm): _____

Station											
Sediment Depth											

Observations:

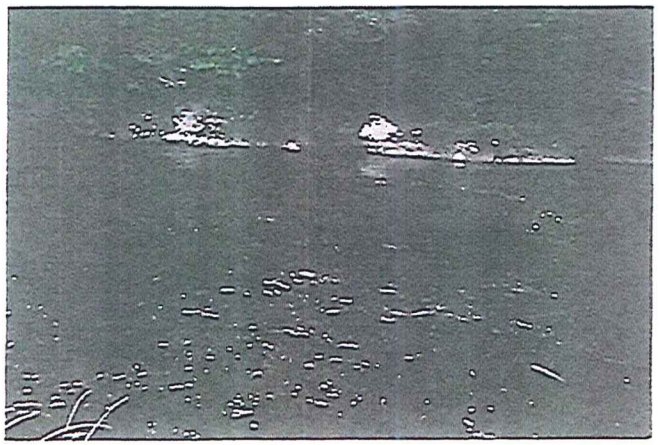
Notes:

1. "Station" is measured in feet beginning at 0+00 from the left bank of river facing upstream.
2. "Sediment Depth" is measured in tenths (0.1) of inches.

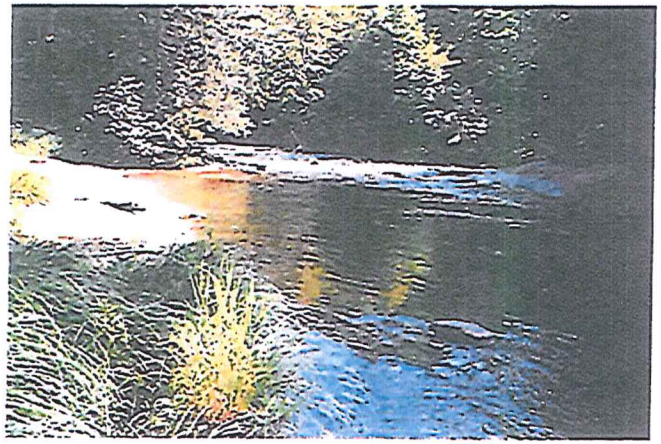


CHASM HYDROELECTRIC FACILITY SEDIMENT MANAGEMENT PLAN
PROPOSED DOWNSTREAM MONITORING LOCATIONS

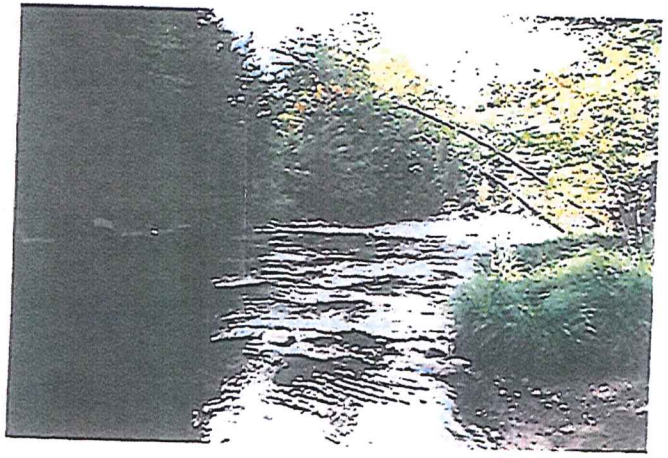
UPSTREAM



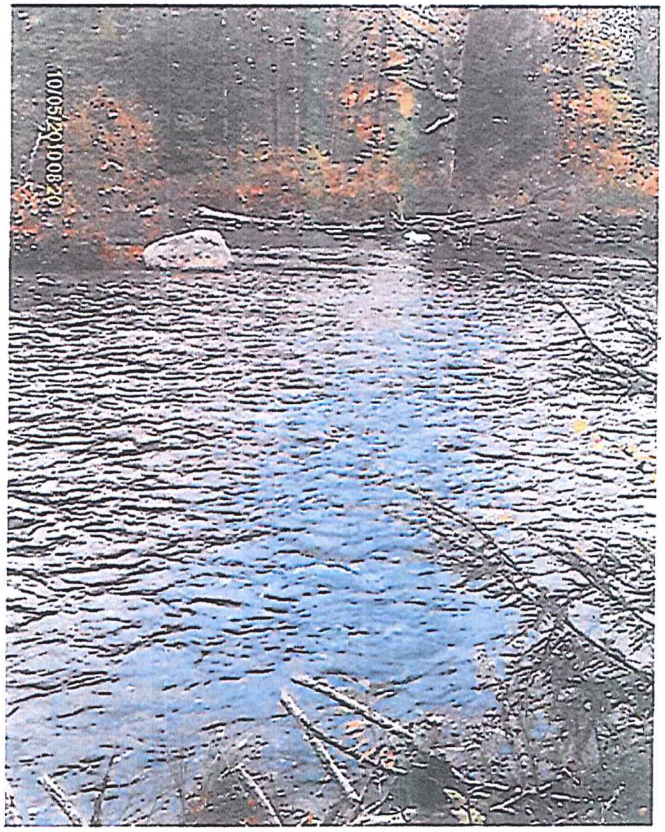
DOWNSTREAM



TRANSECT



DOWNSTREAM MONITORING LOCATION 1



TRANSECT

UPSTREAM

DOWNSTREAM MONITORING LOCATION 2