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Dated: July 3, 2014.

**Michael K. Yudin,**

*Acting Assistant Secretary for Special Education and Rehabilitative Services.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

[OE Docket No. PP-400]

### Application for Presidential Permit; New England Clean Power Link Project

**AGENCY:** Office of Electricity Delivery and Energy Reliability, DOE.

**ACTION:** Notice of Application.

**SUMMARY:** Champlain VT, LLC, doing business as TDI-New England (TDI-NE), has applied for a Presidential permit to construct, operate, maintain, and connect an electric transmission line across the United States border with Canada.

**DATES:** Comments or motions to intervene must be submitted on or before August 8, 2014.

**ADDRESSES:** Comments or motions to intervene should be addressed as follows: Office of Electricity Delivery and Energy Reliability (OE-20), U.S. Department of Energy, 1000 Independence Avenue SW., Washington, DC 20585.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Christopher Lawrence (Program Office) at 202-586-5260 or via electronic mail at [Christopher.Lawrence@hq.doe.gov](mailto:Christopher.Lawrence@hq.doe.gov), Katherine Konieczny (Program Attorney) at 202-586-0503.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The construction, operation, maintenance, and connection of facilities at the international border of the United States for the transmission of electric energy between the United States and a foreign

country is prohibited in the absence of a Presidential permit issued pursuant to Executive Order (EO) 10485, as amended by EO 12038.

On May 20, 2014, TDI-NE., an entity principally based in Albany, New York, filed an application with the Office of Electricity Delivery and Energy Reliability of the Department of Energy (DOE) for a Presidential permit for the New England Clean Power Link Project. On June 23, 2014, TDI-NE filed supplemental information concerning its application. TDI-New England would own and operate the transmission facilities with functional control being turned over to the Independent System Operator of New England once the project is in service.

TDI-NE proposes to construct, operate and maintain the New England Clean Power Link Project (NECPL), a high voltage direct current (HVDC) electric transmission line with an operating voltage of +/– 300 to 320 kilovolts (kV). The project would be constructed in both aquatic (underwater) and terrestrial (underground) environments.

As proposed, NECPL is a high voltage direct current (HVDC) electric transmission line with an expected power transfer rating of 1000 megawatts (MW). The proposed project would originate in the Canadian province of Quebec and terminate in Ludlow, Vermont. From the Canadian border, the line would be located underground in Alburgh, Vermont for approximately 0.5 miles and would enter Lake Champlain via a horizontal directional drill. The cables would then be installed in Lake Champlain, within the jurisdictional waters of Vermont for 97.6 miles. The cables would emerge from Lake Champlain in the town of Benson, Vermont and would be buried along town roads and state highway rights-of-way for approximately 55.7 miles until terminating at a proposed converter station in Ludlow, Vermont. The total direct current portion of the project is approximately 153.8 miles. The project would also involve the construction of a single circuit 345 kilovolt (kV) underground high voltage alternating current (AC) transmission system which would run approximately 0.3 miles from the converter station in Ludlow to the Coolidge Substation located in the towns of Ludlow and Cavendish, Vermont. The total length of the proposed project from the U.S. border crossing in Alburgh to the Coolidge substation is approximately 154.1 miles.

Since the restructuring of the electric industry began, resulting in the introduction of different types of competitive entities into the marketplace, DOE has consistently

expressed its policy that cross-border trade in electric energy should be subject to the same principles of comparable open access and non-discrimination that apply to transmission in interstate commerce. DOE has stated that policy in export authorizations granted to entities requesting authority to export over international transmission facilities. Specifically, DOE expects transmitting utilities owning border facilities to provide access across the border in accordance with the principles of comparable open access and non-discrimination contained in the Federal Power Act and articulated in Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) Order No. 888 (Promoting Wholesale Competition Through Open Access Non-Discriminatory Transmission Services by Public Utilities; FERC Stats. & Regs. ¶31,036 (1996)), as amended. In furtherance of this policy, DOE invites comments on whether it would be appropriate to condition any Presidential permit issued in this proceeding on compliance with these open access principles.

**Procedural Matters:** Any person may comment on this application by filing such comment at the address provided above. Any person seeking to become a party to this proceeding must file a motion to intervene at the address provided above in accordance with Rule 214 of FERC's Rules of Practice and Procedure (18 CFR 385.214). Two copies of each comment or motion to intervene should be filed with DOE on or before the date listed above.

Additional copies of such motions to intervene also should be filed directly with: Mr. Donald Jessome, General Manager, TDI-New England, P.O. Box 155, Charlotte, VT 05445, [Donald.Jessome@chvtllc.com](mailto:Donald.Jessome@chvtllc.com).

Before a Presidential permit may be issued or amended, DOE must determine that the proposed action is in the public interest. In making that determination, DOE considers the environmental impacts of the proposed project pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, determines the project's impact on electric reliability by ascertaining whether the proposed project would adversely affect the operation of the U.S. electric power supply system under normal and contingency conditions, and any other factors that DOE may also consider relevant to the public interest. Also, DOE must obtain the concurrences of the Secretary of State and the Secretary of Defense before taking final action on a Presidential permit application.

Copies of this application will be made available, upon request, for public inspection and copying at the address provided above, by accessing the program Web site at <http://energy.gov/oe/services/electricity-policy-coordination-and-implementation/international-electricity-regulation-2>.

Issued in Washington, DC, on July 2, 2014.

**Christopher A. Lawrence,**

*Electricity Policy Analyst, National Electricity Delivery Division, Office of Electricity Delivery and Energy Reliability.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

### Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. IC14-9-000]

#### Commission Information Collection Activities (FERC-520, FERC-561, and FERC-566); Comment Request

**AGENCY:** Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, DOE.

**ACTION:** Comment request.

**SUMMARY:** In compliance with the requirements of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, 44 U.S.C. 3507(a)(1)(D), the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (Commission or FERC) is submitting its information collections FERC-520 (Application for Authority to Hold Interlocking Directorate Positions), FERC-561 (Annual Report of Interlocking Positions), and FERC-566 (Annual Report of a Utility's 20 Largest Purchasers) to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review of the information collection requirements. Any interested person may file comments directly with OMB and should address a copy of those comments to the Commission as explained below. The Commission previously issued a Notice in the **Federal Register** (79 FR 12191, 3/4/2014) requesting public comments. The Commission received four comments on the FERC-520, FERC-561, and FERC-566 information collections. The Commission addresses these comments in this notice and in its submittal to OMB.

**DATES:** Comments on the collection of information are due August 8, 2014.

**ADDRESSES:** Comments filed with OMB, identified by the OMB Control Nos. 1902-0083, 1902-0099, and 1902-0114, should be sent via email to the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs: [oir\\_submission@omb.gov](mailto:oir_submission@omb.gov), Attention:

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission Desk Officer. The Desk Officer may also be reached via telephone at 202-395-4718.

A copy of the comments should also be sent to the Commission, in Docket No. IC14-9-000, by either of the following methods:

- eFiling at Commission's Web site: <http://www.ferc.gov/docs-filing/efiling.asp>.

- Mail/Hand Delivery/Courier: Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, Secretary of the Commission, 888 First Street NE., Washington, DC 20426.

**Instructions:** All submissions must be formatted and filed in accordance with submission guidelines at: <http://www.ferc.gov/help/submission-guide.asp>. For user assistance contact FERC Online Support by email at [ferconlinesupport@ferc.gov](mailto:ferconlinesupport@ferc.gov), or by phone at: (866) 208-3676 (toll-free), or (202) 502-8659 for TTY.

**Docket:** Users interested in receiving automatic notification of activity in this docket or in viewing/downloading comments and issuances in this docket may do so at <http://www.ferc.gov/docs-filing/docs-filing.asp>.

#### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Ellen Brown may be reached by email at [DataClearance@FERC.gov](mailto:DataClearance@FERC.gov), by telephone at (202) 502-8663, and by fax at (202) 273-0873.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

**Title:** FERC-520 (Application for Authority to Hold Interlocking Directorate Positions), FERC Form 561 (Annual Report of Interlocking Positions), and FERC-566 (Annual Report of a Utility's 20 Largest Purchasers).

**OMB Control No.:** FERC-521 (1902-0083), FERC-561 (1902-0099), and FERC-566 (1902-0114).

**Type of Request:** Three-year extension of the FERC-521, FERC Form 561, and FERC-566 information collection requirements with no changes to the reporting requirements.

**Abstract:** The Federal Power Act (FPA), as amended by the Public Utility Regulatory Policies Act of 1978 (PURPA), mandates federal oversight and approval of certain electric corporate activities to ensure that neither public nor private interests are adversely affected. Accordingly, the FPA proscribes related information filing requirements to achieve this goal. Such filing requirements are found in the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), specifically in 18 CFR Parts 45, 46, and Section 131.31 and serve as the basis for FERC-520, Form 561, and FERC-566.

**Overview of the Three Data Collections.** FERC-520, Form 561 and

FERC-566 provide information related to complex electric corporate activities and serve to safeguard public and private interests, as the FPA requires. The Commission can use its enforcement authority when violations and omissions of FPA requirements occur.

**FERC-520:** FERC-520 is divided into two types of applications: Full and informational. The full application, as specified in 18 CFR Section 45.8, implements the FPA requirement under Section 305(b) that it is unlawful for any person to concurrently hold the positions of officer or director of more than one public utility; or a public utility and a financial institution that is authorized to underwrite or participate in the marketing of public utility securities; or a public utility and an electrical equipment supplier to that public utility, unless authorized by order of the Commission. In order to obtain authorization, an applicant must demonstrate that neither public nor private interests will be adversely affected by the holding of the position. The full application provides the Commission with information about any interlocking position for which the applicant seeks authorization including, but not limited to, a description of duties and the estimated time devoted to the position.

An informational application, specified in 18 CFR Section 45.9, allows an applicant to receive automatic authorization for an interlocked position upon receipt of the filing by the Commission. The informational application applies only to those individuals who seek authorization as: (1) an officer or director of two or more public utilities where the same holding company owns, directly or indirectly, that percentage of each utility's stock (of whatever class or classes) which is required by each utility's by-laws to elect directors; (2) an officer or director of two public utilities, if one utility is owned, wholly or in part, by the other and, as its primary business, owns or operates transmission or generation facilities to provide transmission service or electric power for sale to its owners; or (3) an officer or director of more than one public utility, if such person is already authorized under Part 45 to hold different positions as officer or director of those utilities where the interlock involves affiliated public utilities.

Pursuant to 18 CFR 45.5, in the event that an applicant resigns or withdraws from Commission-authorized interlocked positions or is not re-elected or re-appointed to such interlocked positions, the Commission requires that the applicant submit a notice of change