

**Vermont Agency of Natural Resources
Department of Environmental Conservation**

NOTICE OF COMPLETED APPLICATION AND PUBLIC HEARING
MORETOWN NO. 8 HYDROELECTRIC PROJECT

September 19, 2023

Moretown Hydroelectric, LLC has initiated the process to obtain a new license from the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission to continue to operate the existing Moretown No. 8 Hydroelectric Project on the Mad River in the town of Moretown, Vermont. As part of this process, the Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation (Department) is reviewing an application for a Clean Water Act Section 401 Water Quality Certification, required pursuant to the provisions of Section 401 of the federal Clean Water Act, 33 USC § 1341.

The applicant proposes to operate the Moretown No. 8 Project in run-of-river mode year-round and provide flows into the bypassed reach for aquatic habitat and aesthetics. Additionally, the applicant proposes to conduct mussel studies every 10 years and develop a maintenance plan.

The applicant must demonstrate that the project will be in compliance with the Vermont Water Quality Standards by not having an undue adverse impact on the aquatic environment, or the designated and existing uses of the waters of the State. The Department's tentative determination is to grant the certification with conditions to mitigate impacts on water quality.

The Department is welcoming public feedback on this tentative determination, during a 30-day public notice period. All timely feedback will be considered in the formulation of the final decision. During this notice period a person may request a public information meeting regarding the draft decision. Written and voice memo feedback will be accepted at the address or telephone number below, or via e-mail to Jeff.Crocker@vermont.gov, until **4:30 PM on October 27, 2023**.

Public Hearing: A public hearing will be held on **October 20, 2023, at 1 PM** at the Moretown Memorial Library at 1147 Route 100B Moretown, VT. **Additionally, an option to join the meeting via phone (+1 802-828-7667, 501695040#) or virtually can be provided.** Persons having an interest in the project and the affected waters are encouraged to attend and provide in person oral testimony, written statements, or data that may bear on the final water quality certification decision.

Copies of the draft certification and Water Quality Standards are available by mail or on the Agency website: <https://enb.vermont.gov/>

Additional Information Contact

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