



The State of New Hampshire  
**DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES**



**Thomas S. Burack, Commissioner**

**WETLANDS AND NON-SITE SPECIFIC PERMIT 2015-01687**

**Permittee:** New England Power D/b/a National Grid, C/o Joshua Holden; 40 Sylvan Rd.  
3rd Floor, Waltham, MA 02451-1120  
**Project Location:** Existing Electric Transmission Row, Littleton  
**Waterbody:** Connecticut River

**NOTE--  
CONDITIONS**

**APPROVAL DATE:** 09/28/2015

**EXPIRATION DATE:** 09/28/2020

Based upon review of the above referenced application, in accordance with RSA 482-A and RSA 485-A:17, a Wetlands Permit and Non-Site Specific Permit was issued. This permit shall not be considered valid unless signed as specified below.

**PERMIT DESCRIPTION:** Dredge and fill 162,566 square feet of palustrine forested, scrub-shrub, and emergent wetlands including intermittent and perennial stream crossings (includes 114,321 square feet of temporary impacts and 48,245 square feet of permanent impact) to relocate the National Grid 3315 34.5 kV transmission line. Work in jurisdiction includes installation of new utility structures, improvements to an existing right-of-way access road, and construction of a permanent access road associated with the proposed Waterford Tap Line Crossing. Compensatory Mitigation for the wetlands impacts is in the form of a one-time payment of \$270,999.52 to the DES Aquatic Resource Mitigation (ARM) Fund.

**THIS APPROVAL IS SUBJECT TO THE FOLLOWING PROJECT SPECIFIC CONDITIONS:**

1. All work shall be in accordance with plans by Vanasse Hangen Brustlin, Inc. entitled National Grid- Refurbishment Project dated September 11, 2015 as received by DES on September 18, 2015 and plans by Parsons Brinckerhoff entitled National Grid 3315 Refurbishment, Moore Station to Comerford Station: Access Road Design & Bank Stabilization as received by DES on September 18, 2015.
2. This approval is not valid until DES receives a one-time payment of \$270,999.52 to the DES Aquatic Resource Mitigation (ARM) Fund. The applicant shall remit payment to DES. If DES does not receive payment within 120 days of the date of this approval letter, DES will deny the application.
3. A qualified professional shall monitor the project during construction to assure it compliance with appropriate "Best Management Practices for Utility Maintenance In and Adjacent to Wetlands and Waterbodies in NH" guidance, approved plans and permit conditions.
4. Construction shall not occur directly adjacent to osprey nest between April 15th and August 15th to minimize impacts to nesting osprey unless a waiver of this condition is issued by the DES Wetlands Bureau in consultation with the NH Department of Fish and Game.
5. Construction shall not occur in the vicinity of balsam groundsel between April 15th and September 15th to minimize impacts to rare plants unless a waiver of this condition is issued by the DES Wetlands Bureau in consultation with the NH Natural Heritage Bureau.
6. Prior to construction in the vicinity of rare plant populations there shall be flagging placed around rare plant population.
7. Extreme precautions shall be taken within riparian areas to prevent unnecessary removal of vegetation during construction.
8. Prior to the installation swamp mats shall be inspected for and removed of all vegetative matter.
9. Equipment used shall be designed to have low ground contact pressure or placed on temporary swamp mats so as to minimize rutting of the soils. Swamp mats shall be removed immediately upon completion of work in a particular area so as not to result in permanent impacts.

DES Web site: [www.des.nh.gov](http://www.des.nh.gov)

P.O. Box 95, 29 Hazen Drive, Concord, New Hampshire 03302-0095

Telephone: (603) 271-3503 • Fax: (603) 271-6588 • TDD Access: Relay NH 1-800-735-2964



10. The permittee/permittee's contractor shall regrade temporary impacts to pre-construction conditions and plant native species similar to those within the wetland prior to impact. The permittee shall implement corrective measure promptly if needed to ensure the plantings survive.
11. Mulch used within the wetland restoration area shall be natural straw or equivalent non-toxic, non-seed-bearing organic material.
12. Seed mix within the restoration area shall be a wetland seed mix appropriate to the area and shall be applied in accordance with manufacturers' specifications.
13. A post-construction report documenting the status of the restored jurisdictional areas, including photographs shall be submitted to the Wetlands Bureau within 60 days of the completion of construction.
14. Prior to the installation swamp mats shall be inspected for and removed of all vegetative matter.
15. Equipment used shall be designed to have low ground contact pressure or placed on temporary swamp mats so as to minimize rutting of the soils. Swamp mats shall be removed immediately upon completion of work in a particular area so as not to result in permanent impacts.
16. Precautions shall be taken to prevent import or transport of soil or seed stock containing nuisance or invasive species such as Purple Loosestrife, Knotweed, or Phragmites. The contractor responsible for work shall appropriately address invasive species in accordance with the NHDOT Best Management Practices for Roadside Invasive Plants (2008).
17. The permittee shall control invasive plant species such as Purple loosestrife (*Lythrum salicaria*) and Common reed (*Phragmites*) by measures agreed upon by the DES Wetlands Program if any such species is found in the stabilization areas during construction or during the early stages of vegetative establishment.
18. Appropriate siltation/erosion/turbidity controls shall be in place prior to construction, shall be maintained during construction, and remain in place until the area is stabilized. Silt fence(s) must be removed once the area is stabilized.
19. All in-stream work shall be conducted during low flow conditions and in a manner that will not cause or contribute to any violations of surface water quality standards in RSA 485-A or NH Code Admin. Rules Env-Wq 1700.
20. Prior to commencing work on a substructure located within surface waters, the permittee or permittee's contractors shall construct a cofferdam to isolate the substructure work area from the surface waters.
21. Work within the stream, inclusive of work associated with installation of a cofferdam, shall be done during periods of low flow only. The permittee shall monitor local weather forecasts to avoid working during or following precipitation events.
22. Cofferdams shall not be installed during periods of high flow, whether due to seasonal runoff or precipitation. Once the cofferdam is fully effective, confined work can proceed without restriction.
23. The temporary cofferdam shall be entirely removed within 2 days after work within the cofferdam is completed and water has returned to normal clarity.
24. Within three days of final grading or temporary suspension of work, all exposed soil areas shall be stabilized by seeding and mulching during the growing season, or if not within the growing season, by mulching with tack or netting and pinning on slopes steeper than 3:1.
25. Construction equipment shall be inspected daily for leaking fuel, oil, and hydraulic fluid prior to entering surface waters or wetlands or operating in an area where such fluids could reach groundwater, surface waters, or wetlands.
26. All refueling of equipment shall occur outside of surface waters or wetlands during construction. Machinery shall be staged and refueled in upland areas only.
27. Faulty equipment shall be repaired immediately prior to entering areas that are subject to RSA 482-A jurisdiction.
28. The permittee's contractor shall maintain appropriate oil/diesel fuel spill kits on site that are readily accessible at all times during construction, and shall train each operator in the use of the kits.
29. The contractor responsible for completion of the work shall use techniques described in the New Hampshire Stormwater Manual, Volume 3, Erosion and Sediment Controls During Construction

(December 2008).

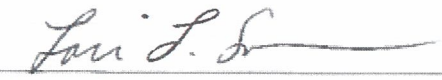
30. All development activities associated with this project shall be conducted in compliance with applicable requirements of RSA 483-B and N.H. Code Admin. Rules Env-Wq 1400, during and after construction.

31. Any further alteration of areas on this property that are subject to RSA 482-A jurisdiction will require a new application and further permitting.

**GENERAL CONDITIONS THAT APPLY TO ALL DES WETLANDS PERMITS:**

1. A copy of this permit shall be posted on site during construction in a prominent location visible to inspecting personnel;
2. This permit does not convey a property right, nor authorize any injury to property of others, nor invasion of rights of others;
3. The Wetlands Bureau shall be notified upon completion of work;
4. This permit does not relieve the applicant from the obligation to obtain other local, state or federal permits, and/or consult with other agencies as may be required (including US EPA, US Army Corps of Engineers, NH Department of Transportation, NH Division of Historical Resources (NH Department of Cultural Resources), NHDES-Alteration of Terrain, etc.);
5. Transfer of this permit to a new owner shall require notification to and approval by DES;
6. This project has been screened for potential impacts to **known** occurrences of rare species and exemplary natural communities in the immediate area. Since many areas have never been surveyed, or have received only cursory inventories, unidentified sensitive species or communities may be present. This permit does not absolve the permittee from due diligence in regard to state, local or federal laws regarding such communities or species.
7. Review enclosed sheet for status of the US Army Corps of Engineers' federal wetlands permit.

APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_



Lori L. Sommer  
DES Wetlands Bureau

**BY SIGNING BELOW I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT I HAVE FULLY READ THIS PERMIT AND AGREE TO ABIDE BY ALL PERMIT CONDITIONS.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
OWNER'S SIGNATURE (required)

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CONTRACTOR'S SIGNATURE (required)