

OFFICE OF THE UNDER SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

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JUN 26 2014

Patricia A. Hoffman Assistant Secretary Department of Energy Office of Electricity Delivery and Energy Reliability 1000 Independence Avenue SW Washington, DC 20585

Dear Ms. Hoffman:

This is in response to your January 22, 2014, request for DoD to review and comment on the Champlain Hudson Power Express Inc. (CHPE) (OE Docket No. PP-362) request to issue a Presidential Permit to construct, operate, maintain, and connect an electrical transmission facility at the international boundary between Canada and the U.S.

We have reviewed the Draft Environmental Impact Statement and the amended Presidential Permit application. DoD has no national security concerns with the project crossing the international border and, on that basis, does not object to the issuance of the Presidential Permit to CHPE.

DoD understands that the applicant and the Department of Energy (DOE) are still working on several issues to finalize the Environmental Impact Statement and obtain authorizations and approvals from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) under the Rivers and Harbors Act and Clean Water Act. This response is not applicable to those outstanding activities which CHPE must address directly with DOE and USACE.

Should the proposed action be amended in a manner that would result in it being sited, constructed, expanded or operated on land or interest in land controlled by DoD, including civil works activities, then a real estate use agreement must be obtained by separate action with the appropriate Military Department.

Sincerely,

Director, Basing

Office of the Deputy Under Secretary of Defense

(Installations & Environment)