



WANTASTIQUET REGION RIVER SUBCOMMITTEE

January 13, 2010

Brattleboro Municipal Center

PRESENT: Gordon Schofield, Hinsdale; Mary Lou Montgomery, Walpole; George Watkins, Bill Roberts, and Adair Mulligan, CRJC

ABSENT: representatives of Westmoreland; Chesterfield; Westminster; Putney, Dummerston, Brattleboro, Vernon

1. Housekeeping: Minutes of the meeting of October 21 could not be approved due to lack of quorum. New CRJC business/office manager is Theresa Darling. CRJC has applied to the VT Conservation License Plate Program for a Watershed Grant to print the subcommittees' recreation plans, create portable exhibits on riparian buffers, purchase a laptop to free another for use by members and commissioners to give presentations, and print more copies of the water resources plan.
2. CT River Water Resources Management Plan - Adair encouraged members and commissioners to give presentations to town boards and citizens in their own communities using the CDs that have been provided.
3. Permit issues:
 - a. proposed replacement of riverfront house in Chesterfield - will result in less impervious surface. No concerns, but will remind that a dock permit could be needed
 - b. Replacement transmission line in Chesterfield and Hinsdale - some poles will be replaced in wetlands using wooden mats to transport heavy equipment. Thorough application has been prepared, but construction plan has not been provided. Will affect eagle nesting area. Project should be monitored.
 - c. Dioxin discharge proposed in Bellows Falls - strategy appears to be dilution; question whether dioxin could be at least partially removed by routing contaminated groundwater through the WWTF and removed with solids rather than directly to the outfall. Will ask for monitoring to be sure the discharge remains below the threshold and whether construction time can be shortened.
4. Cheshire County Farm - no news on possible future use. Upgrades to wastewater treatment plant will occur with economic stimulus funding.
5. Ball Mountain Dam - investigations for possible installation of hydroelectric generating capability at the dam have led to discovery of significant instability. Army Corps is looking into possible remedies, and in the meantime will keep pool lower behind this dam and rely more heavily on Townshend Dam just downstream for flood control.
6. The New Connecticut River Water Resources Management Plan for the Wantastiquet region- Public presentation by Adair to an audience of approximately 10.