North American Megadam Resistance Alliance

Protecting rivers and their communities by resisting megadams and their transmission corridors

www.northeastmegadamresistance.org

NAMRA NEWS

Earth Day Events a Big Success!

NAMRA joined the worldwide celebration of the 50th anniversary of Earth Day with three virtual events and the release of a new 5-minute film on hydropower impacts. We also commemorated the 30th anniversary of the momentous Odeyak Voyage of Indigenous Cree and Inuit people to NYC to stop Hydro-Quebec's plans to build more dams in James Bay, Canada.

More here:
Recordings available:  
Megadams = Megadamage  
Sunrise Movement Worcester MA hosts NAMRA Speakers  
Matthew Mukash (Eeyou Wisdom Keeper, 1990 Odeyak Voyage to NYC), Sandi Howard (Say NO to NECEC), Amy Norman (Labrador Land Protectors).  

Stop Megadam Financing  
NAMRA hosted a panel of experts discussing the Muskrat Falls Inquiry, megadam financing, and much more!  

Odeyak Earth Day 2020: New Film on hydropower impacts!  
Standing Bear Indigenous Media Network released a powerful 5-minute film about the impacts of megadams and the cultural genocide of Indigenous people whose lands, livelihoods, and communities have been destroyed by 100 years of colonialism in the form of Canadian megadam hydropower development and US exports. The film documents the Odeyak campaign.  

Photo of one of the Odeyaks used by the Cree and Inuit travelers during the 1990 Odeyak Voyage (Photo courtesy of ACCI News).  

NAMRA joins call for NYC to stop dirty energy projects like $3 billion CHPE Canadian hydro transmission corridor  
Over 130 social and climate justice groups sent a letter to Mayor Bill de Blasio and NYC elected officials seeking to ensure that impacts of the climate crisis are properly addressed as part of rebuilding after COVID-19. The letter includes a call for 100% publicly-owned local renewable energy. Private investor TDI Developers is promoting the $3 billion Champlain Hudson Power Express transmission corridor to import more Canadian hydropower to NYC --- the opposite of local, publicly owned
Multinational corporations spend $9 million in Maine to promote $950 million NECEC Canadian hydro transmission corridor

Canadian monopoly Hydro-Quebec and the private developers of New England Clean Energy Connect corridor (a project under the name of Central Maine Power) spent $9 million in six months in a desperate attempt to win public approval of the controversial project. A report by the Natural Resources Council of Maine details the expenditures and explains why the project is a bad idea for Maine. The project is still under regulatory review. A voter referendum is on the November 2020 ballot and if passed will stop the corridor.

NAMRA'S UPCOMING EVENTS

Join NAMRA and for allies virtual events to hear more about our campaign and learn why Canadian hydropower imports to the US are a climate disaster and destroy rivers and communities.

May 12, 2020 @ 8 p.m. EST
Manitoba Energy Justice Coalition Meeting
Information here

May 19, 2020 @ 7 p.m. EST
Sierra Club, Maine Chapter
Community Conversation with NAMRA's coordinator Meg Sheehan and Sandi Howard of Maine (see Sandi's bio below).
Information here

May 27, 2020 @ 7 p.m. EST
Sierra Club, Vermont Chapter
Community Conversation Megadams = Megadamage with NAMRA's coordinator Meg Sheehan
Information here

TODAY'S LAND AND WATER PROTECTOR

Sandi Howard, Maine, USA

Howard directs the Say NO to NECEC campaign to stop the planned hydropower
impacting scenic views, harming wildlife, suppressing Maine’s renewable energy industry, and harming the climate --- all without any clear benefit to Maine or Massachusetts taxpayers and ratepayers. Howard is a Maine native, river guide, and college music professor.

Sandi Howard and Say NO to NECEC at the Maine State House in Augusta.

COMMENTARY
Meg Sheehan, Coordinator, NAMRA

NAMRA’s network continues to grow exponentially. We are proud allies of Wa Ni Ska Tan, an Indigenous-led alliance in Canada, grassroots groups opposing B.C. Hydro’s Site C, alliances in Labrador, Canada opposing Nalcor Energy's expansion plans, and communities in Manitoba concerned about the Keeyask megadam there.

NAMRA Report confirms what we all know: Hydro-Quebec is building and planning more new megadams across Eastern Canada for export to the US. The Canadian hydropower industry is on a greenwashing campaign to try to portray these destructive projects as clean and renewable. They are anything but: they destroy rivers, displace communities, and cause methylmercury poisoning. Local ratepayers often receive little to no benefit from these projects which burden Canadian provinces with increased debt and rate hikes. Our allies, the Manitoba Energy Justice Coalition are working on similar energy justice issues in Manitoba. Visit their website to learn how you can help support them.

Thank you for your interest in our work and stay well!
-The Editors

TAKE ACTION
Sign and share NAMRA's petition calling on leaders throughout the Northeast U.S. to reject dirty Canadian hydropower.