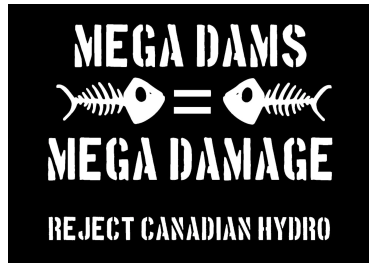


North American Megadam Resistance Alliance

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



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Controversy over Blackstone's transmission corridor for Canadian hydropower to NYC

NY Public Service Commission urged to reject permit

New York – North American Megadam Resistance Alliance (NAMRA) joined an international network of groups opposing Blackstone Group's proposed Canadian hydropower transmission corridor to New York City. Blackstone/TDI is seeking a fourth change to the 2013 New York Public Service Commission (PSC) permit for the Champlain Hudson Power Express (CHPE). The 333 mile-long 1,000-megawatt high voltage direct current cables are proposed to be buried primarily under waterways.

On October 9, 2020, Blackstone filed a request with the PSC to route cables through Randall's Island Park under athletic fields, roads and pedestrian pathways

splicing structures.

The PSC held a public statement hearing on December 1, 2020 where local group Stony Point Action Committee for the Environment, Inc. and others raised concerns about the changing route, lack of transparency and financial secrecy. Comments to the PSC can be viewed [here](#).

The [Hudson River Drinking Water Intermunicipal Council](#) of seven communities (Hudson 7) informed the PSC it has "serious concerns about construction-related risks" to drinking water supplies. The Council asked the PSC to further amend the project to protect drinking water. [The Towboat and Harbor Carriers Association](#) "strongly requested" that the application be denied to prevent risks and dangers to vessel safety and navigation on the Hudson River and harbors.

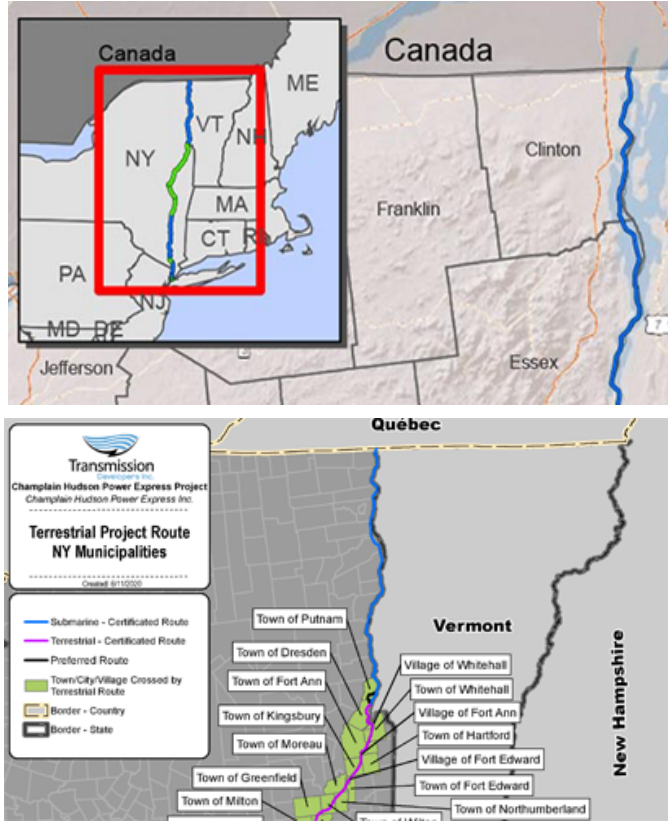
In October 2020, the Center for Biological Diversity, Innu Nation of Labrador (Canada) and NAMRA sent a [Notice of Violation](#) of environmental laws to federal agencies asserting endangered Atlantic Sturgeon will be harmed by burying the cables in the Hudson River.

Most of the electricity to be delivered by CHPE to New York is from a vast network of Hydro-Quebec megadams and reservoirs on ancestral lands of Indigenous people in Canada. Recent challenges to Hydro-Quebec's authority to export the electricity have come from the [Innu Nation of Labrador](#) and the [Innu Anishnabek Atikamekw Political Coalition](#). CHPE project puts the negative externalities of New York's energy consumption onto Indigenous communities in Canada and destroys rivers.

"CHPE faces regulatory uncertainty, legal challenges and growing public opposition," said Meg Sheehan, NAMRA Coordinator. "From Indigenous First Nations in Canada, New York's seven municipalities seeking to protect their drinking water from the industrial drilling, blasting and dredging in the Hudson River required for the project, and groups protecting the world's biodiversity," said Meg Sheehan, NAMRA Coordinator. "CHPE cannot start construction without a 25-year contract for 75% of the electricity – which it does not have. This is a speculative arbitrage scheme. It is not in the interest of New York's renewable energy economy. The PSC should reject Blackstone's application because it is not in the interest of New Yorkers."

50 Years Past Due
Quebec Hydro Clash

Route maps of Champlain Hudson Power Express



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