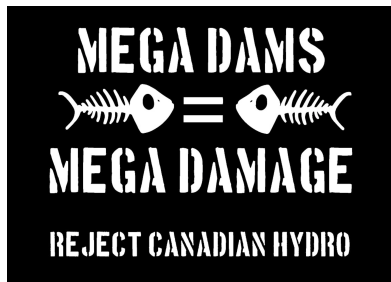


[Subscribe](#)[Past Issues](#)[Translate ▼](#)

North American Megadam Resistance Alliance

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



Press Release

September 20, 2021

New York Selects Destructive Canadian Hydropower from Hydro-Quebec along with NYPA Clean Path as In-State Supply

Contact:

North American Megadam Resistance Alliance

Meg Sheehan, Coordinator

508-259-9154

207-205-2611

coordinator.namra@gmail.com

New York – Today, New York Governor Kathy Hochul at the NYC Climate Week event announced that the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA) has chosen bids from New York Power Authority's (NYPA) Clean Path and Hydro Quebec's and Blackstone's plan to import nearly 1,250 megawatts of hydropower to be transmitted from Quebec to Queens via the Champlain Hudson Power Express (CHPE) transmission corridor.

Governor Hochul is misinformed regarding her claim that this is a "transformative project" and a "win-win." CHPE is a merchant transmission project owned by Blackstone and would benefit Blackstone investors. This destructive

[Subscribe](#)[Past Issues](#)[Translate ▼](#)

adversely impact the ecosystems of the Hudson River. All rivers must be protected.

The CHPE project still must be approved by the New York Public Service Commission (PSC) and is far from a done deal. River protection advocates will fight this to the end. NYSERDA has been assigned to this power procurement and should prefer renewable electricity produced in-state to truly benefit New York and its energy economy. Hydro-Quebec's power is not "low cost" as it is subsidized by the people of Quebec and the First Nations and their territories where megadams extract this power from. The selection of Canadian hydropower does not benefit local New York power producers.

The CHPE project and Canadian hydropower generation are actively opposed by river protection, conservation, and environmental justice groups as well as front-line Indigenous communities due to the long-term negative impacts they have on the health and safety of the Hudson River and on ecosystems and hydro-impacted communities in Canada. The Center for Biological Diversity has warned that "CHPE will harm threatened Atlantic Sturgeon while bringing dirty hydropower from Canada." Hudson Riverkeeper opposes the project due to the harm it will cause to the Hudson River as well as Canadian hydropower's devastating impacts on Indigenous communities.

Canadian hydropower would not help the state significantly reduce its greenhouse gas emissions. "The best available science indicates that Quebec hydropower emits as much climate pollution as natural gas powerplants," said Gary Wockner of Save the World's Rivers.

The hypocrisy of New York attempting to address the climate crisis and support disadvantaged and vulnerable communities by procuring hydropower extracted from Indigenous lands in Canada cannot be overlooked. In May, the Innu First Nation of Pessamit, the Atikamekw First Nation of Wemotaci, and the three Anishnabek First Nations of Pikogan, Lac Simon, and Kitcisakik sent a letter to New York City Deputy Mayor Dean Fuleihan denouncing and strongly condemning the detrimental effects that CHPE and the power it would carry has on their lives and traditional territories. Canadian hydropower is a human rights disaster and New York must solve its own energy problems in-state without relying on these destructive electricity imports.

[Subscribe](#)

[Past Issues](#)

[Translate](#) ▼

