

PERMIT

Permittee: Town of Vernon
55 West Main Street
Vernon, CT 06066

Attention: Mr. David Smith

Permit No: DS-201603541

Town: Vernon

Project: Paper Mill Pond Dam (DEEP ID #14606; Hazard Class C, (High Hazard))

Waters: Upper Hockanum River

Pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes Section 22a-403, the Commissioner of Energy and Environmental Protection (“Commissioner”) hereby grants a permit to the Town of Vernon (“the Permittee”) to conduct regulated activities associated with Paper Mill Pond Dam. The purpose of said activities is to replace the hydraulic control of Paper Mill Pond dam with a new 3.7 foot high reinforced concrete weir located approximately 250 feet upstream of the existing dam.

AUTHORIZED ACTIVITY

Specifically, the permittee is authorized to remove the Paper Mill Pond dam at its current location and construct a new reinforced concrete weir with a low level outlet at a location 250 feet upstream of the existing dam.

The activities proposed will impact Paper Mill Pond dam and the Upper Hockanum River. The proposed work will occur during the summer of 2016.

All activities shall be conducted in accordance with plans entitled: “Town of Vernon-Former Amerbelle Mill-Phase 2” prepared by GZA GeoEnvironmental, Inc. dated February 12, 2016, and submitted as a part of the application.

This authorization constitutes the licenses and approvals required by Section 22a-403 of the Connecticut General Statutes.

This authorization is subject to and does not derogate any present or future property rights or other rights or powers of the State of Connecticut, conveys no property rights in real estate or material nor any exclusive privileges, and is further subject to any and all public and private rights and to any federal, state, or local laws or regulations pertinent to the property or activity affected thereby.

The permittee's failure to comply with the terms and conditions of this permit shall subject the permittee, including the permittee's agents or contractor(s) to enforcement actions and penalties as provided by law.

This authorization is subject to the following conditions:

CONDITIONS:

1. **Expiration.** This permit shall expire three years following the date of issue unless this permit is specifically renewed.
2. **Construction Commencement and Completion.** If construction of any structures or facilities authorized herein is not completed within three years of issuance of this permit or within such other time as may be provided by this permit, or if any activity authorized herein is not commenced within three years of issuance of this permit or within such other time as may be provided by this permit, this permit shall expire three years after issuance or at the end of such time as may be authorized by the Commissioner.
3. **Notification of Project Initiation.**
 - a. The permittee shall notify the Commissioner in writing no less than seven (7) days prior to commencement of permitted activities and no less than seven (7) days following completion of permitted activities.
 - b. The permittee shall, pursuant to Section 22a-377(b)-1(a)(16)C of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies, notify the Commissioner and any potentially affected water company in writing at least seven (7) days prior to the lowering of Paper Mill Pond for the purpose of undertaking permitted activities.
4. **De minimis Alteration.** The permittee may not make any alterations, except de minimis alterations, to any structure, facility, or activity authorized by this permit unless the permittee applies for and receives a modification of this permit. A de minimis alteration means a change in the design, construction or operation authorized under this permit that does not increase environmental impacts or substantively alter the construction of the project as permitted.
5. **Maintenance of Structures.** All structures, facilities, or activities constructed, maintained, or conducted pursuant hereto shall be consistent with the terms and conditions of this permit, and any structure, facility or activity not specifically authorized by this permit, or exempted pursuant to section 22a-377 of the General Statutes or section 22a-377(b)-1 of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies, or otherwise exempt pursuant to other General Statutes, shall constitute a violation hereof which may result in

modification, revocation or suspension of this permit or in the institution of other legal proceedings to enforce its terms and conditions.

6. **Accuracy of Documentation.** In issuing this permit, the Commissioner has relied on information provided by the permittee. If such information was false, incomplete, or misleading, this permit may be modified, suspended or revoked and the permittee may be subject to any other remedies or penalties provided by law.
7. **Best Management Practices & Notification of Adverse Impact.** In constructing or maintaining any structure or facility or conducting any activity authorized herein, the permittee shall employ best management practices to control storm water discharges, to prevent erosion and sedimentation, and to otherwise prevent pollution of wetlands and other waters of the State. Best Management Practices include, but are not limited to practices identified in the *Connecticut Guidelines for Soil Erosion and Sediment Control* as revised, *2004 Connecticut Stormwater Quality Manual*, Department of Transportation's *ConnDOT Drainage Manual* as revised, and the Department of Transportation Standard Specifications as revised.

The permittee shall immediately inform the Commissioner of any adverse impact or hazard to the environment which occurs or is likely to occur as the direct result of the construction, maintenance, or conduct of structures, facilities, or activities authorized herein.

8. **Reporting of Violations.** The permittee shall, no later than 48 hours after the permittee learns of a violation of this permit, report same in writing to the Commissioner. Such report shall contain the following information:
 - a. the provision(s) of this permit that has been violated;
 - b. the date and time the violation(s) was first observed and by whom;
 - c. the cause of the violation(s), if known
 - d. if the violation(s) has ceased, the duration of the violation(s) and the exact date(s) and times(s) it was corrected;
 - e. if the violation(s) has not ceased, the anticipated date when it will be corrected;
 - f. steps taken and steps planned to prevent a reoccurrence of the violation(s) and the date(s) such steps were implemented or will be implemented;
 - g. the signatures of the permittee and of the individual(s) responsible for actually preparing such report, each of whom shall certify said report in accordance with condition 12 of this permit.
9. **Material Storage in the Floodplain.** The storage of any materials at the site which are buoyant, hazardous, flammable, explosive, soluble, expansive, radioactive, or which could in the event of a flood be injurious to human, animal or plant life, below the elevation of the five-hundred (500) year flood is prohibited. Any other material or equipment stored at

the site below said elevation by the permittee or the permittee's contractor must be firmly anchored, restrained or enclosed to prevent flotation. The quantity of fuel stored below such elevation for equipment used at the site shall not exceed the quantity of fuel that is expected to be used by such equipment in one day.

10. **Permit Transfer.** This permit is not transferable without the prior written consent of the Commissioner.
11. **Contractor Notification.** The permittee shall give a copy of this permit to the contractor(s) who will be carrying out the activities authorized herein prior to the start of construction and shall receive a written receipt for such copy, signed and dated by such contractor(s). The permittee's contractor(s) shall conduct all operations at the site in full compliance with this permit and, to the extent provided by law, may be held liable for any violation of the terms and conditions of this permit.
12. **Certification of Documents.** Any document, including but not limited to any notice, which is required to be submitted to the Commissioner under this permit shall be signed by the permittee or a responsible corporate officer of the permittee, a general partner of the permittee, and by the individual or individuals responsible for actually preparing such document, each of whom shall certify in writing as follows:

“I have personally examined and am familiar with the information submitted in this document and all attachments thereto and I certify that based on reasonable investigation, including my inquiry of the individuals responsible for obtaining the information, the submitted information is true, accurate and complete to the best of my knowledge and belief. I understand that a false statement in the submitted information may be punishable as a criminal offense in accordance with Section 22a-6 of the General Statutes, pursuant to Section 53a-157b and in accordance with any other applicable statute.”
13. **Submission of Documents.** Any document or notice required to be submitted to the Commissioner under this permit shall, unless otherwise specified in writing by the Commissioner, be directed to:

Director, Inland Water Resources Division
Department of Energy and Environmental Protection
79 Elm Street
Hartford, CT 06106-5127

The date of submission to the Commissioner of any document required by this permit shall be the date such document is received by the Commissioner. The date of any notice by the Commissioner under this permit, including but not limited to notice of approval or disapproval on any document or other action, shall be the date such notice is personally

delivered or the date three days after it is mailed by the Commissioner, whichever is earlier. Except as otherwise specified in this permit, the word "day" means any calendar day. Any document or action which is required by this permit to be submitted or performed by a date which falls on a Saturday, Sunday or legal holiday shall be submitted or performed by the next business day thereafter.

- 14. Rights.** This permit is subject to and does not derogate any rights or powers of the State of Connecticut, conveys no property rights or exclusive privileges, and is subject to all public and private rights and to all applicable federal, state, and local law. In constructing or maintaining any structure or facility or conducting any activity authorized herein, the permittee may not cause pollution, impairment, or destruction of the air, water, or other natural resources of this State. The issuance of this permit shall not create any presumption that this permit should be renewed.

15. Dam Safety Conditions.

- a. This permit and a copy of the approved plans and specifications shall be kept at the project site and made available to the Commissioner at any time during the construction of permitted activities.
- b. Permitted activities shall be performed under the supervision of an engineer who is licensed to practice in the State of Connecticut and who is familiar with dam construction. Said engineer shall, upon completion of the permitted activities, certify to the Commissioner in writing that the permitted activities have been completed according to the approved plans and specifications.
- c. Within thirty (30) days of completion of the permitted activities, permittee shall submit to the Commissioner record drawings depicting the dam construction as completed, including any deviations from the approved plans and specifications. Said drawings shall be prepared and sealed by the engineer who oversaw the construction. In addition, the permittee shall arrange for submission of an electronic copy of the final record drawings in Adobe Acrobat "pdf" format.
- d. Nothing in this chapter and no order, approval or advice of the Commissioner, shall relieve any owner or operator of {a dam} from his legal duties, obligations and liabilities resulting from such ownership or operation. No action for damages sustained through the partial or total failure of any structure or its maintenance shall be brought or maintained against the state, the Commissioner of Energy and Environmental Protection, or his employees or agents.

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(DEEP ID # 14606) Draft Permit
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Issued by the Commissioner of Energy and Environmental Protection on:

Date

Betsey C. Wingfield
Bureau Chief
Water Protection and Land Reuse