



**SIERRA  
CLUB**  
FOUNDED 1892

## **LOWER HUDSON GROUP**

c/o George Klein  
74 Croton Dam Road  
Ossining, NY 10562  
(914) 941-2505

August 2, 2010

**Dr. Jerry Pell**  
**Office of Electricity Delivery and Energy Reliability (OE-20)**  
**U. S. Department of Energy**  
**1000 Independence Avenue, SW**  
**Washington, DC 20585**

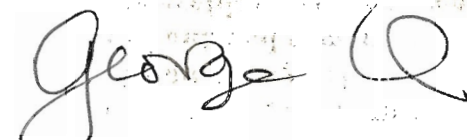
**Re: Application for Presidential Permit;**  
**Champlain Hudson Power Express, Inc.**  
**Scoping Comments**

**Dear Dr. Pell,**

**These are our respectfully submitted comments on scoping for the EIS in this matter.**

- 1. The Champlain Hudson Power Express project would encourage perpetuation of reliance on an antiquated type of energy production and consumption, instead of encouraging domestic renewable energy sources, which we urgently need to combat climate change. If the Champlain Hudson Power Express project were simply not to be built, and demand continued to grow, there would be more relative demand for renewable energy. For renewable energy to succeed, it needs more demand, more markets, and lowering of costs that come with increasing scale, as soon as possible. Therefore, the public interest would be better served if Champlain Hudson Power Express were not built, and we regard this as worthy of inclusion in the scoping.**
- 2. The Champlain Hudson Power Express project would encourage construction of dam-powered hydropower, which raises serious environmental justice issues in Quebec. This type of power is not defined as a renewable energy source for the purposes of New York State's Renewable Energy Portfolio (free-flowing river water is defined as renewable). These two points we regard as worthy of inclusion in the scoping.**
- 3. From an economic perspective, purchasing of energy from outside New York State is bad for the state's balance of payments, as well as our national balance of payments. The public interest would not be served by the project from this perspective, and we ask that this be considered in the scoping.**

**Sincerely,**

  
**George Klein**  
**Chairman**