



Adirondack Park Agency

SHERMAN CRAIG
Chairman

TERRY MARTINO
Executive Director

MEMORANDUM

TO: Terry Martino, Executive Director

FROM: Richard Weber, Deputy Director-Regulatory Programs *REW*

DATE: July 6, 2017

RE: General Permit 2017G-1; Access to and Replacement of Utility Poles in Wetlands

Please find attached the above-referenced, proposed general permit, GP 2017G-1 and a draft order. Pursuant to 9 NYCRR § 572.23, staff recommend Agency approval of the proposed general permit.

The proposed general permit will allow regional and municipal utility companies to access and replace utility poles located in wetlands on lands or rights of way owned by the utility company. There will be no increase in the number of utility poles allowed under this permit.

Agency General Permit 2017G-1 is a renewal of Agency General Permit 2014G-2, approved by the Agency in April 2014. No material changes are proposed in the renewal of General Permit 2014G-2. Based on the successful implementation of the general permit in the last three years, the three year expiration date was eliminated.

Pursuant to 6 NYCRR § 617.5(26), the renewal of a permit with no material change to the permit constitutes a Type II action for purposes of complying with the State Environmental Quality Review Act ("SEQR"). Therefore, no environmental impact statement or other additional SEQR documentation is required.

At its May 2017 meeting, the Agency authorized solicitation of public comment on the proposed General Permit 2017G-1. One comment was received, which is attached. The comment was generally supportive of the general permit and encourages the Agency to be more assertive in reviewing proposed projects and enforcing Best Management Practices. The proposed general permit provides that the Agency may conduct on-site investigations, examinations and evaluations as it deems necessary to ensure compliance with the terms and conditions of the permit. No changes have been made to the proposed general permit since the May meeting.

Attachments: Draft Order
Draft General Permit 2017G-1
Public Comment Letter