



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
MISSISSIPPI VALLEY DIVISION, CORPS OF ENGINEERS
P.O. BOX 80
VICKSBURG, MISSISSIPPI 39181-0080

REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF:

CEMVD-PD-N

30 September 2011

MEMORANDUM FOR Commander, North Atlantic Division
ATTN: (Roselle Henn, CENAD-PSD-P)

SUBJECT: Connecticut River Ecosystem Restoration, Connecticut, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, and Vermont Watershed Study, New England District, Ecosystem Planning Center of Expertise Recommendation for Review Plan Approval

1. References:

- a. Engineering Circular (EC) 1165-2-209, Water Resources Policies and Authorities, CIVIL WORKS REVIEW POLICY, 31 Jan 2010
- b. EC 1105-2-412, Assuring Quality of Planning Models, 31 March 2011
- c. Engineering Regulation (ER) 1110-2-12, Quality Management, 30 Sep 2006

2. The enclosed Review Plan (RP) complies with all applicable policy and provides an adequate Agency Technical Review (ATR) of the plan formulation, engineering, and environmental analyses, and other aspects of plan development. The Ecosystem Restoration Planning Center of Expertise (ECO-PCX) has reviewed the RP and documentation of the review is enclosed.

3. The RP includes a risk informed decision regarding Type I Independent External Peer Review (IEPR) for this study. The study is a Corps-led watershed effort that will not evaluate specific projects for Corps construction. As such, IEPR and an exclusion request are not required. However, the vertical team should discuss if a single IEPR for the watershed effort is more cost effective than potential multiple IEPRs on any follow-on studies that may be undertaken as a result of this study.

4. The Hydrologic Engineering Center - Ecosystem Flow Model (HEC-EFM) used in this study is under review by the ECO-PCX. ECO-PCX will need to recommend single-use application of this model on the study if the model certification is not completed prior to submission of the feasibility report to Headquarters. ATR of the study should include the review of the model's application.

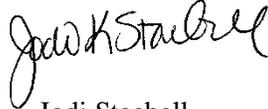
5. The ECO-PCX concurs with the attached RP. Upon approval by the MSC Commander, please provide the approved RP, the MSC Commander's approval memorandum, and the link to the District posting of the RP to Jodi Staebell. When substantive revisions are made to the RP, such as changes in project scope or Corps policy, a revised RP should be provided to the ECO-PCX for review. Non-substantive changes do not require further PCX review.

6. Thank you for the opportunity to assist in the preparation of the Review Plan. We look forward to working with you on ATR and Model Review.

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Enclosures (1)

Jodi Staebell
Operational Director,
National Ecosystem Planning
Center of Expertise

CF:

CEMVD-PD-N (Wilbanks, Smith, Staebell)

CENAD-PD-P (Vietri, Cocchieri)

CENAE-EP-PS (Hatfield)

CECW-NAD (Shuman)

CEMVR-PD-F (Knollenberg)

CELRN-PM-P (Ferguson)