

## THE FUTURE OF THE GREEN RIVER RESERVOIR

Dear Friends, September 20, 2016 The Friends of Green River Reservoir is a non-profit membership organization dedicated to preserving the Green River Reservoir. The Friends of Green River Reservoir Board of Directors ( "the Board") have been actively engaged in monitoring Morrisville Water and Light's(MW&L) Federal Energy Regulatory Commission Green River Reservoir Dam re-licensing process. This is a complex process involving multiple parties that began in 2010. As recently reported in the media, this re-licensing process has been highly contentious.

On August 9, 2016, as required by Federal law, the VT Agency of Natural Resources ( ANR) filed with FERC their decision regarding the Water Quality Certification that would apply to MW&L's 4 hydroelectric generation projects under review. The GRR Dam is one of those 4 projects. On September 7th, MW&L filed with the Vermont Environmental Court an appeal of ANR's August 9th decision. On September 9th, the American Whitewater and Vermont Paddlers Club, Inc. filed a separate appeal of ANR's decision regarding the number of summer water releases. These appeals automatically result in a proceeding being opened in VT's Environmental Court and will stay implementation of all newly proposed ANR recommendations. The timing of the conclusion of this process is hard to predict and could take more than 1 year. Consequently, the Board is actively seeking more detailed information regarding the issues at contention and will be advocating for reasonable, environmentally sound and sustainable solutions that include the ongoing sustainability of the Park's reservoir. To be able to influence this process, the Board will be seeking formal party status in the Environmental Court's proceeding. This will enable the Board to have access to all information that will form the basis of any court decision, question witnesses, ask for additional information, and be part of any formal and informal negotiations. We will file our intervention request by September 27th, and should know the outcome of that request before October's end.

The Board plans to actively communicate with our membership as to the status of this process as we work towards a solution that ensures the preservation of the reservoir. We believe that one constructive step right now would be build the FGRR membership base and therefore encourage you to reach out to your friends to become FGRR members. Anyone can join the FGRR by FGRR website at <http://www.fgrvt.org/get-involved/> This will provide us with a credible and strong base of community support for any steps needed to preserve the treasure that we have in the Green River Reservoir.

Michael J. Wickenden

For the Friends of Green River Reservoir Board