

## **Adjoining Landowner Stabilization Program Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)**

### **1. What is the Adjoining Landowner Stabilization Program?**

As part of an Agreement between the New York Power Authority (Authority or NYPA) and local municipalities signed when the St. Lawrence FDR Power Project received a new license, the Authority agreed to establish and fund a program that under which landowners adjoining Project lands could have small shoreline stabilization work done on Project shoreline adjoining their property. Small projects are defined as necessary stabilization work involving less than 200 feet of shoreline and estimated to cost less than \$50,000. This program will be managed by the Adjoining Landowner Stabilization Board (Board).

### **2. Who is an adjoining landowner?**

An “adjoining landowner” or “adjacent landowner” is defined as an individual or individuals who own property that adjoins either the Project boundary or the NYPA-owned shoreline buffer.

### **3. Who is represented on the Adjoining Landowner Stabilization Board and what do they do?**

The Board is comprised of three members from the towns within the Project. These towns are Massena, Louisville, and Waddington. Each member was selected by the respective town officials.

The duties of the Board include reviewing complete applications, selecting projects to be funded, and approval of the completed project.

### **4. Does the Authority have a role in the program?**

Yes, the Authority has several roles. The Authority provides administrative and technical support for the Board. The Authority also has offered to provide support for projects that have been selected for funding. And, of course, the Authority will provide the annual funding for the program.

For the Board, administrative support includes reviewing applications for completeness and providing the Board with other information that it requests for its evaluation. After the Board selects the projects that will be done during a given year, the Authority provides the Board with staff to inspect the work during construction and provides the Board with an indication that the work has been satisfactorily completed.

For the adjoining landowner, the Authority has offered to provide the landowner with engineering assistance in designing the work and in assistance obtaining the required permits. The Authority has also offered to perform the work if the landowner so requests.

### **5. How can I participate in this program?**

In order to participate in this program, an applicant takes several steps. First, you review the maps to determine if the proposed site is within the area covered by this program. Then you complete an application that provides information about the site and the proposed stabilization methods. The application and other, supporting information is submitted for consideration. The application provides the information necessary for the Board to evaluate the application. The application is submitted to the Authority which will review it for completeness after which it is forwarded to the Board. Applications can be picked up at your municipal office or requested through your ALSP Board representative or by contacting NYPA.

**6. What does the application consist of?**

The application consists of a set of instructions, a two-page application form, maps of the shoreline that this program applies to, and diagrams of five conceptual stabilization methods that are approved for use on the St. Lawrence River shore.

**7. What are the five approved conceptual shoreline stabilization methods?**

These are five different shoreline stabilization methods that were identified by an engineering firm with experience in addressing shoreline erosion in the Project area. When properly constructed, each of these is expected to sufficiently protect the shoreline from further erosion.

**8. Will all applications be accepted?**

All complete applications will be accepted by the Board. If the initial review of an application determines that it is incomplete, it will be returned to the applicant with an explanation of the needed information. The applicant then has the opportunity to add the requested information and resubmit the application.

**What is the deadline for submitting?**

The Board has set July 15, as the deadline for receipt of applications for consideration of work in the following year. The Board anticipates that successful applicants will be notified before the end of October.

**9. How will my application be reviewed?**

The Board will meet each fall to select projects for funding in the following year. At this meeting, the Board will consider all complete applications received by the 15<sup>th</sup> of July. In reviewing applications, the Board will consider, among other things, the rate of erosion and potential to affect structures on adjoining property. Cost will also be considered.

**10. What does it cost for me to participate?**

There is no cost associated with the application. In terms of cost of the stabilization work, the Authority will provide annual funding for the work, up to an estimated cost of \$50,000. As part of the application, the landowner may propose to share the cost of the engineering work and/or the

stabilization work itself. The Board will consider cost sharing as the Board members believe that such cost sharing can allow for more projects to be funded each year.

**11. What will be the amount of the annual funding?**

The Authority and the local municipalities have agreed to an annual funding level of \$125,000. This funding will be provided for a period of 8 to 10 years, the period of time that the Authority estimates it will take to complete other major shoreline work that the Authority will do separately. Funds not expended in a year will be available in the following year for shoreline work.

**12. What happens if my application is not accepted for funding?**

Complete applications not selected for funding in a given year will not be discarded. The Board will retain these applications for consideration in following year(s). It will not be necessary for landowners who have submitted a complete application to reapply.

**13. When will I receive the funds for the shoreline stabilization work?**

If the landowner elects to have the work done by a Contractor, the landowner will be reimbursed for the approved cost of the work after the final inspection is complete and the Board certifies that the work is in conformance with the application and applicable permits.

If the landowner requests that the Authority perform the shoreline work and the application is approved for funding by the Board, the Authority will obtain the necessary permits, perform the work, and will pay for approved costs of the work from the annual fund.

**14. Where can I find more information on this program?**

Persons can contact the Board member for their town for additional information or the Authority's representative, Cindy Brady, at (914) 287-3153