# Northern Rhode Island Regional Energy Collaborative

## Blackstone River Hydropower Feasibility Study

**Phase 1 Update** 



## **Regional Collaborative**

Towns of Cumberland, Lincoln & Glocester, and the City of Pawtucket in Coordination with:

- Blackstone River
  Watershed Council
- John H. Chafee Blackstone River National Corridor Commission
- Blackstone Valley Tourism Council
- RI Office of Energy Resources

 RI Economic Development Corporation

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- RI Foundation
- NOAA
- US FWS and
- RIDEM



## **Vision & Goals**

Develop clean renewable energy through a collaboration of public/private partnerships to:

- Improve dam safety
  - Provide cost effective, environmentally sustainable, local renewable energy
- Protect & enhance fishery resources
- Protect water quality
- Protect & enhance cultural and historic resources



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# **Hydro Feasibility Study**

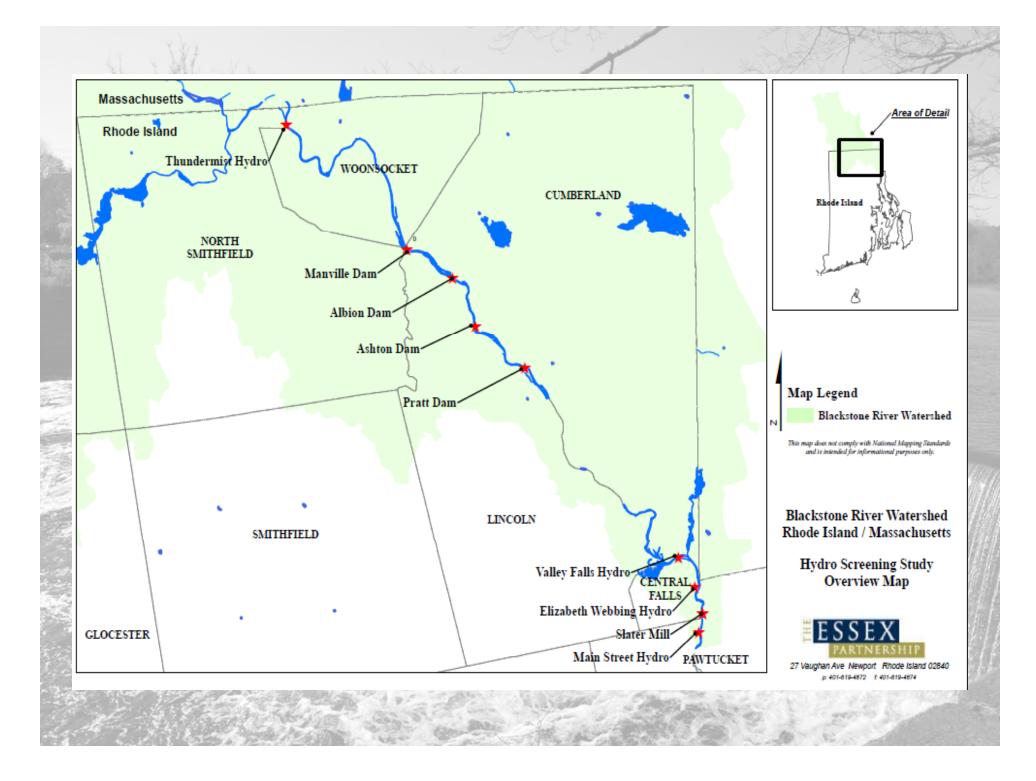
#### Phase 1

- Site Control / Dam Ownership
- Preliminary Dam Safety Inspections
- Site Hydraulics and Energy Estimates
- Regional Collaborative
- Initial Technical Screening

#### Phase 2

- Preliminary Engineering Optimization
- Environmental Assessment
- Economic Performance





### **Site Control**

State has ownership interests in:

- Albion RIDOT (dominant) & DEM
  - Ashton DEM
- Elizabeth Webbing DEM
  - Manville RIDOT & Cumberland



### **Dam Safety**

- Independent inspection April 2010
- Dams are stable; no immediate concerns
- Routine maintenance has been neglected:
  - Brush & tree removal
  - Re-pointing of masonry
  - Restoration of low level outlets
  - Flashboard & caplog repairs



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## **Site Hydraulics**

Dam Name	Published Dam Height (ft)	Actual Head (avg. ft)	Delta (ft)	% Change
Pratt	12	1.9	-10.1	-84%
Manville	22	13.4	-8.6	-39%
Albion	18	10.8	-7.2	-40%
Ashton	18	7.9	-10.1	-56%



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## **Energy Estimates**

No	Alternative	Installed Capacity (kW)	Average Power (KW)	Net Annual Energy (MWH)	
1	Ashton	833	359	3,023	
2	Albion	1,087	472	3,974	
3	Manville	1,374	591	4,976	
4	Elizabeth Webbing	700	350	4,360	
A	Ashton, Albion, Manville	3,294	1,422	11,973	
В	Albion, Manville, Webbing	3,161	1,413	13,310	
С	Ashton, Albion, Manville, Webbing	3,994	1,772	16,333	
CR&F					