

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE October 26, 2023 Contact: Andrea Smith, Program Director asmith@nbrc.gov (603) 369-3001

## Northern Border Regional Commission – U.S. Economic Development Administration Partner to Award \$3 Million in Maine, New Hampshire, New York & Vermont

Today, the Northern Border Regional Commission (NBRC) announces \$3 million in funding for four projects through a partnership between the NBRC and the U.S. Economic Development Administration (EDA) to amplify both agencies' economic development impact in Northern Border communities. The four awards will support vital water and wastewater infrastructure in rural communities across the region.

The total of the awards made in 2023 is \$3,000,000, and a summary of each of the awarded projects is below:

**Town of Eagle Lake, ME – \$750,000:** This project will fund critical wastewater infrastructure updates for a 40-year-old system that is relied upon by three communities and several businesses, while also providing protection to Eagle Lake and the region's natural resources. [Note: The NBRC also awarded this project an additional **\$250,000** as part of the Agency's Catalyst Program, on August 23, 2023]

**Town of Lancaster, NH – \$750,000:** Aged and outdated components put the town's water system at risk of poor drinking water quality, an increased potential for water main breaks, and insufficient water flow to hydrants. This project will address these concerns with the installation of a 500,000-gallon water-storage tank and valve near the Lancaster Public Water System plant. [Note: The NBRC also awarded this project an additional **\$50,000** as part of the Agency's Catalyst Program, on August 23, 2023]

**Town of Killington, VT – \$750,000:** Funding will provide infrastructure improvements including a municipal water system and a redesigned roadway system which is required for the development of the Six Peaks Killington Village project (a village at the base of the ski resort). [Note: The NBRC also awarded this project an additional **\$2,250,000** as part of the Agency's Catalyst Program, on August 23, 2023]

Town of Lawrence, NY - \$750,000: This project consists of septic upgrades and increased septic tank capacity, preserving sanitary sewer service to businesses and residences, and providing affordable sanitary sewer for the most vulnerable populations within the Town.

"These investments will help rural communities build and improve infrastructure that is critical to economic growth. Recognizing that the cost of these projects are often too expensive for residents and rate payers in small towns to undertake on their own, NBRC has prioritized the needs of very small communities in its grant making," said NBRC Federal Co-Chair Chris Saunders. "We are proud of this partnership with EDA, which will deliver this funding to four small towns all of which have populations under 5,000 people."

The NBRC has received a special appropriation since 2018 for these awards, which has resulted in working closely with the EDA to award funds to projects that meet the strategic objectives of both agencies.

The funds for this program, and all NBRC programs, are available thanks to the support of the Congressional Delegations of all four NBRC states: Maine, New Hampshire, New York, and Vermont.

Depending on the availability of funds in 2024, the NBRC anticipates another round of joint NBRC-EDA project awards next year. Please refer to NBRC's website, <u>www.nbrc.gov</u>, for announcements about future Funding Opportunities.

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## About the Northern Border Regional Commission (<u>www.nbrc.gov</u>)

Created in 2008, the Northern Border Regional Commission is a federal-state partnership whose mission is to help alleviate economic distress and encourage private sector job creation in Maine, New Hampshire, New York, and Vermont. In its thirteen-year history, including these new awards, the commission has awarded 387 grants, amounting to more than \$114 million in direct investment and \$416 million in additional leveraged investments, across the four states through its primary State Economic & Infrastructure Development (SEID) grant program and other special initiatives.

## About the U.S. Economic Development Administration (<u>www.eda.gov</u>)

The mission of the U.S. Economic Development Administration (EDA) is to lead the federal economic development agenda by promoting competitiveness and preparing the nation's regions for growth and success in the worldwide economy. An agency within the U.S. Department of Commerce, EDA makes investments in economically distressed communities in order to create jobs for U.S. workers, promote American innovation, and accelerate long-term sustainable economic growth.

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