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Timberland Management • Natural Resources • Real Estate • Land Conservation

January 14, 2013

Mr. Kenneth Hogan  
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC)  
[Kenneth.Hogan@ferc.gov](mailto:Kenneth.Hogan@ferc.gov)  
[Customer@ferc.gov](mailto:Customer@ferc.gov)

Dear Mr. Hogan:

I live on the Connecticut River in Gill, Massachusetts at 80 French King Highway (not a mailing address). First Light Power Company is my abutter to the east on Barton Cove, where this power company has a seasonal kayak rental facility on Route 2. I also annually lease a few feet of my water frontage from this hydro power company. I could not be more happy with First Light as my neighbor and my landlord. It's an excellent upstanding company.

I have the highest respect for First Light Power Company's local representatives, Mr. Howard and Mr. Gabriel. The recreational access, facilities, and equipment they provide are exceptional and very well run.

I read in the local paper that FERC will be holding some meetings locally to discuss community and environmental issues of concern regarding First Light's 2018 relicensing. In lieu of attending one of those meetings, I am opting to submit my comments to you in writing.

I am grateful for First Light's hydro power production, local jobs creation, and for all they contribute to the local community. I hope you will commend their efforts and relicense the facility without significant concerns.

I have just one environmental concern that you might potentially address in your relicensing process: Barton Cove is a man-made water storage area built on land today owned by First Light Power Company. Though the cove is filled with navigable water of the Connecticut River, the river-bottom land is First Light's private property. The recreational access provided to this area, especially from two adjacent public boat ramps, has contributed to Barton Cove being choked by exotic and invasive submerged aquatic plants that have gotten increasingly out of control. Swimming and recreating in this cove has become increasingly unpleasant. Because First Light draws draws water from this Cove up the river, and then releases water from the Cove down the river, these exotic invasive species spread. My request is that, as a condition of the relicensing, First Light manage invasive and nuisance aquatic vegetation in accordance with the 2004 "Final

Generic Environmental Impact report on Eutrophication and Aquatic Plant Management in Massachusetts.” Techniques including hydroraking and yearly herbicide applications to control the invasive plants should be applied on this First Light property under Barton Cove.

Thank you very much for reading my letter. In closing please let me reiterate that I have great respect and admiration for First Light and the people who represent the company locally. I appreciate the company’s contribution to the economy, renewable energy, and recreation and I hope you will look favorably on their relicensing requests.

Sincerely,

Cinda Jones  
9<sup>th</sup> Generation and President  
WD Cows, Inc., Land Company

CC: John Howard, First Light  
Bill Gabriel, First Light  
Micky Marcus, New England Environmental  
Tom Miner, FRPB, CRWC