



March 1, 2017

VIA ELECTRONIC FILING

Ms. Kimberly D. Bose
Secretary
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
888 First Street, NE
Washington, DC 20426

Re: FirstLight Hydro Generating Company, FERC Project Nos. 2485 and 1889 Filing of Study Reports

Dear Secretary Bose:

Pursuant to the schedule set forth in the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission's (FERC or Commission) Revised Process Plan and Schedule (Revised Schedule) issued May 5, 2016 for relicensing the Turners Falls Hydroelectric Project and Northfield Mountain Pumped Storage Project, FirstLight Hydro Generating Company (FirstLight) encloses for filing the following five study reports in support of the relicensing effort:

- *Study No. 3.3.10 Assess Operational Impacts on Emergence of State-Listed Odonates (2nd Year)
- *Study No. 3.3.20 Ichthyoplankton Entrainment Assessment at the Northfield Mountain Pumped Storage Project (2nd year)
- Study No. 3.3.5 Evaluate Downstream Passage of American Eel
- Study No. 3.3.19 Evaluate the Use of an Ultrasound Array to Facilitate Upstream Movement to Turners Falls Dam by avoiding Cabot Tailrace
- Study No. 3.8.1 Evaluate Impacts of Modes of Operation on Flow, Water Elevation and Hydropower Generation

*These reports were filed with FERC on December 28, 2016. In the cover letter of that filing, FirstLight requested that stakeholders withhold comment on these two reports to align with the three additional reports being filed today.

Process and Schedule Overview

Consistent with the Commission's Revised Schedule issued on May 5, 2016, FirstLight will hold a meeting with stakeholders and Commission staff to discuss the results of the five studies listed above. The meeting will take place at the Hotel Northampton Inn (36 King Street, Northampton, MA) on March 16, 2017 from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm. Included in [Attachment A](#) is the agenda.

In addition to the five study reports, as required by FERC in its February 17, 2017 Study Plan Determination Letter, FirstLight would like to consult with stakeholders on a process for developing the Habitat Suitability Index (HSI) curves for Sea Lamprey at this meeting.

Gus Bakas

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For those who cannot attend in person, FirstLight will post the PowerPoint presentation to the Northfield website (<http://www.northfieldrelicensing.com/Pages/default.aspx>) prior to the March 16, 2017 meeting. In addition, FirstLight is offering the following call-in number 1-866-228-9900, Passcode 946935, for those who cannot attend in person.

Pursuant to the Commission's May 5, 2016 Revised Schedule, within 15 days following the study report meeting (March 16, 2017), FirstLight will file a meeting summary. Commission staff or any stakeholder may file a disagreement concerning the meeting summary and include any requests to modify the studies, or propose new studies, within 30 days (April 30, 2017; however, this falls on a Sunday, hence the due date is May 1, 2017). FirstLight will then have 30 days (May 30, 2017) to respond to the study disputes. Within 30 days (June 29, 2017) of FirstLight's response, any remaining disagreement will be resolved by the Commission, and the study plan will be amended, if necessary.

Study Report Availability

FirstLight is filing the five study reports with the Commission electronically. To access the reports on the FERC website (<http://www.ferc.gov>), go to the "eLibrary" link, and enter the docket number, P-1889 or P-2485, to access the document. FirstLight is also making the reports available for download at the following website: <http://www.northfieldrelicensing.com>.

If you have any questions, or need additional information, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Gus Bakas". The signature is stylized and written in a cursive-like font.

Gus Bakas

Attachment A: Agenda for Study Report Meeting, March 16, 2017

Times	Study
9:00-9:30 am	Introductions, Meeting Objectives, Schedule
9:30-10:15 am	<i>Study No. 3.3.10</i> 2 nd Year Assess Operational Impacts on Emergence of State-Listed Odonates
10:15-10:30 am	15-minute break
10:30-11:15 am	<i>Study No. 3.3.20</i> 2 nd Year Ichthyoplankton Study
11:15-Noon	<i>Study No. 3.3.19</i> Evaluate the Use of an Ultrasound Array to Facilitate Upstream Movement to Turners Falls Dam by avoiding Cabot Station Tailrace
Noon-1:00 pm	Lunch- on your own
1:00-2:00 pm	<i>Study No. 3.3.5</i> Evaluate Downstream Passage of American Eel (2-Year Study)
2:00-2:30 pm	Discuss Process for Developing HSI Curves for Sea Lamprey (as required in FERC's February 17, 2017 Study Plan Determination Letter
2:30-3:00 pm	<i>Study No. 3.8.1</i> Operations Model