



December 28, 2016

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. 1889 and 2485
Filing of Two Second Year Study Reports

Dear Secretary Bose:

On March 1, 2016, FirstLight Hydro Generating Company (FirstLight) filed 13 reports and two addendums with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC or Commission) as part of its licensing of the Turners Falls Hydroelectric Project and Northfield Mountain Pumped Storage Project. Pursuant to the process plan and schedule, FirstLight held its meeting, filed its meeting summary with FERC, and reviewed stakeholder comments. On May 31, 2016, FirstLight filed its response to stakeholder comments. As part of that response FirstLight agreed to conduct a second year of study involving field data collection in 2016 for two studies:

- Study No. 3.3.20 Study to Evaluate Entrainment of Ichthyoplankton at the Northfield Mountain Pumped Storage Project (Second Year Study)
- Study No. 3.3.10 Assess Operational Impacts on Emergence of State-Listed Odonates (Second Year Study)

FirstLight agreed to file the second year study reports by December 31, 2016. Accordingly, both reports are enclosed.

Pursuant to FERC's May 5, 2016 Revised Process Plan and Schedule (Revised Process Plan), FirstLight is required to file reports for four studies (3.3.5, 3.3.19, 3.7.1 and 3.8.1) on March 1, 2017. FirstLight intends to follow the meeting, comment, and response process for the second year study reports for studies 3.3.20 and 3.3.10 pursuant to the schedule established by the Commission in its May 2016 Revised Process Plan. Specifically, pursuant to the Commission's May 2016 Revised Process Plan, FirstLight will hold a study report meeting by March 16, 2017 and file a study report meeting summary by March 31, 2017 for five studies (3.3.20, 3.3.10, 3.3.5, 3.3.19, and 3.8.1). Stakeholders may file disagreements and requests to amend the study plan for these five studies by April 30, 2017, and FirstLight will respond to such disagreements and amendment requests by May 30, 2017.

Study No 3.7.1 pertains to the Phase IA, IB, and Phase II Archaeological surveys. FirstLight filed its Phase IA archaeological survey report in December 2014 and subsequently filed a modified report in May

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2015. In its Phase IA report and in a study report filing dated March 1, 2016, FirstLight stated that it would complete Phase IB and Phase II surveys, if needed, in the event that it is determined that observed erosion is Project-induced, or that there are other potential Project-related effects. On October 14, 2016, FirstLight filed the report for Study No. 3.1.2 Northfield Mountain/Turners Falls Operation Impact on Existing Erosion and Potential Bank Instability (Erosion Causation Study). The Erosion Causation study identified an approximately 1,000-meter stretch of shoreline along the Connecticut River in Massachusetts where erosion is caused in part by Project operation and which the Phase IA archaeological report identified as having high sensitivity for archaeological resources. Accordingly, in November 2016, FirstLight filed an application for a state archaeological permit with the Massachusetts Historical Commission (MHC) in which it set forth its proposed research design and professional qualifications for conducting a Phase IB archaeological survey. FirstLight is currently amending the permit application as requested by MHC. The proposed schedule calls for FirstLight to conduct the Phase IB survey in 2017 when weather and ground conditions permit, after receipt of the state archaeological permit from MHC. On the assumption that FirstLight can complete Phase IB field work in 2017, FirstLight is targeting March 1, 2018 for filing the Phase IB report.

FirstLight is filing this document with FERC electronically. To access the document on FERC's website (<http://www.ferc.gov>), go to the "eLibrary" link, and enter the docket number, P-1889 or P-2485. FirstLight is also making the document available for download at the following weblink: <http://www.northfieldrelicensing.com/Pages/Documents2016.aspx>.

In addition to this electronic filing with FERC, a paper copy of the document is available to the public at the Northfield Mountain Visitor Center at 99 Millers Falls Road, Northfield, MA 01360 during regular business hours.

If you have any questions regarding the above, please do not hesitate to contact me. Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Gus Bakas", written in a cursive style.

Gus Bakas