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FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION

Northfield Mountain Station
99 Millers Falls Road
Northfield, MA 01360
Ph: (413) 659-4489
Fax: (413) 659-4459
E-mail: john.howard@gdfsuezna.com

John S. Howard
Plant Manager

August 24, 2012

Re: Federal Energy Regulatory Commission- Site Tour of the Turners Falls Hydroelectric Project and Northfield Mountain Pumped Storage Project on October 4-5, 2012

Dear Interested Party:

In anticipation of FirstLight Hydro Generating Company's (FirstLight) filing of its Notice of Intent (NOI) and Pre-Application Document (PAD) for the Turners Falls Hydroelectric Project (FERC No. 1889) and the Northfield Mountain Pumped Storage Project (FERC No. 2485), the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) will be hosting an environmental site review on October 4 and 5, 2012. Both Projects, located on the Connecticut River, will be undergoing the FERC relicensing process as both Projects have licenses expiring on April 30, 2018. The environmental site review is being held to provide all stakeholders, interested in the upcoming relicensing process, an opportunity to view the Projects' facilities and surrounding areas. FERC recently issued a public notice (attached), and placed ads in local papers to notify the public of the upcoming site visit. Details of the site tours are contained in the public notice.

In an effort to further notify the public, FirstLight is sending this letter to numerous stakeholders (cc list attached) thought to have an interest in upcoming relicensing. FirstLight has established a website (<http://www.northfieldrelicensing.com>) that includes background on the Projects and of the relicensing process. FirstLight would like to use the website as a clearinghouse to disseminate information to interested parties such as future agendas, meeting minutes, study plans, and reports. If you are interested in being notified of future correspondence and upcoming activities pertaining to the relicensing, FirstLight would appreciate it if you go onto the website, click the "Join our mailing list" link, and enter your contact information. By having this information, we will notify you of any future activities.

As noted in FERC's public notice, please note that those attending the site visit must wear proper attire including pants, long sleeve shirts, and closed-toe shoes. **To facilitate logistical arrangements, if you plan on attending the October 4 and/or October 5 site tours, please R.S.V.P. to John Howard at john.howard@gdfsuezna.com by September 15, 2012.** We look forward to seeing you at the upcoming tours.

Sincerely,

John S. Howard

Attachment: Contact list and FERC Public Notice

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US Environmental Protection Agency
Instream Flow Coordinator
5 Post Office Sq
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Windham Regional Commission
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Ms. Kimberly Bose
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
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One Migratory Way
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Walpole, NH 03608

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55 Great Republic Dr
Gloucester, MA 01930

Mr. Scott Decker
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Greenfield, MA 01301

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Town of Northfield
Town Clerk
69 Main St
Northfield, MA 01360

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION

TransCanada Hydro Northeast Inc.

Project No. 1892 -000 New Hampshire -
Vermont

Project No. 1855-000 New Hampshire -
Vermont

Project No. 1904 -000 New Hampshire-
Vermont

FirstLight Power Resources

Project No. 2485- 000 Massachusetts

Project No. 1889- 000 Massachusetts

NOTICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL SITE REVIEW

(August 3, 2012)

In anticipation of the filing of a Notice of Intent (NOI) and Pre-Application Document for three hydroelectric projects owned and operated by TransCanada Hydro Northeast Inc. (TransCanada) in New Hampshire and Vermont (Wilder Dam Hydroelectric Project No. 1892, Bellows Falls Hydroelectric Project No. 1855, and Vernon Dam Hydroelectric Project No. 1904), and two projects owned and operated by FirstLight Power Resources in Massachusetts (Northfield Mountain Pumped Storage Hydroelectric Project No. 2485, and Turners Falls Hydroelectric Project No. 1889), all located on the Connecticut River, the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (Commission) will be hosting an environmental site review for each of the projects during the first week of October 2012.

The environmental site reviews are being held to provide all stakeholders, interested in the projects' pending relicensing proceedings, an opportunity to view the projects' facilities and surrounding areas.

Under the Commission's Integrated Licensing Process, the Commission conducts its National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) scoping meeting within 90 days of the filing of the Licensee's Notice of Intent. An environmental site review is typically held in conjunction with that scoping meeting. However, access to some project facilities may be limited by winter weather during the early part of 2013 when scoping for this project is currently anticipated. For this reason, the Commission has chosen to host the environmental site reviews in October before the onset of winter. While the Commission expects to host its NEPA scoping meetings for the projects in early 2013, it will not conduct the environmental site reviews at that time. As such, the Commission encourages all interested parties to participate in the October environmental site review(s) to facilitate

productive scoping meetings early next year. Details of the project specific environmental site reviews follow.

TransCanada's Projects

Wilder Dam Hydroelectric Project (P-1892)

- Tour of Wilder Project Facilities

Date and Time: October 1, 2012 at 9:00 a.m.
Location: Wilder Station
351 Wilder Dam Rd
Wilder, VT 05088

- Wilder Project Reservoir Tour

Date and Time: October 1, 2012 at 1:00 p.m.
Location: Wilder Station
351 Wilder Dam Rd
Wilder, VT 05088

Bellows Falls Hydroelectric Project (P-1855)

- Tour of Bellows Falls Project Facilities

Date and Time: October 2, 2012 at 9:00 a.m.
Location: Bellows Falls Hydroelectric Project Visitor Center
17 Bridge St.
Bellows Falls, VT 05101

- Bellows Falls Project Reservoir Tour

Date and Time: October 2, 2012 at 1:00 p.m.
Location: Pine Street Recreation Area
99 Pine St.
North Walpole, NH 03609

Project No. P-1892-000, *et al.*

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Vernon Dam Hydroelectric Project (P-1904)

- Tour of Vernon Project Facilities

Date and Time: October 3, 2012 at 9:00 a.m.
 Location: Vernon Station
 152 Governor Hunt Road
 Vernon VT 05354

- Vernon Project Reservoir Tour

Date and Time: October 3, 2012 at 1:00 p.m.
 Location: Vernon Station
 152 Governor Hunt Road
 Vernon VT 05354

FirstLight's Projects

FirstLight will bus attendees from the Northfield Mountain Visitors Center to tour the Northfield Mountain Pumped Storage Hydroelectric Project and the Turners Falls Hydroelectric Project. Bus capacity is approximately 55 individuals. In addition, FirstLight is providing a boat tour of the section of the Connecticut River impounded by the Turners Falls Project which also serves as the lower reservoir for the Northfield Mountain Pumped Hydroelectric Storage Project. Boat capacity is approximately 44 individuals. Depending on the number of participants that R.S.V.P., two tour groups (Group 1 and Group 2) may be established. The schedule below reflects the two groups.

All individuals should meet at the Northfield Mountain Visitors Center (address below) on October 4, 2012 at 8:00 a.m. for a briefing on both projects.

*Group 1 Schedule:*Northfield Mountain Pumped Storage Hydroelectric Project (P-2485)

- Tour of Northfield Mountain Pumped Storage Project Facilities

Date and Time: October 4, 2012 at 8:00 a.m.
 Location: Northfield Mountain Visitors Center
 99 Millers Falls Road
 Northfield, MA 01360

Project No. P-1892-000, *et al.*

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- Reservoir Tour (P-1889 & P-2485)

Date and Time: October 4, 2012 at 1:00 p.m.
Location: Northfield Mountain Visitors Center
99 Millers Falls Road
Northfield, MA 01360

Turners Falls Hydroelectric Project (P-1889)

- Tour of Turners Falls Hydroelectric Project Facilities

Date and Time: October 5, 2012 at 8:00 a.m.
Location: Northfield Mountain Visitors Center
99 Millers Falls Road
Northfield, MA 01360

Group 2 Schedule:

Northfield Mountain Pumped Storage Hydroelectric Project (P-2485)

- Reservoir Tour (P-1889 & P-2485)

Date and Time: October 4, 2012 at 8:00 a.m.
Location: Northfield Mountain Visitors Center
99 Millers Falls Road
Northfield, MA 01360

- Tour of Northfield Mountain Pumped Storage Project Facilities

Date and Time: October 4, 2012 at 1:00 p.m.
Location: Northfield Mountain Visitors Center
99 Millers Falls Road
Northfield, MA 01360

Project No. P-1892-000, *et al.*

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Turners Falls Hydroelectric Project (P-1889)

- Tour of Turners Falls Hydroelectric Project Facilities

Date and Time: October 5, 2012 at 8:00 a.m.
 Location: Northfield Mountain Visitors Center
 99 Millers Falls Road
 Northfield, MA 01360

Directions and Logistics

For safety purposes, individuals attending an environmental site review and/or Reservoir Tour are asked to dress accordingly. **Please wear pants, long sleeve shirts, and closed-toe shoes.** Failure to comply with this request may result in limiting the attendee's access to project facilities.

To facilitate logistical arrangements, if you plan to attend an environmental site review and/or reservoir tour, **please R.S.V.P.** to the appropriate licensee point-of-contact (see below) by **September 15, 2012**, and identify the number of individuals in your group.

Licensee Points-of-Contact

TransCanada Projects: Mr. John Ragonese
 FERC License Manager
 TransCanada
 4 Park Street
 Concord, NH 03301
 Phone: (603) 225-5528; Cell/VM (603) 498-2851
 Email: john_ragonese@transcanada.com

FirstLight Projects: Mr. John Howard
 Station Manager
 FirstLight
 99 Millers Falls Road
 Northfield, MA 01360
 Phone: (413) 659-4489
 Email: John.Howard@gdfsuezna.com

If you need further logistical information or directions, please contact the appropriate licensee point-of-contact identified above. All other questions regarding the

Project No. P-1892-000, *et al.*

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environmental site review(s) or the Commission's Integrated Licensing Process may be directed to Kenneth Hogan of the Commission's staff at (202) 502-8434 or via email at: Kenneth.Hogan@ferc.gov.

Kimberly D. Bose,
Secretary.

Document Content(s)

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