The State of New Hampshire DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES



Thomas S. Burack, Commissioner



June 18, 2013

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

Subject: Support for US Fish and Wildlife Extension of Time Request to Comment on Proposed Study Plans for 5 Hydroelectric Projects on the Connecticut River: Wilder Project (FERC No. 1892) Bellows Falls Project (FERC No. 1855) Vernon Project (FERC No. 1904) Turners Falls Project (FERC No. 1889) Northfield Mountain Pumped Storage Project (FERC No. 2485)

Dear Secretary Bose:

The New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (DES) supports the US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) Extension of Time Request to Comment on Draft Proposed Study Plans for the Wilder Project (FERC No. 1892), Bellows Falls Project (FERC No. 1855), Vernon Project (FERC No. 1904), Turners Falls Project (FERC No. 1889) and Northfield Mountain Pumped Storage Project (FERC No. 2485) filed with the commission on June 13, 2013.

DES fully concurs with the USFWS request and also requests that the Commission extend the deadline for comments on the Draft Proposed Study Plans for the 5 Hydroelectric Projects listed above until July 30, 2013.

We appreciate your consideration of this letter of support. Should you have any questions, please contact me.

Sincerely yours,

Owen David Water Quality Certification Program Watershed Management Bureau N.H. Dept. of Environmental Services (603) 271-0699 Owen.David@des.nh.gov

cc: John Ragonese, TransCanada Concord Hydro Office 4 Park Street, Suite 402 Concord NH 03301 John Howard, FirstLight Power Resources Northfield Mountain Station Page 2 of 2

99 Millers Falls Road Northfield, MA 01360

Cc via email:

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