FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20426

January 10, 2014

OFFICE OF ENERGY PROJECTS

Project No. 2485-063—Massachusetts
Project No. 1889-081—Massachusetts
FirstLight Hydro Generating Company

Mr. John Howard
Director – FERC Hydro Compliance
FirstLight Hydro Generating Company
North Field Mountain Station
99 Millers Falls Road
Northfield, MA 01360

Reference: Approval for Modified Study Plan No. 3.6.7

Dear Mr. Howard:

On September 13, 2013, the Director, Office of Energy Projects, issued the study plan determination for the relicensing of FirstLight Hydro Generating Company's (FirstLight) Turners Falls Hydroelectric (P-1889) and the Northfield Mountain Pumped Storage (P-2485) Projects. That determination required you to modify and file, for Commission approval, Study No. 3.6.7 – *Recreation Study of Northfield Mountain including Assessment of Sufficiency of Trails for Shared Use.* Specifically, we required you to modify the study plan to better describe the proposed methods for assessing trail design and condition characteristics.

On December 11, 2013, you filed the modified study plan for Study No. 3.6.7. Upon review, we find the modified study plan identifies standard trail assessment methodologies that will be adopted to assess representative trail sections. Additionally, the plan states that on-the-ground measurements, with particular attention to areas where repairs may be required, will be used to determine trail characteristics and conditions. We conclude that these modifications will improve the study's design and address the concerns identified in our determination. Therefore, we are approving the modified study plan for Study No. 3.6.7.

P-2387-002   2

If you have any questions, please contact Adam Beeco at (202) 502-8655 or via email at adam.beeco@ferc.gov.

Sincerely,

Timothy J. Welch, Chief
West Branch
Division of Hydropower Licensing

cc: Mailing List
        Public Files

Document Content(s)