



July 23, 2014

VIA ELECTRONIC FILING

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

Re: FirstLight Hydro Generating Company, Northfield Mountain Pumped Storage Project (FERC Project No. 2485) and Turners Falls Hydroelectric Project (FERC No. 1889); 2014 Study Progress Report

Dear Secretary Bose:

Pursuant to the regulations of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (Commission or FERC), Title 18 Code of Federal Regulations (18 C.F.R.) § 5.15 (b), and the schedule set forth in FERC's Scoping Document 1, FirstLight Hydro Generating Company (FirstLight) encloses for filing the 2014 Study Progress Report for the relicensing of the Turners Falls Hydroelectric Project (FERC No. 1889) and Northfield Mountain Pumped Storage Project (FERC No. 2485).

On September 13, 2013, FERC issued its first Study Plan Determination Letter (SPDL) on 20 of FirstLight's 38 proposed studies and withheld action on the remaining 18 studies until issues relative to the Vermont Yankee (VY) Nuclear facility closure were resolved¹. FERC did not act on 18 studies related primarily to fish/aquatic and water quality resources and sought stakeholder input as to whether the study schedules and/or study scopes of the 18 studies could potentially change due to the VY closure. On November 25, 2013, FERC held a stakeholder meeting to seek input on the study schedules and/or study scopes associated with the remaining 18 studies. On February 21, 2014, FERC issued its second SPDL on the remaining 18 studies, and amended the proposed schedule for 11 of those studies due to the VY decommissioning.

On March 13, 2014, the United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) filed for study dispute resolution, requesting that FirstLight conduct an ichthyoplankton entrainment assessment at the

¹ On August 27, 2013 Entergy Corp announced that the VY facility, located at the lower end of the Vernon Impoundment, will be closing no later than December 29, 2014. VY currently withdraws water from the Vernon Impoundment (Connecticut River) for cooling purposes.

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Northfield Mountain Pumped Storage Project. On March 28, a study dispute meeting occurred with FERC, USFWS, FirstLight and the Study Dispute Panel. After this meeting, a series of conference calls and information exchanges occurred between FERC, USFWS and FirstLight. On May 2, 2014, USFWS filed with FERC a proposed study plan for conducting the ichthyoplankton entrainment assessment and indicated that if FERC accepted the proposed plan, USFWS would consider its study dispute resolved. On May 2 2014, FirstLight filed a letter supporting the USFWS study plan. In light of USFWS's proposed resolution of the dispute, on May 2, FERC's Director of Energy Projects suspended the Dispute Panel's activities until further notice. Although FERC's Director of Energy Projects has not yet acted on the proposal, FirstLight has included the status of the 2015 ichthyoplankton entrainment assessment in this Progress Report as Study No. 3.3.20, raising the total number of studies to 39.

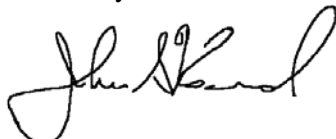
FERC's Scoping Document 1 set forth a schedule for FirstLight to file the Study Progress Report in spring/summer 2014. The bulk of studies slated for 2014 have been initiated; however, in many cases the field data collection effort is ongoing in accordance with the schedules set forth in the individual study plans. FirstLight is providing the attached matrix indicating the status of each study. The attached matrix contains a brief summary of the progress made or status of each of the 39 studies detailed in the RSP or added since the issuance of the SPDs (ichthyoplankton study).²

FirstLight is filing the 2014 study progress report with the Commission electronically. To access this document on the Commission'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 downloading at its relicensing website. To access the document, navigate to <http://www.northfielddrelicensing.com>, on the navigation pane located on the left side of the page, and click on the "Documents" link.

Also, as required by FERC's Integrated Licensing Process regulations, the 2014 Initial Study Report (ISR) must be filed by September 15, 2014, and 15 days thereafter an ISR meeting is required. At this juncture, FirstLight is reserving September 30 and October 1, 2014 (9:00 am to 5:00 pm) as meeting dates. These meetings will be held at the Northfield Visitors Center (99 Millers Falls Road, Northfield, MA 01360).

If you have any questions regarding the above, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,



John Howard

² In accordance with 18 C.F.R. § 5.15 (c)(1), FirstLight's Initial Study Report is due no later than one year from the date of the SPDL, which was issued on September 13, 2013. Because September 13, 2014 falls on a Saturday, the due date defers to the next business day or Monday, September 15, 2014. Thus, FirstLight will file its Initial Study Report by September 15, 2014. FirstLight intends to include a detailed study plan for Study No. 3.3.20, the ichthyoplankton entrainment assessment in the Initial Study Report.

FirstLight Studies, Year of Field Data Collection, and Status Update

ACRONYMS

AMC	Appalachian Mountain Club
APE	Area of Potential Effect as pertaining to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act
AW	American Whitewater
CRPT	Connecticut River Paddlers Trail
CRSEC	Connecticut River Streambank Erosion Committee
CRWC	Connecticut River Watershed Council
ECP	Erosion Control Plan
FEMA	Federal Emergency Management Agency
FERC	Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
FCD	Franklin Conservation District
FIS	Flood Insurance Study
FRCOG	Franklin Regional Council of Governments
FRR	Full River Reconnaissance
HEC	Hydrologic Engineering Center (HEC-2 is a hydraulic modeling program)
ILP	Integrated Licensing Process
ISR	Initial Study Report
LCCLC	Landowners for Concerned Citizens for License Compliance
MA	Massachusetts
MADCR	Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation
MADEP	Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection
MADFW	Massachusetts Division of Fish and Wildlife
MHC	Massachusetts Historical Commission
NEFLOW	New England Flow
NHDES	New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services
NHDHR	New Hampshire Division of Historical Resources
NHESP	Massachusetts Natural Heritage and Endangered Species Program
NMFS	National Marine Fisheries Service
NPS	National Park Service
NRHP	National Register of Historic Places
PSP	Proposed Study Plan
QA/QC	Quality Assurance/Quality Control
RSP	Revised Study Plan

FirstLight Studies, Year of Field Data Collection, and Status Update

RTE	rare, threatened and endangered species
S&A	Simons & Associates
SHPO	State Historic Preservation Officer
SPDL	Study Plan Determination Letter
THPO	Tribal Historic Preservation Officer
TNC	The Nature Conservancy
TU	Trout Unlimited
USACOE	United States Army Corps of Engineers
USFWS	United States Fish and Wildlife Service
USGS	United States Geological Survey
VDHP	Vermont Division of Historic Preservation

FirstLight Studies, Year of Field Data Collection, and Status Update

Study No.	Title	Field Season				Status Update
		2014	2015	2016	NA	
Geology and Soils						
3.1.1	2013 Full River Reconnaissance					Field work was conducted November 11-19, December 10-13, 2013 during leaf-off conditions. A complete FRR study report is due in September 2014 as part of the ISR and for compliance purposes.
3.1.2	Northfield Mountain/Turners Falls Operations Impact on Existing Erosion and Potential Bank Instability	X				A draft Transect Selection Report was drafted based on the results of the 2013 FRR to identify proposed sites for detailed field data collection. The Draft Report was provided to MADEP in May. A meeting occurred with MADEP on June 4, 2014 to obtain input on the proposed locations for detailed field study. Following this meeting the draft Transect Selection Report was updated based on MADEP input and then transmitted to CRWC, FCD, FRCOG, FERC, MADEP, LCCLC, and the CRSEC as per FERC's SPDL. A second meeting was held with these parties on June 24, 2014. FirstLight provided additional information requested at the meeting to Stakeholders on June 27, 2014. Written comments were provided to FirstLight by CRWC and FRCOG as requested on July 3. MADEP sent a follow-up letter dated July 15, 2014. FirstLight formally responded to CRWC and FRCOG comments on July 23, 2014. FirstLight's response included adjusting several of the originally proposed locations for detailed study as per Stakeholder feedback. Field work began on July 14, 2014 and is expected to continue through the fall.
3.1.3	Northfield Mountain Project Sediment Management Plan	X	X			One LISST-StreamSide and two LISST-HYDRO continuous suspended sediment concentration monitoring instruments were installed in March 2014. The instruments will continue to operate until roughly November when temperatures drop below freezing. The equipment is visited two times per week for routine maintenance and data offload. Preliminary data review and QA/QC is conducted on a bi-weekly schedule. A year-end report is due to FERC by December 1, 2014. Final review and QA/QC of the data will occur in advance of the annual report to FERC.
Water Resources						
3.2.1	Water Quality Monitoring Study		X			Per FERC's SPDL, FirstLight provided stakeholders with a Draft Field Sampling Plan for review and comment on June 27, 2014. Written comments on the Draft Plan are due July 28, 2014. FirstLight will file the Field Sampling Plan and written comments/approvals as required by FERC in its SPDL as part of the ISR.
3.2.2	Hydraulic Study of Turners Falls Impoundment, Bypass Reach and below Cabot	X				<p><i>Turners Falls Impoundment Hydraulic Model</i></p> <p>Water level loggers were deployed in the Turners Falls Impoundment in March 2014 and are serviced (including data downloading and preliminary data review and QA/AC) approximately bi-weekly. Loggers will be removed in the fall. Updated bathymetric mapping was collected in the Turners Falls Impoundment between Vernon Dam and the NH/VT/MA state line. In addition updated bathymetry was collected 5 km upstream and downstream of the Northfield tailrace as part of Study No. 3.3.9. Finally, updated upland topography along the riverbanks was obtained. Using the updated bank topography and bathymetry, the existing hydraulic model is currently being updated and calibrated to the water level logger data.</p> <p><i>Connecticut River from Turners Falls Dam to Holyoke Dam Hydraulic Model</i></p> <p>This study called for re-creating a hydraulic model of the Connecticut River from Turners Falls Dam to Holyoke Dam using the FEMA HEC-2 hydraulic model. FirstLight was able to locate most of the HEC-2 files from FEMA and cross sections from a 7 mile reach in the Northampton area from the USACOE with the exception of the town of Hatfield, which is located below the Sunderland Bridge. Numerous inquires were made with several other agencies; however, the hydraulic model for Hatfield could not be located. Given this, FirstLight collected 8 transects in the town of Hatfield and this information has been incorporated into the downstream hydraulic model. The model is being calibrated with water level logger data (mostly from 2012) and from data available from filed impoundment management studies with the Holyoke Project (P-2004).</p>
Aquatic Resources						
3.3.1	Conduct Instream Flow Habitat Assessments in the Bypass Reach and below Cabot Station	X	X			<p><i>Correspondence</i></p> <p>A meeting was held with stakeholders on May 8, 2013. Stakeholders were provided with additional details of the study methods on May 30, 2013 (habitat suitability curves). A site visit with stakeholders to select study transect locations was held on September 9-10, 2013. A follow-up meeting was held with stakeholders on November 12, 2013. Two conference calls were held with MA NHESP in May 2014 to discuss state-listed mussels in the study area. Stakeholders were provided with additional details of the study methods on March 28, 2014 (substrate coding and Reach 1 methods), and June 6, 2014 (water level logger locations and HSI addendum). Several stakeholders submitted comments on this additional information. FirstLight issued responses to these comments to the stakeholder group on May 5, 2014 and July 11, 2014.</p> <p><i>Field Data Collection</i></p> <p>Water level loggers have been located throughout the study area to help calibrate the hydraulic models used in the study. Substrate and bathymetric mapping of Reach 3 started in early July. Additional field work for Reaches 1-3 is slated for late July 2014, weather permitting. Field work for Reach 4-5 is slated for 2015.</p>
3.3.2	Evaluate Upstream and Downstream Passage of Adult American Shad		X			The primary field effort is scheduled for 2015. Field reconnaissance and range testing of the proposed radiotelemetry monitoring is slated to occur in July 2014. Field reconnaissance and range testing will inform the study team about the feasibility of monitoring locations as scoped in the RSP and results will be included in the ISR. Task 1 (Review Existing Information), a portion of Task 2 (Study Design and Methods) and ordering of equipment will occur in 2014.
3.3.3	Evaluate Downstream Passage of Juvenile American Shad		X			The primary field effort is scheduled for 2015, but a portion of Task 1 will be conducted in 2014 relative to study planning. Field reconnaissance is slated to occur in August 2014 to determine the exact location, orientation and number of transducers necessary to optimize hydroacoustic data collection. The USFWS has obtained 60 Connecticut River adult shad in 2014 and sent them to a lab to ensure they are disease free before sending fish to the USFWS hatchery to determine if growing them to 120mm by September is possible. A plan to secure enough juvenile shad to conduct the study is in progress.
3.3.4	Evaluate Upstream Passage of American Eel at the Turners Falls	X				Field work is in progress (Task 1: Systematic Surveys). Nighttime field surveys for eel have been conducted on June 12, 26, July 2, and 11. Eels became present in the study area beginning June 26. An additional 6-8 nighttime survey will be conducted throughout the 2014 migration season.

FirstLight Studies, Year of Field Data Collection, and Status Update

Study No.	Title	Field Season				Status Update
		2014	2015	2016	NA	
3.3.5	Evaluate Downstream Passage of American Eel		X			The primary field work effort associated with this study will occur in 2015, but a portion of Task 1 will be conducted in 2014 relative to study planning. Field reconnaissance is slated to occur in August 2014 to determine the exact location, orientation and number of transducers necessary to optimize hydroacoustic data collection.
3.3.6	Impact of Project Operations on Shad Spawning, Spawning Habitat and Egg Deposition in the Area of the Northfield Mountain and Turners Falls Projects		X			No field activities are slated for 2014, but a meeting was held on June 3, 2014 with USFWS, MADFW, NMFS, FERC, CRWC, and TNC to discuss field collection methods and shortnose sturgeon impacts. As requested, FirstLight sent a letter to NMFS on July 3, 2014 proposing revised methodology. NMFS replied on July 14, 2014 and requested additional information and specific language to be included and the other agencies to be consulted. FirstLight continues development of a modified study plan to avoid impacts to shortnose sturgeon.
3.3.7	Fish Entrainment and Turbine Passage Mortality Study	X				The study is in progress; however, the final study report which will incorporate hydroacoustic data collected for Study Nos. 3.3.3 and 3.3.5 will be completed in 2015.
3.3.8	Computational Fluid Dynamics Modeling in the Vicinity of the Fishway Entrances and Powerhouse Forebays	X				Bathymetric data has been collected in the Cabot Station forebay and entrance, and Station No. 1 forebay and entrance. Bathymetric data is still needed at the entrances of the Cabot and Spillway fish ladders. Post-processing of field data for the Cabot Station and Station No. 1 forebays is nearly complete. FirstLight is beginning to set up the 3D model for the forebay CFD models.
3.3.9	Two-Dimensional Modeling of the Northfield Mountain Pumped Storage Project Intake/Tailrace Channel and Connecticut River Upstream and Downstream of the Intake/Tailrace	X				Field data collection for the 2 units generating and 2 units pumping scenarios were completed on April 6-7, 2014, respectively. This data included velocity and depth measurements along three transects in the Northfield tailrace. This same information was collected along the same three transects for the 4 units pumping and 4 units generating scenarios on July 12, 2014. Bathymetric data was collected in the Turners Falls Impoundment for approximately 5 km upstream and 5 km downstream of the Northfield tailrace on May 27 and June 2-4, 2014. Throughout the spring and summer, 6 water level loggers were installed in the Turners Falls Impoundment. These loggers are located approximately 5 km upstream and downstream of the tailrace, approximately 1 km upstream and downstream of the tailrace, the shore opposite the tailrace, and within the tailrace. Additionally, a seventh recorder was placed on the intake structure in order to correct for atmospheric pressure changes. Data is offloaded from all 7 of these instruments periodically. The data collected in the field is being processed, so that the 2D model can be developed.
3.3.10	Assess Operational Impacts on Emergence of State-Listed Odonates in the Connecticut River	X	X			A collection permit was obtained from MA NHESP on May 15, 2014. Qualitative surveys for larvae and exuviae to determine presence (Task 3 of 2014 study plan) is complete.
3.3.11	Fish Assemblage Assessment		X			No field activities are slated for 2014, but a meeting was held on June 3, 2014 with USFWS, MADFW, NMFS, FERC, CRWC and TNC to discuss field collection methods and shortnose sturgeon impacts. FirstLight continues development of a modified study plan to avoid impacts to shortnose sturgeon.
3.3.12	Evaluate Frequency and Impact of Emergency Water Control Gate Discharge Events and Bypass Flume Events on Shortnose Sturgeon Spawning and Rearing Habitat in the Tailrace and Downstream from Cabot Station	X				Task 1: Preliminary Study - Analysis of Existing Data has been completed. A report will be filed as part of the ISR.
3.3.13	Impacts of the Turners Falls Project and Northfield Mountain Project on Littoral Zone Fish Habitat and Spawning Habitat		X			Field study to be conducted in 2015.
3.3.14	Aquatic Habitat Mapping of Turners Falls Impoundment	X				Field effort is slated to occur in August 2014.
3.3.15	Assessment of Adult Sea Lamprey Spawning within the Turners Falls Project and Northfield Mountain Project Area		X			Field study to be conducted in 2015.
3.3.16	Habitat Assessment, Surveys, and Modeling of Suitable Habitat for State-listed Mussel Species in the CT River below Cabot Station	X				A collection permit was obtained from MA NHESP on May 15, 2014. The habitat assessment field work is underway. MA NHESP will be consulted for concurrence on survey sites.
3.3.17	Assess the Impacts of Project Operations of the Turners Falls Project and Northfield Mountain Project on Tributary and Backwater Area Access and Habitat	X				The springtime survey was conducted between May 21 and June 11, 2014. The summertime survey is slated for the week of August 11, 2014 and the fall survey is slated for the week of October 6, 2014.
3.3.18	Impacts of the Turners Falls Canal Drawdown on Fish Migration and Aquatic Organisms	X				The power canal drawdown will occur from September 29 to October 4, 2014. A meeting with USFWS, MADFW, NMFS, FERC, CRWC, and TNC was held on June 3, 2014 to discuss appropriate locations for measuring dissolved oxygen in the Zone 7 pool. A letter to the agencies is in progress demonstrating the proposed locations for quadrats to sample sea lamprey ammocetes and mussels.
3.3.19	Evaluate the Use of an Ultrasound Array to Facilitate Upstream Movement to Turners Falls Dam by Avoiding Cabot Station Tailrace			X		Field study to be conducted in 2016.
3.3.20	Ichthyoplankton Entrainment Assessment at the Northfield Mountain Pumped Storage Project		X			This was a disputed study. FirstLight, USFWS and FERC worked collectively to reach agreement on a sampling plan. A detailed study plan is being developed and will likely be filed as part of the ISR.
Terrestrial Resources						
3.4.1	Baseline Study of Terrestrial Wildlife and Botanical Resources	X				Field data collection began in April 2014 and will continue through September 2014. Data is being collected per Task 2 of the RSP. Ongoing field data collection has included terrestrial wildlife, habitat, vegetation cover type and invasive plant mapping.

FirstLight Studies, Year of Field Data Collection, and Status Update

Study No.	Title	Field Season				Status Update
		2014	2015	2016	NA	
3.4.2	Effects of Northfield Mountain Project-related Land Management Practices and Recreation Use on Terrestrial Habitats	X				Field data collection began in April 2014 and will continue through September 2014. Data is being collected per Tasks 2 through 4 of the RSP. Ongoing field data collection has included vernal pool surveys, wetland, wildlife, habitat, vegetation cover type and invasive plant mapping.
Wetlands, Riparian and Littoral Resources						
3.5.1	Baseline Inventory of Wetland, Riparian and Littoral Habitat in the Turners Falls Impoundment, and Assessment of Operational Impacts on Special-Status Species	X				Field data collection began in late May 2014 and will continue through October 2014. Data is being collected per Tasks 2 through 6 of the RSP. Ongoing field data collection has included botanical, sensitive plant, invasive plant and wetland verification surveys. NHESP approved botanist Steve Johnson has been retained to assist with the sensitive plant survey. Initial site reconnaissance for potential habitats of NHESP listed sensitive plants has been completed. FirstLight is currently working with the Botanist on the selection of a sub-set of locations and survey windows to complete fine detailed surveys per Task 3 of the RSP and will be coordinating with NHESP prior to field surveys slated for late August when NHESP targeted RTE plants are most conspicuous and more readily identifiable. FirstLight retained Chris Davis, a NHESP approved Tiger Beetle expert, who will be assisting in completing Task 6 of the RSP. Per Mr. Davis, river flows have been too high to identify and survey key beaches where Tiger Beetles have historically been present and potential un-occupied beaches. Mr. Davis is continuing to monitor river flows and anticipates initial reconnaissance to be scheduled starting July 21, 2014. Following initial Tiger Beetle reconnaissance surveys FirstLight will coordinate detailed surveys and selection of placement of transects with NHESP prior to the Tiger Beetle active season which, as indicated by Mr. Davis, is likely to occur from late July through mid to late August due to the high river flows observed in 2014.
Recreation and Land Use						
3.6.1	Recreation Use/User Contact Survey	X				Field data collection began in January 2014 and will continue through December 2014. Data is being collected per Task 2 of the RSP. Readily available municipal recreation plans have been obtained and are being reviewed. A mail survey and cover letter have been developed and the initial mailing is being prepared. Letters were sent to the Erving, Gill, Montague, and Northfield Police Departments on April 17, 2014 and again on June 18, 2014 informing them about the on-going recreation study and providing the make and model of each of the seasonal staff vehicles.
3.6.2	Recreation Facilities Inventory and Assessment	X				Field data collection has been completed for this project. Results of the inventory and assessment will be included in the ISR.
3.6.3	Whitewater Boating Evaluation	X				The Turners Falls bypass whitewater boating evaluation occurred on July 19-21, 2014. FirstLight coordinated a meeting and site visit with AMC, AW and NEFLOW on July 1, 2014 to discuss study logistics and details. A summary of the meeting was sent to all participants on July 8, 2014. Study logistics were coordinated with FirstLight and boater stakeholders. NPS, CRWC and MADCR were notified on the whitewater study dates via e-mail dated June 18, 2014. CRWC responded on June 18 th indicating it may be interested in attending the study. NPS responded on June 19 th indicating it would not attend the study. An e-mail dated July 7, 2014 was sent to TNC, CRWC, USFWS, NMFS, MADFW and FERC notifying them of the date of the evaluation and the schedule of flows to be released for the study. Letters were sent to the municipalities, cottage owners on the Turners Falls Impoundment, local rod and gun clubs, and residents near the Poplar Street take-out area on July 3, 2014 notifying them of the impending study and potential changes in impoundment elevations and increased activity at the Poplar Street take-out during the study.
3.6.4	Assessment of Day Use and Overnight Facilities Associated with Non-Motorized Boats	X				FirstLight reviewed the Connecticut River Paddlers Trail MA-CT Expansion Feasibility Study (2-8-13). FirstLight attended a Connecticut River Paddlers Trail (CRPT) meeting in Hadley, MA on July 17, 2013. At the meeting FirstLight requested shapefiles for the existing and potential recreation sites and access points identified in the feasibility study from the Trust of Public Land. CRPT provided the shapefiles and other site data on July 10, 2014. Field work for this study is slated to start in late July/early August 2014.
3.6.5	Land Use Inventory	X				Local land use plans including those listed in Task 1 of the RSP have been obtained, to the extent that they are available, and are currently being reviewed. The majority of the study will be completed in 2015 after the completion of other resource studies proposed in the RSP.
3.6.6	Assessment of Effects of Project Operation on Recreation and Land Use	X				This study will be initiated in the fall of 2014; the bulk of the study will be completed in 2015 after the completion of other resource studies proposed in the RSP.
3.6.7	Recreation Study at Northfield Mountain, including Assessment of Sufficiency of Trails for Shared Use	X				Field work of Northfield Mountain was conducted on February 12-13, 2013 and October 4-5, 2013 to inspect trails and facilities, and discuss facilities and operations with FirstLight. Field work for the trail assessment is anticipated to begin in the fall of 2014 during leaf-off conditions. In addition, data being gathered in connection with the Recreation Use/User Contact Survey will be used to conduct this assessment.
Cultural Resources						
3.7.1	Phase IA, IB, and Phase II Archaeological Surveys	X				Consultation with FERC, the SHPOs, the Narragansett Indian Tribe, the Nolumbeka Project, and CWRC regarding the APE took place in the fourth quarter of 2013. FirstLight submitted a MHC State Archaeologist permit application on February 12, 2014. FirstLight has conducted SHPO site file reviews and context development for the Reconnaissance Survey. FirstLight received a letter from MHC on June 9, 2014 that included a permit to conduct the Reconnaissance Survey fieldwork. Research at local repositories took place during the week of July 14, 2014. Field work for the Reconnaissance Survey took place July 18 through July 25, 2014.
3.7.2	Historic Structures Inventory and National Register Evaluation	X				The 2013-2014 historic architectural survey for the FirstLight Turners Falls/Northfield Mountain Projects has consisted of separate consultations (in person and written) with each SHPO during the week of November 20, 2013 to define the survey boundaries and survey methodology; a site file search at each SHPO's archives for previously identified architectural resources during that same week; background research on previously identified architectural resources in the APE at various local and state repositories throughout the months of January through March 2014; an initial "windshield" survey to verify the background research followed by a reconnaissance-level survey of all resources 50 years and older, including digital photography conducted during the week of March 17, 2014; data synthesis, including production of state architectural survey forms during April through June 2014; preparation of a historic context of the APE in May 2014; and an ongoing evaluation of their NRHP eligibility, either as an individual resource or as a contributing resource in an NRHP-listed or potential historic district.

FirstLight Studies, Year of Field Data Collection, and Status Update

Study No.	Title	Field Season				Status Update
		2014	2015	2016	NA	
3.7.3	Traditional Cultural Properties Study	X				Consultation with respect to the APE took place in the fourth quarter of 2013. In January 2014, FirstLight reached out to the Narragansett Indian Tribe THPO by telephone to request a meeting to introduce the ethnographer to the THPO and the Nolumbeka Project. Subsequent correspondence was sent to the THPO and the Nolumbeka Project by letters dated January 31, April 15, and April 24, 2014. A conference call among FirstLight, the THPO, and FERC took place in March 2014. FirstLight's selected ethnographer discussed the Tribe's participation in the TCP with the THPO on two calls held on July 14, 2015. FirstLight has also initiated background literature research.
Developmental Resources						
3.8.1	Evaluate the Impact of Current and Proposed Future Modes of Operation on Flow, Water Elevation and Hydropower Generation				X	FirstLight has developed a functioning HEC-ResSim simulation model of the TransCanada and FirstLight hydropower facilities. The model operates on an hourly time step to reflect the peaking nature of the river system. It has been calibrated to generation and Connecticut River flows. The model will be used to evaluate the impact of alternative modes of operation on environmental resources, generation, and project economics.