



October 14, 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. 2485 and 1889
Filing of Study Reports

Dear Secretary Bose:

Pursuant to the schedule set forth in the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission's (FERC or Commission) Revised Process Plan and Schedule (Revised Schedule) issued May 5, 2016 for relicensing the Turners Falls Hydroelectric Project and Northfield Mountain Pumped Storage Project, FirstLight Hydro Generating Company (FirstLight) encloses for filing the following 10 study reports in support of the relicensing effort:

- 3.1.2 Northfield Mountain/Turners Falls Operations Impact on Existing Erosion and Potential Bank Instability
- 3.1.3 Northfield Mountain Project Sediment Management Plan
- 3.3.1 Instream Flow Study in Bypass Reach and below Cabot
- 3.3.2 Evaluate Upstream and Downstream Passage of Adult American Shad
- 3.3.3 Evaluate Downstream Passage of Juvenile American Shad (Interim Report)
- 3.3.7 Fish Entrainment and Turbine Passage Mortality Study
- 3.3.13 Impacts of the Turners Falls Project and Northfield Mountain Project on Littoral Zone Fish Habitat and Spawning Habitat
- 3.3.15 Assessment of Adult Sea Lamprey Spawning within the Turners Falls Project and Northfield Mountain Project Area
- 3.3.16 Habitat Assessment, Surveys and Modeling of Suitable Habitat for State-Listed Mussel Species in the Connecticut River below Cabot Station
- 3.6.6 Assessment of Effects of Project Operation on Recreation and Land Use

Note that for Study No. 3.3.3, FirstLight is filing an interim report as some study objectives could not be accomplished. Further details on the study are contained in the interim report.

Gus Bakas

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In addition to these 10 studies, FirstLight is enclosing three addenda required by the Commission in its June 29, 2016 Determination as follows:

- 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
- 3.3.8 Computational Fluid Dynamics Modeling in the Vicinity of the Fishway Entrances and Powerhouse Forebays
- 3.5.1 Baseline Inventory of Wetland, Riparian, and Littoral Habitat in the Turners Falls Impoundment, and Assessment of Operational Impacts on Special-Species Status

Process and Schedule Overview

Consistent with the Commission's Revised Schedule issued on May 5, 2016, FirstLight will hold two meetings with stakeholders and Commission staff to discuss the results of the 10 studies being filed today. Included in Attachment A is the agenda¹. In summary, the dates and times are as follows:

- October 31, 2016, 9:00 am to 4:00 pm: Fish and Aquatic Studies (7 study reports)
- November 1, 2016, 8:30 am to Noon: Geology and Recreation Studies (3 study reports)

The meetings will take place at the Northfield Mountain Visitor Center (99 Millers Falls Road, Northfield, MA 01360). For those who cannot attend in person, FirstLight will post the PowerPoint presentation to the Northfield website (<http://www.northfieldrelicensing.com/Pages/default.aspx>) prior to the October 31 meeting. In addition, FirstLight is offering the following call-in number 1-866-228-9900, Passcode 946935, for those who cannot attend in person.

Pursuant to the Commission's May 5, 2016 Revised Schedule, within 15 days following the study report meeting (November 15, 2016), FirstLight will file a meeting summary. Commission staff or any stakeholder may file a disagreement concerning the meeting summary and include any requests to modify the studies, or propose new studies, within 30 days (December 15, 2016). FirstLight will then have 30 days (January 14, 2017) to respond to the study disputes. Within 30 days (February 13, 2017) of FirstLight's response, any remaining disagreement will be resolved by the Commission, and the study plan will be amended, if necessary.

Study Report Availability

FirstLight is filing the 10 study reports and three addenda with the Commission electronically. To access the reports on the FERC website (<http://www.ferc.gov>), go to the "eLibrary" link, and enter the docket number, P-1889 or P-2485, to access the document. FirstLight is also making the reports available for download at the following website: <http://www.northfieldrelicensing.com>.

If you have any questions, or need additional information, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,



Gus Bakas

¹ On September 27, 2016, a preliminary agenda was emailed to stakeholders, but the agenda has been modified slightly (see Attachment A).

Attachment A: Agenda

Agenda for Study Report Meeting, October 31, 2016

Times	Study
9:00-9:30 am	Introductions, Review of Meeting Purpose, Meeting Objectives, Schedule
	Fish and Aquatic
9:30 am-Noon (15 min break built into schedule)	3.3.1- Instream Flow Study in Bypass Reach and below Cabot (45 minutes)
	3.3.16- Habitat Assessment, Surveys and Modeling of Suitable Habitat for State-Listed Mussel Species in the Connecticut River below Cabot Station (45 minutes)
	3.3.2- Evaluate Upstream and Downstream Passage of Adult American Shad (45 minutes)
Noon-1:00 pm	Lunch on your own
1:00-4:00 pm (15 min break built into schedule)	3.3.3- Evaluate Downstream Passage of Juvenile American Shad (40 minutes)
	3.3.7- Fish Entrainment and Mortality (40 minutes)
	3.3.13- Impacts of the Turners Falls Project and Northfield Mountain Project on Littoral Zone Fish Habitat and Spawning Habitat (40 minutes)
	3.3.15- Assessment of Adult Sea Lamprey Spawning within the Turners Falls Project and Northfield Mountain Project Area (40 minutes)

Agenda for Study Report Meeting, November 1, 2016

Times	Study
	Geology and Soils
8:30-11:20 am (15 min break built into schedule)	3.1.3- Northfield Mountain Project Sediment Management Plan (30 minutes)
	3.1.2- Northfield Mountain/Turners Falls Operations Impact on Existing Erosion and Potential Bank Instability (120 minutes)
	Recreation
11:20-Noon	3.6.6- Assessment of Effects of Project Operation on Recreation and Land Use (40 minutes)
Noon	Adjourn