

GLENDALE HYDROELECTRIC PROJECT

LIHI APPLICATION

ATTACHMENT D

WATERSHED PROTECTION

## LIHI APPLICATION for the GLENDALE HYDROELECTRIC PROJECT

### ATTACHMENT D: WATERSHED PROTECTION

Littleville Power maintains flowage rights to elevation 814.9 feet ( four feet above the spillway crest elevation) and has the right to prohibit any changes within this zone. In addition, the Glendale Project is located within land regulated by the Lake and Pond Overlay District of the Town of Stockbridge's zoning bylaws. This district includes all the shoreline and all lands within 150 feet of the high water mark of the Housatonic River and its permanent tributaries. The purpose of this ordinance is "to protect and enhance the principal lakefronts and shorelines of the Town of Stockbridge; to maintain safe and healthful conditions; to protect and control water pollution; and to preserve habitat, vegetative cover and natural beauty." The Lake and Pond Overlay District ordinance allows the Stockbridge Planning Board control over developmental activities within the 150-foot wide district boundaries. The ordinance specifies land use and development standards, use of permeable materials for hard surfaces, setbacks from high water, maintaining natural vegetation, erosion and sediment control and storm water management, among other things.

Shoreline management is assisted through three recreational and protected open space areas in proximity to the project:

*Laurel Hill (Bowkers Woods):* This 57-acre parcel was donated to the Town of Stockbridge by Richard Rogers Bowker (1848-1933) encompasses both banks of the river upstream of the project's dam. Approximately 10 acres of the Bowkers Woods parcel is within the project boundary. The Bowkers Woods parcel is maintained by the Laurel Hill Association, a local land trust which allows non-motorized public access.

*Chesterwood National Trust Historic Site:* The 148-acre Chesterwood parcel is situated across Glendale Road near the project's powerhouse, outside of the project's boundary. Chesterwood is a private museum and charges admission for use of the museum and grounds for passive recreation.

*Unnamed Parcel (Berkshire Natural Resources Council):* The 600-acre parcel is located on the southern shoreline of the river outside the project boundary. The privately owned parcel is protected from development by a conservation easement held by the Berkshire Natural Resources Council. Public use is prohibited. The parcel supports state-listed rare species.

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Interior noted that "it appears that sufficient mechanisms exist at this particular project to minimize impacts to the riparian buffer"<sup>1</sup> and did not recommend further protection measures. The FERC concluded "significant riparian buffer protections are afforded by the Lake and Pond Overlay District standards and the conservation easement."<sup>2</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> USFWS Comments on EA, December 30, 2008

<sup>2</sup> Staff Analysis, Environmental Assessment for Subsequent Hydropower License, March 2009, pg 33.