**From:** Certification Comments

To: Shannon Ames; mfischer@lowimpacthydro.org
Subject: Fwd: Lowell Hydroelectric Project (FERC #2790)
Date: Wednesday, October 4, 2017 2:06:12 PM

## FYI

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Slater**, **Caleb** (**FWE**) < <u>Caleb.Slater@massmail.state.ma.us</u>>

Date: Tue, Oct 3, 2017 at 9:56 AM

Subject: Lowell Hydroelectric Project (FERC #2790)

To: "comments@lowimpacthydro.org" < comments@lowimpacthydro.org>

Cc: "John Warner (<u>John\_warner@fws.gov</u>)" <<u>John\_warner@fws.gov</u>>, "Kubit, Robert (DEP)" <<u>robert.kubit@state.ma.us</u>>, "Sheppard, John (FWE)" <<u>john.sheppard@state.ma.us</u>>

The Massachusetts Division of Fisheries and Wildlife (MassWildlife) has the following comments on the application for Low Impact Certification by the Lowell Hydroelectric Project (FERC #2790).

In March of 2017 MassWildlife entered an agreement with Enel Green Power/Boot Hydropower (the owner/operator of the Project) which specified that MassWildlife would support LIHI certification so long as Enel/Boot agreed to:

- 1. Continue current commitments for evaluations of and modifications to the fish lift system
- 2. Continue with plans to excavate rock in the tailrace to improve the flow field at the fishway entrance
- 3. Continue current commitments for American eel passage improvements at the Project
- 4. Operate and maintain the fish ladder, located at the Pawtucket Dam, with ladder and attraction flows as in 2016, for the entire anadromous fish passage season beginning in 2017 and similarly continue full season ladder operation, contingent on LIHI certification, in 2018 and each year thereafter until issuance of a new FERC license for the project.

Since March Enel has held to their commitments, including operation of the fish ladder for the entire anadromous fish migration season in 2017, therefore MassWildlife supports the application for Low Impact Certification by the Lowell Hydroelectric Project (FERC #2790).

Caleb Slater

## Caleb Slater, PhD

Anadromous Fish Project Leader

Massachusetts Division of Fisheries and Wildlife

1 Rabbit Hill Road, Westborough, MA 01581

p: (508) 389-6331 | e: Caleb.Slater@state.ma.us

mass.gov/masswildlife | facebook.com/masswildlife