On January 29th, 2013 the SFR Hydro was certified by the Low Impact Hydropower Institute (LIHI) as a low impact facility (LIHI Certificate No. 100). As a condition of its certification, SFR Hydro is required to develop a system for maintaining records sufficient to demonstrate compliance with the headpond elevation and flow management limitations set forth under the terms of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC). SFR Hydro is required to discharge from the project an instantaneous flow of 58 cfs or inflow to the project area, whichever is less. Within 90 days of the date of issuance of the certification, SFR Hydro shall provide a written flow management plan that outlines the systems in place to properly manage flows and headpond levels, and to produce compliance records. Prior to filing the plan, SFR Hydro shall consult with the USFWS, the N.H. Department of Fish and Game, and the N.H. Department of Environmental Services to address the method for releasing the bypass minimum flow and how records will be supplemented to enable demonstration of compliance with the bypass minimum flow.

SFR Hydro has prepared this Run-of-River and Minimum Flow Monitoring Plan in response to the requirements of its January 29th, 2013 certification by the Low Impact Hydropower Institute (see Appendix 1).

**Project Description**

The SFR Hydro project is located on the Salmon Falls River in Milton, Strafford County, New Hampshire. The major project features include: (1) a reservoir with a 3-acre surface area, and useable storage capacity of roughly 30 acre-feet; (2) a dam consisting of one section 130 feet in length (3) 8 foot high flashboards; (4) transmission equipment and electrical facilities; and (5) appurtenant equipment. The existing turbine-generator units have a combined capacity of 1550 kW.

**Operating Requirements Under FERC Exemption P-3984**

The Project Owner shall operate the project in a run-of-river mode such that inflow to the project equals outflow from the project on an instantaneous basis and fluctuations of the head pond water level are minimized. The operating regime may be temporarily modified by approved maintenance activities agreement between SFR Hydro and appropriate state and federal resources agencies, or by extreme hydrologic conditions or emergency electrical system conditions.
SFR Hydro shall discharge from the project an instantaneous flow of at least 58 cfs or inflow to the project area, whichever is less. Minimum flows may be temporarily modified by approved maintenance activities, by agreement between the Project Owner and appropriate state and federal resource agencies, or by extreme hydrologic conditions or emergency electrical system conditions.

**Eel Passage**

SFR Hydro will install an eel passage in accordance with USFWS and N.H Department of Fish and Game regulations (see Appendix 1, Condition No. 3). This will provide both interim and permanent downstream passage and permanent upstream passage. SFR Hydro will establish this eel passage by August 1st, 2015.

**Compliance Monitoring**

Compliance monitoring and documentation will be performed by the control system and project’s owner. Compliance monitoring will be manually recorded daily. The recorded data will include the following for compliance monitoring purposes:

- Date and time
- Headpond level
- Total output of units (kW)
- Pond discharge (cfs)

The control system records the pond level every 5 seconds. All logged data will be stored in the powerhouse office for compliance record-keeping purposes.

Compliance with run-of-river operating conditions will be confirmed by demonstrating that the headpond level is at or above 340 fasl at all times when any units are operating, such that spillage of all inflow will occur shortly after unit trip. When the units are off-line all inflow will be passed through the automated hydraulic gate closest to the project intake to facilitate fish passage.

**Agency Consultation**

Pursuant to the consultant requirements of Condition 1 of the LIHI certificate, SFR Hydro has submitted this Plan to the USFWS, N.H. Department of Fish and Game, and the N.H. Department of Environmental Services for their review and comment. Any feedback received from the agencies will be incorporated in this plan and will be re-circulated to the agencies for their approval.
Thank you for your consideration of this proposed monitoring and compliance plan. If you have any questions concerning this plan please contact us at French.williamh@gmail.com or Sbf-ATC@abenakitimber.com.

Sincerely,

SFR Hydro

William H. French
General Manager of SFR Hydro
Appendix 1

Copy of LIHI certification of exemption for SFR Hydro. Under LIHI Certificate No. 100, the certification approves SFR Hydro as a Low Impact Facility under the Conditions 1-4.
January 29, 2013, LIHI Certifies South Milton Hydroelectric Project

Portland, Maine (July 30, 2012) At its January 29, 2013 meeting, the Institute’s Governing Board determined that the South Milton Hydroelectric Project (FERC No. P-3984) meets the LIHI Certification Criteria.

This is to certify that Salmon Falls River Hydro Corporation’s South Milton Hydroelectric Project (LIHI Certificate No. 100) has been determined by the Governing Board of LIHI to meet the requirements of the Low Impact Hydropower Certification Program. The South Milton Facility is located in Milton, New Hampshire. The certification effective date for the South Milton Project is September 6, 2012 and will expire on September 6, 2017.

The Institute’s Governing Board reviewed the application for certification, as well as the Application Reviewer’s report. The Board’s vote to certify the South Milton Hydroelectric Project was unanimous and the Board approves certification for the South Milton Hydroelectric Project for 5 years with the following conditions:
• **Condition No. 1.** SFR Hydro shall maintain a minimum flow of 58 cfs, or inflow if less, in the penstock-bypassed reach of river.

• **Condition No. 2.** After consultation with the USFWS, the N.H. Department of Fish and Game, and the N.H. Department of Environmental Services, SFR Hydro shall revise the Project flow monitoring plan to address the method for releasing the bypass minimum flow and how records will be supplemented to enable demonstration of compliance with the bypass minimum flow. The revised plan will be filed with FERC for approval within 90 days of LIHI’s grant of certification; SFR Hydro shall copy LIHI on the filing.

• **Condition No. 3.** By October 1, 2013, SFR Hydro shall enter into, and provide LIHI with a copy of, an agreement reached between the USFWS, the New Hampshire Department of Fish and Game, and SFR Hydro for providing both interim and permanent downstream passage and permanent upstream passage, that are safe, timely, and effective, for American eel, including a description of the planned passage and protection measures and the implementation schedule for design, installation, and operations. Said permanent facilities for upstream and downstream passage shall be in place and operational by August 1, 2015, and SFR Hydro shall notify LIHI within two weeks of completion. Pending the agreement, SFR Hydro shall continue providing downstream passage by maintaining the exclusionary trashracks and passing eels through the opening in one sluicegate during the period August 15 to November 15. In the event that the USFWS and the New Hampshire Department of Fish and Game determine prior to the installation of permanent downstream passage that the above-described interim downstream passage measure is not providing safe, timely and effective interim passage for outmigrating eels, SFR Hydro shall implement other reasonable interim measures as requested by these agencies.

• **Condition No. 4.** SFR Hydro shall consult with, and obtain approval from, the State Historic Preservation Office for activities that may have an adverse effect on historic properties, including excavation, demolition, and structural alteration. Information on such activities shall be included in the annual reports filed with LIHI.

Any Commenter may submit within 30 days of the posting of the Certification Decision on the Institute’s Web page a letter to the Executive Director requesting an appeal. An appeal request must include specific reasons why the hydropower facility should have failed one or more criteria. If an individual or organization did not comment on the initial Application Package, they may not file an appeal.

It is your responsibility to maintain compliance with the certification criteria and to notify us of any changed conditions relevant to the certification. This could include changes in agency recommendations, or changes in operations. You will also be asked to fill out a short form each year to confirm compliance during the preceding year. The Institute may also conduct occasional follow-up checks with you and/or relevant resource agencies to ensure that the South Milton Project remains in compliance.

I strongly recommend you review LIHI’s Certification Use Requirements (addressing the language to be used for describing a LIHI Certified Facility for marketing purposes), our Compliance standards and the penalties for non-compliance, as well as current information about renewing your certification. That information, as you know, is available at the LIHI website (www.lowimpacthydro.org).

If the Institute identifies a problem with the South Milton Hydropower Project’s compliance with the certification criteria, it will evaluate the situation and take any necessary actions. In the case of non-compliance, possible responses include the suspension or revocation of the certification. Factors to be considered would include the scope, duration, and intensity of any
Appendix 2

Flow monitoring charts to ensure headpond elevation of 340 fasl under various conditions.
Milton G.S.

Stop Log Slot #19 (39" slot) Discharge Curve

Normal Headpond Elevation - 340 ft

Number of Logs Removed:
- 1
- 2
- 3
- 4
- 5
- 6
- 7

Headpond Elevation (ft)

Slot Discharge (cfs)

Note: There are 9 logs, each 10" high and 39" wide. During high flow situations all logs can be removed except for the bottom 5th log. It has been assumed that the top elevation of the logs is 4" above normal headpond (same as the other slots), even though it actually varied from the other slots.

APS Div. no. 608-710/00
Milton G.S.

Stop Log Slot #1 to 18 Discharge Curve

Note: These curves are only for one stop log slot. For multiple slots, the flows must be determined separately and then added together. There are 9 logs.

Normal Headpond Elevation - 340 feet

Headpond Elevation (feet)

Slot Discharge (cfs)

Number of Logs Removed:

0  1  2  3  4  5  6  7  8  9

342.5  341.5  340.5  339.5  338.5  337.5  336.5  335.5  334.5

APS Dwg. no. 606-709V0