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Patricia McIlvaine
Acting Executive Director
Low Impact Hydropower Institute
c/o Wright Pierce
99 Main Street
Topsham, ME 04086

Subject: Recertification Recommendation for the Mother Ann Lee Hydroelectric Project (LIHI Certificate # 24)

Dear Pat:

This letter contains my recommendation for recertification of the Mother Ann Lee Hydroelectric Project (the "Project").

I. Recertification Standards

Part V of LIHI's Certification Handbook (Updated December 2011) regarding Applications for Recertification ("Recertification Standards") provides that a "request for renewal of a previously-issued LIHI certification ("re-certification") will be granted at the conclusion of the term of the existing certification if re-certification is desired by the certificate holder, and so long as (1) there have been no "material changes" at the facility that would affect the certification and (2) LIHI's certification criteria have not been revised since the previous certification was issued by LIHI."

The Recertification review criteria also provide that "[i]f the Application Reviewer can definitively determine from the submitted application materials, a review of the LIHI file containing the past certification decision(s), any public comments received during the application process, and any limited reviewer-initiated questioning by LIHI of the applicant and/or third parties, that the answer to both questions above is "no," the Application Reviewer will recommend re-certification approval to LIHI's Executive Director, and there will be no further application review.

II. No further application review is recommended.

I reviewed the materials submitted by Lock 7 Hydro Partners LLC in support of its application dated November 16, 2011 for recertification of the Mother Ann Lee Hydroelectric Project (the "Project"). As a result of that review, we requested additional information, which was supplied by the Applicant by e-mails dated April 11, June 20, and September 8, 2012. I also reviewed FERC's public information file on the Project.

In my opinion, the aforementioned materials are sufficient to make a recertification recommendation and no further application review is recommended.

III. There have been no "material changes" at the facility that would affect the certification.

In accordance with the Recertification Standards, "material changes" mean non-compliance and/or new or renewed issues of concern that are relevant to LIHI's criteria. I find that there are no instances of non-compliance or new or renewed issues of concern.

The Applicant provided correspondence from the following state and federal agencies: Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources, Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources (Tourism, Arts, and Heritage Cabinet), Kentucky State Historic Preservation Office, Kentucky Department for Environmental Protection (Division of Water), U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. The correspondence indicates that these agencies have no concerns with respect to the Mother Ann Lee Project.

In addition, I searched the FERC record for the past five-year period. I identified no issues related to LIHI criteria in the FERC record for the Mother Ann Lee Project over the past five years. The only filings found in the FERC record related to making required filings pursuant to FERC's dam safety and emergency action planning requirements that all FERC licensees must file and filings relating to refinement of the Project's boundary.

IV. LIHI's certification criteria have not been revised since the previous certification was issued by LIHI in 2007.

It is my understanding that LIHI's criteria, or the Board's interpretation of one or more criterion, that are applicable to the circumstances of the Mother Ann Lee Hydroelectric Project have not changed in meaningful ways since the date of the original certification.

V. Conclusion

In light of the above, I recommend recertification of the Mother Ann Lee Hydroelectric Project. Please contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,



Sarah A. Verville
Senior Consultant