



Commonwealth of Massachusetts

# Division of Fisheries & Wildlife

**MassWildlife**

Jack Buckley, *Director*

October 22, 2015

Dana Hall, Director  
Low Impact Hydropower Institute  
34 Providence Street  
Portland, ME  
04103

RE: Oakdale Hydroelectric Project (FERC #10689)

Dear Ms. Hall:

The Department of Fish and Game (“DFG”) hereby submits the following comments on the Low Impact Hydropower Institute’s (“LIHI”) Pending Application for the proposed LIHI re-certification of Oakdale Project located at the outlet of the Quabbin Aqueduct in West Boylston, Massachusetts.

DFG is submitting these comments to LIHI in order to fulfill the requirements of the Massachusetts Department of Energy Resources (“DOER”) Renewable Energy Portfolio Standard Regulations (225 CMR 14.00; “RPS I” and 225 CMR 15.00; “RPS II”). The RPS I and RPS II regulations were promulgated by DOER on January 1, 2009 and require that any hydroelectric project wishing to qualify as either a RPS I or RPS II generator first obtain LIHI certification. These regulations also require all relevant regulatory agencies to comment on the pending LIHI application.

## **PROJECT**

The Oakdale hydroelectric project is located at the outlet of the Quabbin Aqueduct just upstream of Wachusett Reservoir and near the mouth of the Quinepoxet River in West Boylston, Massachusetts. The project has an installed capacity of 3,500kW with average annual generation of 12,000,000kWH.

## **COMMENTS**

There have been no issues with this project since it was LIHI certified in 2010, therefore the DFG has no objection to re-certification of the Oakdale Hydroelectric Project as a “Low Impact” facility.

Thank you for this opportunity to comment.

Sincerely,

Caleb Slater, Ph.D.  
Anadromous Fish Project Leader

[www.mass.gov/masswildlife](http://www.mass.gov/masswildlife)

Division of Fisheries and Wildlife

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