

**blackBEAR Hydro Partners, LLC**

Davenport Street  
PO Box 276  
Milford, ME 04461-0276



10 May 2013

Michael J. Sale, PhD, Executive Director  
Low Impact Hydro Institute  
704 Potters Falls Road  
Wartburg, TN 37887

**RE: BLACK BEAR HYDRO PARTNERS, LLC APPLICATION TO CERTIFY THE  
EXISTING AND NEW ADDITION AT THE MILFORD HYDROELECTRIC  
PROJECT (FERC No. 2534)**

Dear Mike,

As we recently discussed, Black Bear Hydro Partners, LLC has committed significant time, energy and resources into the “Lower Penobscot River Multiparty Settlement Agreement” (Penobscot Agreement) and associated comprehensive settlement agreement with the Penobscot Indian Nation in order to provide a balanced ecosystem in concert with generating clean renewable electricity from its Penobscot River hydropower projects. As a result, we are certain that in addition to meeting the specific Low Impact Hydropower Institute (LIHI) criteria the Milford Hydroelectric Project is also a prime example of a low impact hydropower project that both protects and preserves the environment.

Therefore, please see enclosed the completed LIHI questionnaire for the above-referenced project, which is also accompanied by the related supporting information and documents. We are also providing additional background information that details the Penobscot Agreement’s holistic ecosystem, fisheries, wildlife, cultural, community, and economic benefits that are applicable to the project as an integral component to the Penobscot Agreement.

As part of the Penobscot Agreement we have already realized many of the benefits that confirm the previously LIHI-certified Orono, Stillwater and Medway Hydropower Projects are low impact. As an important next step in continuing to implement the agreement we are continuing to rebalance clean, renewable, low impact hydropower generation on the Penobscot River by increasing generation at certain facilities in order to replace the generation that will be lost with the associated dam removals, and by upgrading fish passage measures at all three of those facilities. Specific to this application, in order to take advantage of the available river flows at the Milford Project we recently added 1.4 MW of capacity to vacant turbine bays within the existing powerhouse. Likewise, we are making significant investments to upgrade fish passage facilities at the Milford Project, as called for under the Penobscot Agreement.

Michael J. Sale, PhD, Executive Director

10 May 2013

Page 2

In addition, the inflatable crest control system designed to enhance upstream fish passage at the project, as called for under Attachment A and therefore the amended FERC license, has already been installed at Milford.

Therefore, please consider this and the associated enclosures as BBHP's request for the following LIHI certification:

- Certification for the original 6.4 MW Milford Hydroelectric Project; and as new for the recently added 1.4 MW of capacity at the Milford powerhouse.

Pursuant to the Milford Project's LIHI certification application please see enclosed a CD containing the completed LIHI questionnaire and the related supporting information and documents (e.g. FERC Order Amending License; revised Water Quality Certificate; related Biological Opinion for Atlantic salmon, shortnose sturgeon and Atlantic sturgeon; project description; etc.). Finally, we are also enclosing a check to cover LIHI's initial review fee (\$750).

We appreciate LIHI's thoughtful and timely review of this submittal and look forward to working with LIHI staff and the Board to complete the certification process. Please don't hesitate to contact me (207-827-5364 or [shall@blackbearhydro.com](mailto:shall@blackbearhydro.com)) with any additional questions.

Sincerely,



Scott D. Hall

Vice President – Environmental & Business Services

Enclosures

Cc: Dana Hall, LIHI Deputy Director  
PO Box 194  
131 Martha Road  
Harrington Park, New Jersey 07640