

# CITY OF COHOES



## OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

JOHN T. McDONALD III  
MAYOR

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January 22, 2010

Mr. Fred Ayers  
Low Impact Hydropower Institute  
34 Providence Street  
Portland, ME 04103

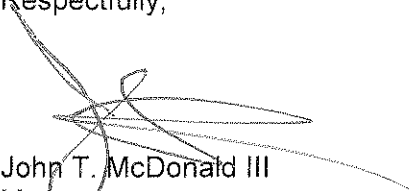
Dear Mr. Ayers:

In response to your request for comments regarding the School Street Project's application for Low Impact Hydropower Institute certification, I am submitting this letter in support of the Application.

The School Street project, owned by Brookfield, is a run-of-river hydro facility that provides clean power to our region. Brookfield has built a beautiful park, Falls View Park, and pedestrian bridge linking our city to a view of the Cohoes Falls that was previously unavailable. Brookfield has won awards for the Park. For example, the National Park Service awarded Brookfield the "*Erie Canalway Heritage Award of Excellence*" for the facility in 2008. The Park has attracted over 60,000 visitors since its opening. In addition, School Street provides constant flows over the falls with naturally high flows in spring and summer. Both the Park and the flows have had a very positive effect on our community.

To the extent that I am familiar with both the LIHI criteria and the operations of the project, I believe that the School Street project deserves certification.

Respectfully,

  
John T. McDonald III  
Mayor  
City of Cohoes