



United States Department of the Interior



FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

3817 Luker Road
Cortland, NY 13045

January 6, 2015

Dana Hall, Deputy Director
Low Impact Hydropower Institute
PO Box 194
Harrington Park, NJ 07640

**RE: School Street Hydroelectric Project (FERC #2539)
Application for Recertification as Low Impact**

Dear Ms. Hall:

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) has reviewed the materials regarding the request by Erie Boulevard Hydropower, LP (Erie) for re-certification of the School Street Hydroelectric Project (Project) as low impact. The Project, which is located on the Mohawk River in Albany and Saratoga Counties, New York, was originally certified as low impact by the Low Impact Hydropower Institute in 2009. The Service concurred with the original certification.

The license issued by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission for this Project incorporated all of the provisions of an Offer of Settlement signed by Erie, the Service, and numerous other stakeholders in 2005. To the best of our knowledge, Erie is still in full compliance with this license. Since the original certification, Erie has installed an angled trashrack with 1-inch clear spacing and a downstream fish passage system. Testing with a variety of fish species has demonstrated adequate passage effectiveness of the facility.

The Service has no objections to recertification of the School Street Project. We appreciate the opportunity to comment on the application. If you have any questions or desire additional information, please contact Steve Patch at 607-753-9334.

Sincerely,


David A. Stilwell
Field Supervisor