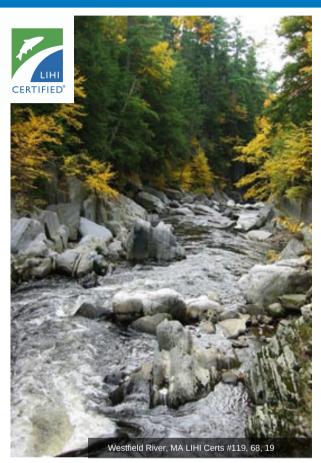
LOW IMPACT HYDROPOWER INSTITUTE

The Low Impact Hydropower Institute (LIHI) is the only national independent certifier for hydroelectric projects that avoid or significantly reduce their environmental impacts



LIHI Certified[®] Hydropower

LIHI is dedicated to reducing the impacts of hydropower by recognizing projects which actively protect river ecosystems. LIHI Certification provides owners access to market-based and reputational incentives. Reducing environmental impacts promotes more opportunities for the project to thrive.

Existing hydropower facilities, as well as new projects constructed at nonpowered dams and conduit projects, are eligible for Certification. Projects on dams recommended for removal are not eligible. Upon application and approval, LIHI certifies qualified hydropower facilities that satisfy eight Certification Criteria, developed by a team of NGOs and industry representatives through a public process.

Awareness and Confidence

No technology is without environmental impact. Hydropower is uniquely intertwined with the natural world around it, which can raise its environmental risk profile. LIHI Certified[®] hydropower assures consumers that their hydropower-based electricity has been independently verified as protecting river habitat and resources, while giving owners access to regulatory and voluntary power markets that can provide return on their environmental investment.

Certification Criteria

Assessing whether a facility is Low Impact requires a comprehensive evaluation. Low Impact is not defined by size or specific operational parameters alone, but by all of the following:

- Ecological flow regimes that support healthy habitats
- Water quality supportive of fish & wildlife resources and human uses
- Safe, timely & effective upstream and downstream fish passage
- Protection, mitigation & enhancement of the soils, vegetation, & ecosystem functions in the **watershed**
- Protection of threatened and endangered species
- Avoidance of impacts on cultural and historic resources
- Recreation access is provided without fee or charge





LOW IMPACT HYDROPOWER INSTITUTE



Certification Stats

157 certificates | 273 facilities | 23 states | 95 Rivers

4 GW capacity - more than the amount of solar capacity installed in New York and Colorado combined (seia.org)

16,292 GWh annual generation - enough to power roughly 1.4 million average US households per year (eia.gov)

11 million metric tons of carbon dioxide emissions avoided per year - equivalent to avoiding the use of 26 million barrels of oil (epa.gov)

About LIHI

The LIHI standard was established in 2000 by a coalition of environmental organizations led by American Rivers and Green Mountain Energy Company, with the assistance of the Center for Resource Solutions and representatives of the hydropower industry, environmental organizations, renewable power marketers, and other environmental stakeholders. The national environmental organizations listed below are among those that have provided representation to LIHI's Governing Board and/or Advisory Panels. The LIHI structure also includes advisory input from the hydropower industry, renewable energy marketers, and state and federal resource management agencies.

LIHI Board, Advisors & Founders:



Rivers Connect Us®





Board members represent themselves, not necessarily their organizations

Science for a healthy planet and safer world



Shannon Ames, Executive Director 1167 Massachusetts Avenue, Office 407 Arlington, MA 02476 sames@lowimpacthydro.org | 339 - 970 - 9337 www.lowimpacthydro.org