



MASSWILDLIFE

## DIVISION OF FISHERIES & WILDLIFE

1 Rabbit Hill Road, Westborough, MA 01581

p: (508) 389-6300 | f: (508) 389-7890

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March 9, 2021

Ms. Shannon Ames, Executive Director  
Low Impact Hydropower Institute  
1167 Massachusetts Avenue, Office 407  
Arlington, Massachusetts 02476

RE: Texon (Crescent) Hydroelectric Project  
FERC No. P-2986, LIHI No. 119

Dear Ms. Ames:

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 certification of the Texon (Crescent) Hydroelectric Project in the town of Russell and the County of Hampden, 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 Texon (formerly known as Crescent) Project is located on the Westfield River on mile 24 between the town of Russell and Huntington, MA. The project is located approximately 6 miles downstream of the Army Corps of Engineers Knightville Dam (non-hydroelectric) and 2.5 upstream of the Indian River Hydroelectric Project (Ferc No. 12462). The Project has a 1.5 MW rated capacity and produces 5,600 MWh in average annual generation.

### **COMMENTS**

We request the continued operation of the upstream eel ramp at the Texon Project. The Indian River Project (next downstream dam) has an eel ramp installation planned for spring/summer 2021. Additionally, the first dam on the Westfield River (West Springfield Project-LIHI No. 19) has a planned eel ramp installation for summer 2022-2023. Therefore, we continue to anticipate the need for upstream passage at the Texon Project. We also request that safe and appropriate downstream passage measures for American Eel be provided at the Project upon request.

We have no other comments on this relicensing.

Thank you for this opportunity to comment.

Sincerely,

Steven Mattocks  
Fisheries Operations Biologist  
Massachusetts Division of Fisheries and Wildlife  
Westborough, MA

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