

LOW IMPACT HYDROPOWER INSTITUTE

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Island Park Project Earns Renewal of Low Impact Certification

PORTLAND, ME – (August 14, 2006) – The Low Impact Hydropower Institute (LIHI) announced today that at their August 10, 2006 Board Meeting, the Fall River Rural Electric Cooperative (FRREC)'s Island Park Project earned LIHI's Low Impact Certification. The Island Park Project (FERC No. 2973) is located on the Henry's Fork River in Idaho. The Island Park Project was originally certified by LIHI in 2001 and was the second hydro project to be certified under LIHI's voluntary Low Impact Certification Program. That original certification which had a five-year term expired this month. The new certification, which is also for five years, expires in 2011.

Island Park Dam, Reservoir and Hydroelectric Plant are located on the Henry's Fork, a tributary of the Snake River in Idaho, approximately 0.4 miles upstream of the confluence with the Buffalo River. The project is located in eastern Idaho within the Island Park District of the Targhee National Forest; the reservoir covers 7,794 acres within the Forest. The headwaters of the Henry's Fork River begin 31 miles above the dam, at Henry's Lake.

The Island Park Hydroelectric Project was constructed between September 1992 and July 1994 on the existing (USBR) Island Park Dam. The Island Park Dam was constructed in 1939 by the USBR. The Island Park Hydroelectric Project is a FERC-licensed run of the river project using waters diverted from the Island Park Reservoir under the direction of the Fremont-Madison Irrigation District and the USBR. FRREC owns the Island Park Hydroelectric Project.

"We are pleased that FRREC chose to apply for renewal of their Low Impact certificate for the Island Park Project and we appreciate the support of the FRREC and others in the hydro industry who continue to support LIHI's efforts." said Richard Roos-Collins, chair of LIHI's Governing Board. "It seems to me that this is a good indication of the value some hydro owners are placing on LIHI's Low Impact certification program." Fred Ayer, LIHI's Executive Director, echoed Roos-Collins' comments and added, "We are proud of the fact that our Low Impact certification Program helps the right-type of hydro facilities take their proper place in our country's renewable energy portfolio."

The LIHI certification program is relatively new, having certified its first plant in March 2001 and having our first renewal of a certificate this year. The Institute's voluntary certification program is designed to help consumers identify environmentally sound, low impact hydropower facilities for emerging "green" energy markets.

The Island Park Project meets LIHI's eight environmentally rigorous low impact criteria addressing river flows, water quality, fish passage and protection, watershed health, endangered species protection, cultural resources, recreation use and access, and whether or not the dam itself has been recommended for removal. The Island Park Project successfully completed LIHI's formal review process, which includes a public comment period, review by an independent technical consultant or LIHI staff, consultations with state and federal natural resource agencies, and evaluation by the LIHI Governing Board, including leaders in the river conservation and renewable energy fields. The Board's vote to re-certify the Island Park Project was six votes in favor and one abstention.

For more information about projects certified as low impact, contact Fred Ayer, LIHI Executive Director, at (207) 773-8190, or visit the LIHI Web site at www.lowimpacthydro.org LIHI is a nonprofit organization that certifies environmentally low impact hydropower facilities nationwide to help energy consumers and to support market incentives for reducing the effects of hydropower dams on the nation's rivers and streams.
