

March 21, 2019

VIA EMAIL & HAND DELIVERY

Mr. Mark Bergeron, Director
Bureau of Land Resources
Department of Environmental Protection
17 State House Station
Augusta, ME 04333

Ellsworth Hydroelectric Project (FERC No. 2727)
New Application for Water Quality Certification (Section 401)

Dear Mr. Bergeron:

On behalf of Black Bear Hydro Partners, LLC (BBHP or Licensee), enclosed please find a hardcopy of a new application for water quality certification (WQC) for the Ellsworth Hydroelectric Project (FERC No. 2727). The application is for the continued operation, with modification, of the Ellsworth Hydroelectric Project (Project). This application includes material revisions to the operating proposals contained in BBHP's application for WQC dated April 9, 2018. The April 9, 2018 application is hereby withdrawn. The materially revised operating proposals include a reduction in the annual operating range of Graham Lake from 10.8 feet to 5.7 feet, and an increase in seasonal minimum flows from 105 cfs to 125 cfs.

As required, a check in the amount of \$5,348.90 made payable to the State of Maine for the processing of the WQC application is enclosed. In accordance with MDEP regulations for WQC application processing, BBHP provides herein one hard copy and one CD of the WQC application. Two hard copies of the FERC license application and subsequent filings were previously provided to the Department and are incorporated herein by reference. Also provided herein is one CD of the final FERC license application, including the appendices to the final FERC license application and subsequent FERC filings. BBHP is also sending by certified mail a duplicate of the WQC application to the town clerks for Ellsworth, Mariaville, and Waltham, Maine and to the Land Use Planning Commission, as representative for the unorganized township of Fletchers Landing.

If you have any questions regarding the WQC application, please contact me by phone at (207) 755-5603 or by email at Frank.Dunlap@BrookfieldRenewable.com.

Sincerely,



Frank H. Dunlap
Licensing Specialist

CC: Kathy Howatt, Maine DEP
Project Manager, FERC

Attachments:

- Hardcopy of the WQC Application with Attachments (1 copy)
- A CD of the WQC Application with Attachments (including FERC License Application and Appendices and Licensee's subsequent filings)