

FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION
Washington, D. C. 20426

OFFICE OF ENERGY PROJECTS

Project No. 2572-142-Maine
Ripogenus Hydroelectric Project
Great Lakes Hydro America, LLC

March 3, 2026

VIA FERC Service

Randall Doorman
Senior Compliance Manager
460 Civic Center Drive
Augusta, ME 04330

Subject: Request to Respond to Trout Unlimited January 16, 2026, Comments

Dear Mr. Doorman:

On August 5, 2025, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (Commission) staff issued a letter requesting additional information and initiating a compliance investigation into the outage incident that occurred on June 17, 2025 at the Ripogenus Hydroelectric Project P-2572.^{1,2} The outage incident resulted in deviations from Article 402 and 403 that you reported to the Commission on June 26, 2025. Initially, the Commission received public comments regarding the outage incident that were filed on June 28, 2025, and July 21, 2025. Additionally, on January 16, 2026, Trout Unlimited filed further comments regarding the outage incident that occurred on June 17, 2025.³ Therefore, in order to complete the ongoing compliance investigation regarding the June 17, 2025, outage incident, Commission staff are requesting you to respond to the recommendations contained in the January 16, 2026, filing from Trout Unlimited.

In summary, Trout Unlimited's filing alleges that your current Plan for Monitoring and Providing Minimum Flows under Article 403 does not meet the intent of Article 403 of the current license. This allegation is based on data they provide in the filing. Trout Unlimited requests that in order to remedy the alleged failure to meet the intent of Article 403 that you should be required to install, at your expense, a USGS-standard flow/temperature gage in the Telos Bridge area so that future events can be evaluated using accurate, independent data. Furthermore, Trout Unlimited states that in the absence of a

¹ Order Issuing New License (77 FERC ¶ 61,066) issued October 22, 1996.

² Order Modifying and Approving Plan for Monitoring and Providing Minimum Flows (88 FERC ¶ 62,157) issued August 19, 1997.

³ Accession number 20260116-5019

USGS flow/temperature gage, you should direct the continuous release of 400 cubic feet per second (cfs) through a deep gate to buffer and mitigate the effects of future trip events, and direct you to return a dam keeper to Ripogenus Dam to reduce outage duration as per their prior request.

Your response should include an assessment of the proposals' feasibility along with the potential benefits and drawbacks to implementing the proposed recommendation to install a gaging station, and the alternative proposal to require a 400 cfs release from the dam and returning a dam keeper onsite. If you do not propose adopting either of the recommendations, then you must include the reasons, based on project specific information.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. Please file your response by **April 17, 2026**. If you have any questions regarding this letter, please contact me at 202-502-8041 or michael.calloway@ferc.gov.

Sincerely,
MICHAEL
CALLOWAY

 Digitally signed by MICHAEL
CALLOWAY
Date: 2026.03.03 11:32:47 -05'00'

Michael Calloway
Aquatic Resources Branch
Division of Hydropower Administration
and Compliance