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Nicholas Hollister
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August 5, 2021

Via Electronic Filing

Kimberly D. Bose, Secretary
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
888 First Street, N.E.
Washington, DC 20426

Re: Turners Falls Hydroelectric Project (FERC No. 1889), FirstLight MA Hydro LLC, Northfield Mountain Pumped Storage Project (FERC No. 2485), Northfield Mountain LLC Comment On Request to Defer Issuance of Notice of Acceptance / Ready for Environmental Analysis

Secretary Bose,

Over the course of the past several months, FirstLight has engaged resource agencies and other stakeholders in renewed discussions on outstanding issues pertaining to fish passage, flow proposals, and recreation with an intention of seeking a comprehensive settlement agreement. On August 3, the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) outlined these efforts and requested a delay in FERC's issuance of its Notice of Acceptance and Ready for Environmental Analysis until November 12, 2021.

We support DEP's request and would welcome the additional time to continue working with stakeholders to reach an agreement on the outstanding issues. As the DEP pointed out in its letter, FERC's policy favors settlement, and we believe that the additional time could result in meaningful progress ultimately leading to a beneficial outcome. Therefore, we echo DEP's request that FERC defer the issuance of the Notice of Acceptance and Ready for Environmental Analysis until November 12, 2021. We anticipate providing the Commission a report on the parties' progress at that time.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Nick Hollister".

Nick Hollister
Senior Operations Manager, North