

Project No. 5379-008

Project No. P-5379-008—New Hampshire
Hadley Falls Project
New Hampshire Department of
Environmental Services

Date: 10/24/2023

Shana M. Wiseman, Chief
Environmental and Project Review Branch
Division of Hydropower Administration and Compliance

Re: Plan and Schedule to Surrender the Hadley Falls Hydroelectric Project

Dear Ms. Wiseman:

I am writing in response to your letter of June 16, 2023, and as a follow-up to our conference call with Jennifer Polardino on July 18, 2023. We very much appreciate the opportunity to discuss the efforts of the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (NHDES) to surrender the project's exemption.

Below is the current Plan and Schedule for filing a surrender application by May 31, 2024.

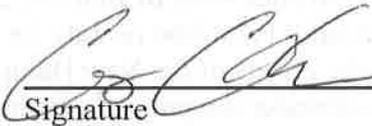
- On June 29, 2023, NHDES approved a task order with a consultant under contract to perform a hydrologic analysis to support assessment and future design efforts at dams within the Piscataquog River Watershed. Assessment at Hadley Falls Dam is included in this evaluation. NHDES anticipates results of this analysis by April 1, 2024.
- On August 22, 2023, NHDES presented information on the removal of Hadley Falls Dam at a public meeting hosted by the Town of Goffstown at the NH Institute of Politics at Saint Anselm College. This meeting was attended by over 200 members of the public and was recorded for future viewing. The recording can be found at https://videoplayer.telvue.com/player/SzsDk6b45y6N97eOtbGQ_hsTcS0ZfQgT/media/819470?autostart=false&showtabssearch=true NHDES has been fielding questions from members of the public on the project since the meeting took place.
- On August 23, 2023, NHDES approved a task order with a consultant under contract to document alternatives for removing Hadley Falls Dam. Various alternatives related to fish passage and river restoration in the post-removal state will be developed and evaluated based on constructability, anticipated benefits, and estimated cost. NHDES anticipates results of this analysis by June 1, 2024.
- On October 16, 2023, NHDES submitted an application to the NOAA Restoring Fish Passage through Barrier Removal Grant. This grant application included the request for \$6,479,694 to fund the design and construction to remove Hadley Falls

Dam and to provide community improvements and fish passage at the site of Hadley Falls Dam once the dam is removed. NHDES anticipates receiving results of the grant award in early 2024.

To ensure NHDES is meeting FERC requirements for the surrender application, NHDES is in the process of approving a task order with a consultant to help facilitate discussions with FERC to better define regulatory requirements. The outcome of these discussions may require NHDES to adjust the date in which NHDES intends on filing a surrender application. NHDES anticipates on reaching out to Jennifer Polardino as soon as this task order is finalized with the consultant. It is anticipated that this meeting would likely take place in November or December of 2023 depending on attendees' availability.

We trust that this plan and schedule are responsive to the requirements set forth in your letter of June 16, 2023, but please let me know if you have any questions or need additional information.

Corey Clark, P.E.
Chief Engineer
NH Department of Environmental Services
29 Hazen Drive, P.O. Box 95
Concord, NH 03302


Signature

cc: Town of Goffstown, 16 Main Street, Goffstown, NH 03045

Document Content(s)

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