

Nancy Bladyka, Springfield, VT.

To: The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC)

As a frequent user of the Connecticut River waters between Ascutney, Vermont, and Bellows Falls, Vermont, I would like to submit comment on the regulations of the river between:

Â· Wilder Dam, P-1892-030

Â· Bellows Falls Dam, P-1855-050

Fluctuations of the river level due to hydro facility drawdown seems to be affecting wildlife and the sedimentation changes. Controlled fluctuation may be worth implementing and studying.

Town of Springfield and surrounding towns do not have access to the river at any other point than Hoyt's Landing which seems to be provided to those who wish to fish for sport and is not welcoming to other uses such as rowing, paddling, small gatherings and events other than fishing tournaments. The river is a public waterways and a natural resource that everyone should be able to enjoy.

Because of the limitations of the use of Hoyt's Landing, as designated by the State Dept. of Fish and Wildlife, other options should be made available in the Springfield area for recreational use. There is an interest in establishing a community rowing facility in the area which could be used for small craft instruction and for development of school teams, for community access to the river, and for canoe camping along the river.

Great River Hydro does an admirable job of managing nearby Herrick's Cove. Outreach by Great River Hydro for a public/private partnership to establish a rowing facility would greatly enhance the diversity of recreation in the area and create more possibility for river stewardship.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Nancy Bladyka

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