

FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION  
Washington, D.C. 20426  
February 12, 2021

OFFICE OF ENERGY PROJECTS

Project No. 1892-030 – Vermont/New Hampshire  
Project No. 1855-050 – Vermont/New Hampshire  
Project No. 1904-078 – Vermont/New Hampshire  
Great River Hydro, LLC

VIA FERC Service

Mr. John L. Ragonese  
FERC License Manager  
Great River Hydro, LLC  
40 Pleasant St., Suite 202  
Portsmouth, NH 03801

**Reference: Additional Information Request**

Dear Mr. Ragonese:

On January 14, 2021, Commission staff requested that Great River Hydro, LLC (GRH), the licensee for the Wilder Hydroelectric Project No. 1892, Bellows Falls Hydroelectric Project No. 1855, and Vernon Hydroelectric Project No. 1904 (projects), provide additional information for the license applications filed on May 1, 2017, and amended on December 7, 2020. Staff is revising the third additional information request included in Schedule B of the January 14, 2021 letter.

Please provide the information requested in Schedule A of this letter by March 15, 2021, pursuant to section 5.21 of the Commission's regulations. If the requested information causes another part of the application to be inaccurate, that part must be revised and refiled by the due date. Please be aware that further requests for additional information may be sent at any time before final action on the license applications.

The Commission strongly encourages electronic filing. Please file the requested information using the Commission's eFiling system at <https://ferconline.ferc.gov/eFiling.aspx>. For assistance, please contact FERC Online Support at [FERCOnlinesupport@ferc.gov](mailto:FERCOnlinesupport@ferc.gov); call toll-free at (866) 208-3676; or, for TTY, contact (202) 502-8659. In lieu of electronic filing, GRH may submit a paper copy. Submissions sent via the U.S. Postal Service must be addressed to: Kimberly D. Bose, Secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street NE, Room 1A, Washington, D.C. 20426. Submissions sent via any other carrier must be addressed to:


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and 1904-078

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Kimberly D. Bose, Secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 12225 Wilkins Avenue, Rockville, Maryland 20852. The first page of any filing should include the applicable docket numbers: P-1892-030, P-1855-050, and P-1904-078.

If GRH has any questions concerning this letter, please contact Steve Kartalia at (202) 502-6131, or via email at [stephen.kartalia@ferc.gov](mailto:stephen.kartalia@ferc.gov).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Nicholas W. Tackett". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "N" and a stylized "T".

Nicholas Tackett, Chief  
New England Branch  
Division of Hydropower Licensing

Attachment: Schedule A – Request for Additional Information

Schedule A

Project Nos. 1892-030, 1855-050, and 1904-078

**REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

On January 14, 2021, Commission staff requested additional information to evaluate the effects of Great River Hydro, LLC's (GRH) proposal to operate the Wilder Hydroelectric Project No. 1892, Bellows Falls Hydroelectric Project No. 1855, and Vernon Hydroelectric Project No. 1904 (projects) in a modified run-of-river mode.<sup>1</sup>

Following the issuance of the January 14, 2021 letter, GRH provided additional information on the simulation model it used to evaluate its proposal to operate the projects in a modified run-of-river mode, and confirmed that it has model outputs for flow releases and water surface elevation levels (WSELs) for the projects for February, June, August, and November of 2009, 2015, 2016, and 2017.<sup>2</sup> Based on this information, staff is revising the third additional information request included in Schedule B of the January 14, 2021 letter.

Please provide the following information to assist staff with its analysis of the effects of the proposed projects:

- 1) WSELs for each project impoundment and flow releases from each project dam and powerhouse in 2009, 2015, 2016, and 2017, including:
  - a) year-round, hourly WSELs and flow releases for current operations and simulated run-of-river operations (i.e., outflow equals inflow); and
  - b) hourly WSELs and flow releases for modified run-of-river operations for February, June, August, and November of each of the specified years; and
- 2) documentation of the development, use, and limitations of GRH's spreadsheet simulation model, referenced on page 3-17 of Exhibit E of the license applications.

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<sup>1</sup> GRH proposes to operate the projects such that outflows approximate inflows, with the flexibility to deviate for a limited number of hours each month. See section 2.2.1 of Exhibit E of the December 7, 2020 amended final license applications.

<sup>2</sup> See Commission staff's January 28, 2021 and February 5, 2021 Memoranda on Additional Information Requests.