



MassWildlife

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Division of Fisheries & Wildlife

Wayne F. MacCallum, *Director*

February 10, 2015

Kimberly D. Bose, Secretary
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
888 First Street, N.E., Room 1A
Washington, DC 20426

RE: Request for Extension of License Term for the Bellows Falls Project (P-1855), Wilder Project (P-1892), and Vernon Project (P-1904)

Dear Secretary Bose:

The Massachusetts Division of Fisheries and Wildlife (Division) is the agency responsible for the protection and management of the fish and wildlife resources of the Commonwealth. As such, we monitor operations at hydroelectric projects within the Commonwealth.

The Department received a copy of the Request for Extension of License Term for Bellows, Wilder and Vernon projects letter for review and comment. While these project are not in MA, they control the flow of the Connecticut River as it enters MA, and therefore exert a significant effect on the fish and wildlife resources of the Commonwealth. After reviewing the request for the extension as presented within the letter, the Department supports the one (1) year extension as requested to fulfill the licensing process; as well as, understand and concur with the need for additional time for conducting the required environmental research studies for these 3 projects.

Thank you for this opportunity to comment.

Sincerely,

Caleb Slater, Ph.D.

www.masswildlife.org

Division of Fisheries and Wildlife
Field Headquarters, One Rabbit Hill Road, Westborough, MA 01581 (508) 389-6300 Fax (508) 389-7890
An Agency of the Department of Fisheries, Wildlife & Environmental Law Enforcement