Brookfield

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April 29, 2022

VIA E-FILING

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

Subject: Rumford Falls Hydroelectric Project (FERC No. 2333-091)

Quarterly Study Progress Report

Dear Secretary Bose:

Rumford Falls Hydro LLC (RFH), a subsidiary of Brookfield Renewable, herein files with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC or Commission) a quarterly study progress report for the Rumford Falls Hydroelectric Project (Project) (FERC No. 2333) in accordance with 18 CFR §5.15(b). The Project, which consists of two discrete developments – the Upper Station Development and the Lower Station Development, is located on the Androscoggin River in the Town of Rumford, Oxford County, Maine. The FERC license for the Project expires on September 30, 2024 and RFH is pursuing a new license for the Project through the Commission's Integrated Licensing Process (ILP).

Consistent with the ILP and 18 CFR §5.13, RFH filed the Revised Study Plan (RSP) with the Commission on July 7, 2020. The Commission issued a Study Plan Determination (SPD) on August 6, 2020. In accordance with the RSP and associated SPD, RFH is conducting a total of eight studies. RFH has filed quarterly progress reports with the Commission since October 30, 2020, and distributed the reports to stakeholders to provide routine updates on the studies.

On August 6, 2021, RFH filed the Initial Study Report (ISR), which described the Licensee's overall progress in implementing the study plan and associated schedule. RFH held the ISR meeting on August 19, 2021, and filed an ISR meeting summary with FERC on September 3, 2021. The enclosed table provides updates that have occurred since the submittal of the January 31, 2022, progress report. RFH will file the Updated Study Report with the Commission on or before August 7, 2022. As a result, RFH does not anticipate filing a quarterly study progress report with the Commission in August 2022.

In addition to filing this study progress report with the Commission, RFH is distributing this letter to those on the enclosed distribution list. All interested parties may obtain a copy of this filing electronically through FERC's eLibrary system at https://elibrary.ferc.gov/idmws/search/fercgensearch.asp under docket number P-2333.

If there are any questions or comments regarding this submittal, please contact me by phone (207) 755-5613 or at luke.anderson@brookfieldrenewable.com.

Sincerely,

Luke Anderson Manger, Licensing Brookfield Renewable

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Rumford Falls Hydroelectric Project Quarterly Study Progress Report Reporting Period: February 2022 – April 2022

No.	Study	Status
1	Water Quality Study	Rumford Falls Hydro LLC (RFH) will conduct additional sampling for the Trophic State Study in 2022. The Water Quality Study has otherwise been completed.
2	Angler Creel Survey	RFH started the survey in April 2022 in consultation with the Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife.
3	Impoundment Bass Spawning Survey	RFH has completed this study.
4	Flow Study for Aquatic Habitat Evaluation	RFH completed the fieldwork components of this study in October 2021.
5	Aesthetic Flow Study	RFH held a focus group discussion on February 17, 2022, to review the results of the controlled flow assessment which was conducted on December 14, 2021.
6	Whitewater Boating Study	RFH continues to coordinate with the working group and anticipates that the on-water assessment will be conducted in spring 2022.
7	Recreation Study	RFH will conduct this study in 2022. RFH continues to work with the Town of Rumford and other stakeholders to evaluate the feasibility of reopening a portion of the Rumford Falls Trail. In addition, in consultation with the Town of Rumford, RFH plans to complete the development of an alternate trail in the spring of 2022. The alternate trail will run parallel to the gated portion of the existing trail, allowing residents and visitors to complete the Rumford loop with views of the upper falls from the river right.
8	Historic Architectural Survey	The historic architectural survey report was sent to the Maine Historic Preservation Committee (MHPC) for review on October 25, 2021. The MHPC concluded that the proposed undertaking will have no adverse effect upon historic properties. The MHPC's conclusions and associated consultation documents are being implemented into the final report, which pursuant to the Commission's request, is being kept confidential and will be filed with the Commission as privileged in May 2022. Concurrent with filing the report with the Commission, RFH will provide the final hard copy of the report to the MHPC for their records.