November 14, 2023

Kyle Olcott

Hydropower Coordinator Bureau of Land Resources

17 State House Station, Augusta, Maine 04333-00017

RE: Brookfield White Pine Hydro, LLC’s, DEP Application # L-024307-33-G-N Rumford Falls Hydroelectric Project, for §401 State Water Quality Certification, (FERC Docket P-2333)

Friends of Richardson Lake (FOR) a 501c non -profit dedicated to the protection, preservation and stewardship of Richardson Lake and the Androscoggin Water Shed strongly supports Trout Unlimited comments and recommendations regarding water quality impacts of FERC Docket P-2333.

FOR believes that dewatering and or severe flow reduction of any run of the river facility is contrary to promoting and preserving Water Quality and habitat. No run of the river facility should be allowed control of the entire river flow resulting in sections of the river to be dewatered which results in loss of habitat and fisheries migration capability. During low flows, fisheries have only one way downstream and that is to be flushed and ground thru the turbines. The Headwaters of the Androscoggin is home to one of the few Native Brooktrout breeding grounds in the country.

This is the birthplace of the Clean Water Act, but much more remains to be done locally and naturally .

John Preble

Treasurer and Director

Friends Of Richardson Lake