Mark Finnegan 48 Meadow Place Rye , NY 10580

April 12, 2024

Melanie Loyzim Commissioner State of Maine Department of Environmental Protection <u>DEP-Hydropower@maine.gov</u>

> RE: Green Lake WQC DEP Application #L-020024-33-D-N Green Lake Hydroelectric Project (FERC Project No. 7189)

Dear Ms. Loyzim:

I am a landowner and lifelong patron of Green Lake. My family has enjoyed Green Lake across 5 generations. With the guidance of the Green Lake Association and fellow residents we have become avid stewards of the lake's health. I oppose the conditions included in the draft Water Quality Certificate circulated on March 14, 2024, conditions 3F-H, that would require the construction of upstream fish passage facilities in the future based on activities at the Ellsworth Dam.

Green Lake is a unique cold water lake with a native population of arctic charr and landlocked salmon. The lake supports many other species as well. It is not appropriate to order fish passage before determining whether fish passage makes sense for Green Lake. Upstream fish passage could introduce invasive species and upset the delicate ecosystem that currently thrives in the lake. In addition, I am concerned that these conditions could render hydroelectric generation and operation of the project uneconomic.

The Green Lake Water Power (GLWP) has been a good neighbor and excellent steward of the resource. I believe that GLWP should continue to operate its project in order to generate hydroelectric energy – a renewable resource – and provide the many significant recreational and aesthetic benefits that GLWP provides today.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Mark Finnegan