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Melanie Loyzim  
Commissioner  
State of Maine  
Department of Environmental Protection  
[DEP-Hydropower@maine.gov](mailto:DEP-Hydropower@maine.gov)

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

Dear Commissioner:

Yikes! A requirement for a fish ladder on the Green Lake Hydroelectric Project could cost so much money the dam would not be viable? That seems crazy on many levels.

First, a private concern generates electricity! Isn't that good? What would replace the electricity generated by the dam? A windmill? What's the carbon footprint of a new windmill?

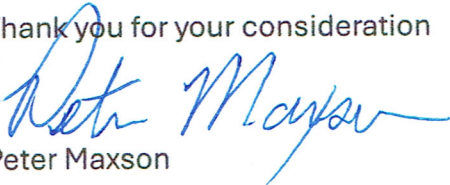
Second, the Green Lake National Fish Hatchery receives the water it requires directly from the penstock from the dam. The GLNFH is so important it has priority on the water that travels through the penstock. This hatchery is responsible for huge numbers of salmon that are used to stock the rivers and streams in New England. Supplying water to the hatchery some other way is on the taxpayers.

Third, losing the dam means lower lake water levels, this a bad too. The water quality will suffer simply from the dilution effects, the loss of 21,000 acre feet of water (7' lower x 3,000 acre lake) means a lot less dilution of the pollution in the watershed runoff. Lower lake levels also mean higher water temperatures overall. Throw in increased temperatures from climate change and the lake will not be hospitable to many organisms now living in and around the lake.

Fourth, it may be a nice idea, put in a fish ladder and everything will be as it was, but it's a pipe dream. So much has changed in that lake since the dam was built it ain't going back to what it was. The species mix has changed, smallmouth bass thrive, excellent predators for the ladder climbers. The water quality is worse, despite what the annual surveys say. In the last 10 years, by our camp, there is mud on the bottom and vegetation growing in the water where it was always stony lake bottom and crystal-clear water. Scoop up some water in your hands, you can see the algae, not so 40 years ago.

Fifth, the loss of something so special to people that live by Green Lake it's hard to imagine. My great grandparents built the camp we use today and I hope my grandchildren will be able to continue the tradition of Green Lake in the summer.

Thank you for your consideration



Peter Maxson