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GOVERNOR

STATE OF MAINE
DEPARTMENT OF MARINE RESOURCES
21 STATE HOUSE STATION
AUGUSTA, MAINE
04333-0021

PATRICK C. KELIHER
COMMISSIONER

October 03, 2023

Kyle Olcott
Hydropower Coordinator, Bureau of Land Resources
Maine Department of Environmental Protection
17 State House Station
Augusta, ME 04333

RE: Comments on the Application for a Water Quality Certification for the Green Lake Project

Dear Mr. Olcott:

The Maine Department of Marine Resources (DMR) has reviewed the application materials in the June 13, 2023 DEP's Notification for Review pursuant to Section 401 of the Clean Water Act (CWA) for the proposed relicensing and continued operation of the existing Green Lake Hydroelectric Project. The Department provides the attached May 22nd, 2023 letter to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) where we provide background and a number of recommendations. A summary of major recommendations that would provide for the safe, timely, and effective passage of indigenous species are included in Sections 4.1, 4.2, and 4.3 of the letter. These include described improvements for downstream passage within two years of license issuance, implementation of upstream eel passage within two years of license issuance, design and construction of upstream fishways for all indigenous sea-run species which shall be operational by 2030 or earlier, and a number of studies and plans that shall be developed. Maine DMR would also recommend that DEP include provisions for the development, implementation, and testing of performance standards for sea-run species and recommends that DEP provide language that allows for the incorporation of performance standards upon their development by DMR. Maine DMR will provide additional photos of alewives at the base of the dam taken by USFWS personal in a follow up email.

Please contact Casey Clark casey.clark@maine.gov or at 207-624-6594 if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Sean Ledwin".

Sean Ledwin
Director
Bureau of Sea-Run Fisheries