



June 8, 2020

To: Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
Fr: Gabe Perkins, Executive Director, Mahoosuc Pathways
Re: Brookfield 30-year Hydropower License Rumford, ME (Docket P-2333-091)

I am writing to support expanded recreation around the Hydropower Station in Rumford. I understand that Brookfield's 30-year Hydropower License is up for renewal, and part of this process requires Brookfield to do recreational studies to see what residents of the area want for recreation around the property. Results of these studies help FERC draft a license agreement that requires recreational access to suit the needs of the study findings, so residents can enjoy the property around the project for the next 30 years.

Mahoosuc Pathways is dedicated to ensuring economic and community vitality through recreation exists in the River Valley region surrounding Rumford. In the past four years we have made significant strides in expanding recreational activities for all people just up river in the Bethel area. We now turn our attention equally to the River Valley and know that success only comes from working together towards a common goal. The relicensing of the dam in Rumford is the perfect time for the community, the businesses, organizations, and the municipality to come together and achieve commonly held goals. To that end we request that Brookfield work with us and complete a thorough recreational study with respect to the area around the Falls Dam Rumford facility. Residents and municipal employees have told us for years that they are interested in the following:

- Reopening the multiuse trail along the east side of the falls and river. Reopening this trail will provide safe and direct access from downtown to the Virginia neighborhood just above the falls.
- Access to the property on the north side of the river with views of important architectural features, the island historic district, the falls themselves, and the reflection pool. Now more than ever before people need places to reflect and unwind safely and utilize recreation as recovery.
- Completing a broad recreational study that encompasses all potential users with respect to the Rumford facility.
- A study by Brookfield of the Androscoggin River fishery.

Thank you for the opportunity to work with you and to comment on matters pertinent and important to the citizens, businesses, organizations and the municipality.

Do not hesitate to reach out with any questions or comments.

Thank you and take care,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Gabe Perkins', is written over a light blue horizontal line.

Gabe Perkins
Executive Director

Document Content(s)

FERC Comments_RumfordHydro_6.8.20.DOCX.....1-1