April 12, 2024

Ms. Melanie Loyzim, Commissioner

State of Maine

Department of Environmental Protection

DEP-Hydropower@maine.gov

RE: Green Lake WQC, March 14, 2024

DEP Application #L-020024-33-D-N

Project Name: Green Lake Hydroelectric Project

FERC Project No. 7189

Dear Ms. Loyzim,

We are writing because of our concerns regarding the implications for Green Lake and the surrounding communities as a result of the potential requirements included in the Green Lake Water Power Company’s (GLWP) Draft Water Quality Certificate (WQC) issued March 14, 2024. In particular, the requirement that if passage for diadromous species at the Ellsworth Project is required by a new

license, or established through another means such as dam removal, then within six-months of the issuance of such new license or application for dam removal, the Applicant must implement fish passage at the Green Lake Project for the same species.

We have two major concerns with this requirement. First, the Department Order makes no mention as to whether the effects of this requirement on the existing Green Lake aquatic habitat was evaluated to determine if the potential beneficial effects outweigh the potential adverse effects. I.e. there does not appear to be an environmental or cost benefit analysis to support this requirement. Secondly, Green Lake Power Company has indicated that the installation of a fish ladder would be cost prohibitive and most likely would result in them demolishing the dam. The economic impact would be tremendous and adverse to the surrounding communities, to the wildlife that calls Green Lake their home – loons, bald eagles, ducks, heron, etc., to the fish hatchery that would no longer have a reliable water source, and to the lives of both the permanent and part time Green Lake residents.

Our family has been a part of this lake and the surrounding community for the past 80 years. We are very invested in the well-being of Green Lake. Our lake has maintained a delicately balanced ecosystem for over 50 years, facilitated by the workings of the dam and the dedication of the property owners around the lake who have made it a priority to preserve its natural beauty and its unique flora and fauna. As I’m sure you are aware, Green Lake is home to the land-locked salmon and the Arctic Char. Both fish could be substantially harmed by the introduction of any ladder that would introduce species from outside of Green Lake.

We respectfully request that you delay and or eliminate the requirements proposed in the Green Lake Water Power Company’s (GLWP) Draft Water Quality Certificate (WQC) until significant research has been done to determine the effects these requirements will have on all of the wildlife and inhabitants of Green Lake.

Sincerely,

Carrie (Brown) and Denis du Breuil