

Patricia Gunio, Bergen, NY.  
September 20, 2017

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission  
Washington, DC 20426

Subject: Comments on Pre-Application Document, Study Requests  
Jarvis Project (P-3211-009)  
Hinckley Reservoir

To Whom It May Concern,

My name is Patty Gunio. My husband Steve and I have owned 2.4 acres of land on Hinckley Reservoir for over 15 years. (Our permanent residence is in Bergen, NY.) We have camped on that land, enjoying the flora and fauna for 15 years, bought a small boat, built a shed, and maintained our own little "slice of heaven" with pride and pleasure (and sweat equity). For the past 5 years we have spent nearly every penny we have on building our future retirement home on that land, as money allows. Both our children and 6 grandchildren look forward to owning this property and enjoying the benefits of the beautiful water and wildlife for many, many years to come. Our friends and family come to share in the enjoyment of the peace and quiet of the ADK and the sights and sounds of nature that exist on Hinckley Reservoir (loons calling, watching the bald eagles soar, fishing, seeing the wildflowers that surround the lake, and watching the leaves change in the fall).

To have the hydro-electric plant (Brookfield) exploit taking more water from Hinckley Reservoir than the inflow can support is ludicrous and quite infuriating! This resource is simply over-utilized! Having owned our land for such a long period of time, we have seen the water levels rise and fall (sometimes over 2 feet in 1 day!), and on 2-3 occasions reduce the water flow bordering our property from 40 feet deep to a 2 foot deep creek. The environmental impact will be severe if the water discharge amounts are allowed to continue to exceed the inflow!! From the Bryozoans (fresh water sponges), to the bald eagles, loons, owls, turtles, to the fish and plant life in and surrounding Hinckley Reservoir...Please don't allow this to happen!! Outcries from people living in this area have not been heard -- decisions have been made without considering the long-term impacts on our environment and the economy of the area. It's very sad when corporate greed comes before our precious and fragile environment.

Please consider conducting an environmental impact study related to the constant extreme rise and fall of Hinckley Reservoir water levels. Don't discharge more water than flows into the reservoir to try to keep it at a more consistent level. Fix the leaking pipes so the water isn't leaking/leaching out wasting the precious resource!

I understand that the NYSDEC does not have ultimate authority in this matter, but seeing as Governor Cuomo is trying to get people to visit the ADK, it would be a shame to have the world see that not all the ADK is precious...just certain parts. Sad that sometimes corporate greed overshadows/prohibits protecting the beautiful land and the special, unique places we have in New York State.

I would sincerely appreciate a response to this letter.

Thank you for taking the time to read my plea.

Sincerely,

Patty Gunio, a concerned part-time (for now) resident on Hinckley Reservoir  
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