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FEDERAL ENERGY
REGULATORY COMMISSION

28 Sanger Ave
New Hartford NY 13413
March 12, 2018

Ms. Kimberly Bose, Secretary
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
888 First Street NE
Washington DC 20426

Jarvis Power Project P-3211 Comments on Proposed Study Plan.

Dear Secretary Bose:

We at the Mohawk Valley Chapter of Trout Unlimited, in reviewing the Proposed Study Plan for the Gregory B. Jarvis Project (FERC P-3211.), have several comments. Hinckley and the West Canada Creek below is a major economic engine which was, according to a DEC study several years ago, had a \$30 million impact on the local economy. Many of our members fish the West Canada often several times a week. In light of the substantial economic, environmental and fisheries aspect we would make the following comments:

- 1- Recently, at the Preliminary Licensing Hearing, we brought up one major question. For many years, the Hinckley Stakeholders Group, of which I was a member, were assured by the Canal Corp that they would do a capacity study of Hinckley Lake. Subsequently, and despite repeatedly saying that they would in front of dozens of Stakeholders, they decided not to do the study. At the beginning of the recent Hearing last year, NYPA started out by saying the capacity of Hinckley was 28 billion gallons. How do you know? The last time a study was done was nearly 100 years ago! How much has changed by erosion, siltation, and new wells tapping the local aquifer. It is no secret that a significant amount of siltation has formed around the dam. You only need to ask the property owners and they will tell you where new shoals have

formed just in the last twenty or thirty years. How can we discuss the aspects of or manage a resource when no one knows what it is...? The number one priority needs to address the capacity of Hinckley before you can even talk about other aspects.

- 2- As previously noted this project encompasses a very popular Stream that is valued as a high quality Trout Stream by people near and far and well outside New York. It is imperative that we protect the water quality and overall stream sustainability. We strongly support a minimum flow rate of at least 320.
- 3- Further we would ask that consideration be given to intake screens be sized from the one inch to one half inch, particularly during spawning times.

Trout Unlimited has no reason to repeat the cogent and well-reasoned comments contained in the Fish and Wildlife Service's letter of 6 March, and we endorses them in full. The Tailwater Water Quality Study is a reasonable request to obtain current data on this area of project operation.

We at the Mohawk Valley Chapter of Trout Unlimited sincerely appreciate the opportunity to provide comments in what is our premier home water fishery.



David Corr
Mohawk Valley Chapter of TU

CC: Bill Wellman, NYS TU
DEC
NYPA

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