Ashuelot River Hydro, Inc. P.O. Box 194 Sullivan, NH 03445 (603) 847-9798

Debra A. Howland Executive Director and Secretary NH Public Utilities Commission 21 S. Fruit St., Suite 10 Concord, NH 03301-2429

RE: Docket DE 08-053 PSNH Application for RPS Hydro Class IV Status

August 8, 2008 COMMISSION

Dear Ms. Howland:

We are concerned about the application by PSNH for Class IV eligibility for some of their hydro projects that do not have fish passage, as required by the RPS statute and PUC rules. We own and operate the 1MW Ashuelot Paper and Lower Robertson hydro projects on the Ashuelot River in the town of Winchester, NH. We recently purchased these facilities, fully aware that the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission has required the installation of fish passage at both facilities. We justified our purchase price and overall project financial analysis on the fact that the substantial cost of fish passage installation would, in part, be mitigated by the future sale of NH Class IV REC's, once the fish passages are installed (likely by 2010).

We believe that if PSNH, or any other party for that matter, is allowed to claim Class IV status for projects without fish passage, then the Class IV requirement will be quickly filled and the value of those REC's will be substantially reduced. We would find ourselves in a real quandary as to how to finance our mandated fish passage.

We support the efforts of PSNH to meet some of their RPS requirements through utilization of their own facilities when eligible, and we understand the potential benefit to ratepayers. But in this case it seems clear that the statute and rules call for Class IV facilities to have fish passage. And we have banked on it.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Robert E. King, President

Cc: Meredith Hatfield