



September 9, 2025

**FERC Project No. 2572-142
Ripogenus Hydroelectric Project**

Debbie-Anne A. Reese, Secretary
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
888 First Street, N.E., Room 1A
Washington, DC 20426

Electronically Filed

Dear Secretary Reese:

**Subject: Ripogenus Project (FERC Docket No. 2572-142); Response to FERC
Additional Information Request Regarding June 17, 2025, Deviation from Article
402 Required Discharges**

As follow-up to a station outage and minimum flow excursion that occurred at the Ripogenus Project (FERC No. 2572) on June 17, 2025, Great Lakes Hydro America, LLC (GLHA), licensee for the Project located on the West Branch of the Penobscot River (West Branch) in Maine, filed a report with the Commission on June 26, 2025. In response to this report, the Commission requested additional information in a letter to GLHA dated August 5, 2025¹. Below are the Commission's requests for additional information and GLHA's responses:

1. **FERC:** *In your filing you do not describe that at the time of the outage you were required to discharge a 2,000 cfs whitewater recreational flow in accordance with Article 402 (part three). This deviation is also a deviation of the recreational flow even though the outage flow condition contained in Article 402 (part four) was activated upon the occurrence of the outage. Please elaborate on how this may have affected recreation and the restoration of the recreation flow.*

GLHA: As noted by the Commission, whitewater recreation flows of at least 2,000 cfs were to be released from 08:30 to 17:00 hrs on the day of the outage (Tuesday, June 17th). As the result of the McKay Station outage, which occurred at 14:24 hrs, whitewater recreation flows were subsequently not released until a gate was opened at Ripogenus Dam at 16:15 hrs. Thus, whitewater rafting and boating on the West Branch were potentially impacted during this outage period; however, GLHA received no reports of such impacts from whitewater boaters or outfitters.

2. **FERC:** *You stated in your notification to the resource agencies that the McKay station trip at the Ripogenus Project also resulted in a deviation of Article 403 requirements downstream at the Millinocket Development of the Penobscot Mills Project P-2458 (also licensed to Great Lakes Hydro America, LLC). Please determine if this incident was also a deviation of the requirements at the downstream Penobscot Mills Project and file a late report of the deviation under docket P-2458 in the Commission's eLibrary system. Alternatively, you can explain why it is not a deviation or why a report is not required.*

GLHA: The June 17th outage also resulted in an excursion at the Penobscot Mills Project, and a report (attached) was filed with the Commission on June 26, 2025.

¹ On September 5, 2025, the Commission approved GLHA's August 20, 2025, time extension request, while also requiring that an interim progress report be filed by September 26, 2025. Please note that the need for a progress report is now moot based on the timing of this filing.

3. **FERC:** *In your filing you state flows from the project dropped to a low hourly flow of 350 cfs. Based on the graph you included in your filing, it appears that units #1 and #3 went down to 0 cfs discharge and then ramped up to 350 cfs. Calculating the hourly average from the top of the hour to the end of the hour would include 24 minutes of the 2,000 cfs recreational flow in the first hour of the calculation which would appear to smooth out actual releases to the river and not reflect what the lowest actual flows may have been in an hour period. Alternatively, calculating the hour average based on the start time of the incident when 400 cfs outage flow became the requirement would provide an assessment of exactly how low the flows became in the first hour after the start of the incident. Neither calculation accounts for an addition of the flow leaking from the dam even though that is real flow in the river. Staff cannot determine based on the provided information the exact amount of time McKay station was discharging an amount that was between 0 cfs and 350 cfs. The entire incident lasted 101 minutes that discharge was less than 400 cfs. Commission staff are unsure how you calculated your hour averages because there is inadequate data provided in the filing and the accompanying graph. Please describe how you calculated the hourly average, and please provide any tabular operation and flow data you have that documents the timeline of flow releases during the entire station trip. Please provide the Commission with a calculation of what the actual hourly flows were based on the start time of the incident when 400 cfs outage flow became the requirement.*

GLHA: Please find attached a spreadsheet showing both hourly and minute-by-minute flows (where relevant) for June 17th and during the outage period. As can be seen by these tabular data, there was one hourly flow during the outage period (for the hour ending at 16:00 hrs) when the hourly average dropped below 400 cfs (to 307 cfs²). As suggested by the Commission, GLHA has computed an alternative calculation of the hourly flow beginning at the time of the outage (at 14:24 hrs), which yields an hourly average of 267 cfs.

As detailed in a “Fish Stranding Study Report”, which GLHA provided to the Commission as part of its April 24, 2023, Initial Study Report for relicensing of the Ripogenus Project, the automated sequence of releasing minimum outage flows following a trip of McKay Station is not immediate and takes a few minutes. Specifically, any operating units are automatically first shut down when the station trips offline, and then the station’s PLC directs the turbine units to begin spinning to pass the minimum outage flow. As shown on the attached spreadsheet, this sequence took about 18 minutes to fully ramp up during the June 17th outage, with only leakage flows being released from the dam for approximately the first 11 minutes. However, since Unit #2 was not operational at the time, flows (totaling about 350 cfs) were only released from Units 1 and 3, thereby resulting in the excursion below the 400 cfs outage flow requirement. The minute-by-minute data contained in the attached spreadsheet further show that outflows remained below the 400 cfs outage flow for 96 minutes and below the 2,000 cfs whitewater recreation flow for 111 minutes.³

Finally, please note that GLHA does not monitor leakage flows from Ripogenus Dam and does not include leakage in these flow calculations.

² GLHA’s June 26, 2025 report to the Commission reported an hourly flow of 350 cfs based on graphical data.

³ GLHA’s June 26, 2025 report to the Commission erroneously indicated an outage duration of 101 minutes (rather than 111 minutes) for outflows below the 2,000 cfs whitewater recreation flow.

4. **FERC:** *Article 402 (part 4) requires you to discharge a 400 cfs outage flow, as measured hourly, if the station trips offline. Given that you knowingly took Unit 2 out of service for maintenance, please explain why you did not adjust your protocol so that 400 cfs hourly average outage flow could be delivered from the two available units. Could you have adjusted the protocol on units #1 and #3 so that they could deliver 400 cfs by themselves in the case of a station trip? If you were unable to make adjustments to Units #1 and #3 then please explain why did you not preemptively open a gate or remove stoplogs at the dam to provide supplemental flow to your discharge at McKay Station in case a station outage occurred during maintenance on Unit #2 so that the required 400 cfs could be delivered?*

GLHA: As noted in GLHA's proposed "**Interim Plan for Aquatic Resource Protection during McKay Station Outages**", which was filed with the Commission on January 19, 2024, the flow being passed through the McKay Station units during an outage cannot mechanically be further increased due to the risk of the units going beyond a speed-no-load condition, which would damage the units. Thus, GLHA cannot adjust the protocol to increase the amount of water that individual units can pass during an outage when another unit is out of service.

GLHA routinely spills water from Ripogenus Dam when two or more McKay Station units are offline to maintain licensed minimum flows to the West Branch (e.g., whitewater; fish spawning; egg incubation; etc.). Further, GLHA preemptively opens gates at the dam to ensure that minimum flows are passed during planned outages of two or more units. However, GLHA has not opened gates and preemptively spilled water from Ripogenus Dam in case there is an unforeseen station or unit trip. In fact, GLHA is unaware of any projects in Maine where water is preemptively spilled from the project dam to ensure minimum flows, just in case there is an unexpected trip at the project's hydro station.

Nonetheless, GLHA recognizes the uniqueness of the Ripogenus Project and the importance of releasing minimum flows from the Project. To that end, GLHA will voluntarily and forthwith implement two operational measures at the Project. First, and as incorporated as a proposed measure in the September 2024 Final License Application for the Project, GLHA will reestablish the required minimum flow (i.e., resumed operation of the turbines or via a release from Ripogenus Dam) within 24 hours (currently 72 hours) if safe to do so following an outage at McKay Station. Second, and noting that a 100 cfs minimum flow from Ripogenus Dam is already in place during the months of July, August, and September,⁴ GLHA will preemptively spill sufficient water from Ripogenus Dam during the month of June when a turbine unit is out of service to ensure that the 400 cfs outage flow is released should McKay Station trip offline. GLHA recognizes the heightened importance of Project minimum flows during this period to West Branch fisheries and aquatic habitat, as West Branch landlocked salmon fry typically emerge from their redds in early June.

⁴ Article 401 of the Ripogenus Project license requires that GLHA release 100 cfs from Ripogenus Dam into the Upper Gorge between July 1 and September 30.

5. **FERC:** *In your filing you state that impacts to aquatic life likely occurred, however you did not conduct any downstream assessments to establish the extent of any effects. You state staff were busy restoring the flow at the station. Commission staff agree that restoring flow is the first priority in this situation rather than conducting assessments to detect adverse effects. However, collection of some basic observation data along the river would not have been excessively difficult or burdensome given that you would have driven past multiple observation/access points on the way back to town and could have at a minimum conducted a quick visual assessment to determine if there were any dead fish that washed up in the back eddies and pools of the river. Because aquatic impacts likely occurred, we are directing you to consult Maine Department of Environmental Protection, Maine Department of Inland Fish and Wildlife, Maine Land Use Regulation Commission, and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to determine if there are any reasonable and feasible surveys (ie. young of year surveys for salmon) that could be conducted at this point to determine the magnitude of the adverse effects to the fish and macroinvertebrate community caused by this incident. Please provide a status update regarding your consultation efforts within 15 days of the date of this letter. If any of the resource agencies sent staff out to assess the river after you reported the incident to them then this information may be adequate to answer this question if you provide it to the Commission. Additionally, you should determine if there is any available historical data to provide context to the findings of any surveys that you conduct or to surveys that were conducted by the resource agencies after you notified them of the incident.*

GLHA: Please note that after restoring river flow, the next priorities for GLHA staff were to diagnose/troubleshoot the cause of the station trip (which was found to be a transmission line cross arm failure) and to make appropriate notifications and provide assistance when the resulting forest fire was detected. These priorities (which, except for the fire, are typical during station trips and flow disruptions) made visual assessments of the river for adverse effects impractical.

As directed by the Commission, GLHA consulted with resource agencies (on August 6, 2025 – see attached) to determine if surveys could be conducted on the West Branch to determine the magnitude of adverse effects to the fish and macroinvertebrate community caused by this incident, or if the agencies deployed staff to assess the river after the flow disruption. MDIFW (Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife, who is responsible for fisheries management on the West Branch) responded in an e-mail dated August 15, 2025 (attached) that they did not deploy staff to investigate impacts from the flow disruption, as any impacts would have been washed downstream when normal river flows resumed. As noted in GLHA's June 26th report to the Commission, MDIFW also reminded readers that a fish stranding study was conducted in October 2022 as part of the Ripogenus Project relicensing process to examine impacts from sudden flow reductions on the West Branch; MDIFW went on to say that the impacts from the June 17th flow disruption were likely similar to the impacts documented in the 2022 study. And finally, MDIFW reiterated their November 2023 recommendations (which GLHA filed with the Commission on January 19, 2024, as an attachment to the "Interim Plan for Aquatic Resource Protection during McKay Station Outages") that would provide an interim path forward for mitigation of these outage events.

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Specifically,

"MDIFW recommends moving forward with GLHA's proposals through the remainder of this relicensing process, but we recommend a monetary penalty for each future event that is scaled to the severity/duration of the event. This penalty would be placed in a mitigation fund for fisheries restoration and improvement projects in the region, to be utilized at MDIFW's discretion after consultation with USFWS and MDEP. GLHA and MDIFW would negotiate the amount for each event and present it to FERC for approval."

Please feel free to contact me by e-mail at Kevin.Bernier@brookfieldrenewable.com or by phone at (207) 951-5006 if you have any questions or comments.

Sincerely,

Kevin Bernier

Kevin Bernier
Senior Compliance Specialist

cc: M. Calloway; FERC

T. Obrey, J. Perry, D. Kane, K. Gallant, K. Dunham, M. Caron; MDIFW

L. Paye, C. Briggs, R. Mohlar; MDEP

P. Dockens, A. Cross, B. Sojkowski; USFWS

B. Way, B. Godsoe, B. Theriault; MLUPC

P. McDonough, C. Goodhart, R. Dill, R. Dorman, J. York, K. Pocquette, D. Bates, D. Heidrich, S. Hill,

R. Smith, N. Weaver, M. Osborne, T. Mapletoft, M. Scarzello, J. Grevstad, P. Wainwright; GLHA

GLHA File: GLHA/Licensing & Compliance/Ripogenus 2572/01 Brookfield Corres

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McKay/Ripogenus Flow During June 17 Station Trip

Hourly Averages Starting at Top of the Hour					
Date & Time (Hour Ending)	U1 Flow*	U2 Flow*	U3 Flow*	Spill Flow**	Total Flow
17-Jun-25 15:00:00	120	0	1,230	0	1,350
17-Jun-25 16:00:00	180	0	1,47	0	307
17-Jun-25 17:00:00	180	0	150	448	780
17-Jun-25 18:00:00	180	0	150	1,050	2,380

*Turbine Flow are Calculated using MFR value when online and weir crest gate position when offline, based on engineered turbine curves

** Spill Flow are based on engineered gate position versus flow curves for the gates at Ripogenus Dam

Hourly Averages Starting at Time of Trip					
Date & Time (Hour Ending)	U1 Flow*	U2 Flow*	U3 Flow*	Spill Flow**	Total Flow
17-Jun-25 14:24:00	836	0	1,208	0	2,044
17-Jun-25 15:24:00	120	0	147	0	267
17-Jun-25 16:24:00	180	0	150	448	780
17-Jun-25 17:24:00	180	0	140	1,050	2,400

*Turbine Flow are Calculated using MFR value when online and weir crest gate position when offline, based on engineered turbine curves

** Spill Flow are based on engineered gate position versus flow curves for the gates at Ripogenus Dam

Minute by Minute Flow Calculations					
Date & Time (Minute Ending)	U1 Flow*	U2 Flow*	U3 Flow*	Spill Flow**	Total Flow
17-Jun-25 14:25:00	0	0	150	0	150
17-Jun-25 14:26:00	0	0	0	0	0
17-Jun-25 14:27:00	0	0	0	0	0
17-Jun-25 14:28:00	0	0	0	0	0
17-Jun-25 14:29:00	0	0	0	0	0
17-Jun-25 14:30:00	0	0	0	0	0
17-Jun-25 14:31:00	0	0	0	0	0
17-Jun-25 14:32:00	0	0	0	0	0
17-Jun-25 14:33:00	0	0	0	0	0
17-Jun-25 14:34:00	0	0	0	0	0
17-Jun-25 14:35:00	0	0	0	0	0
17-Jun-25 14:36:00	0	0	0	0	0
17-Jun-25 14:37:00	0	0	2	0	2
17-Jun-25 14:38:00	24	0	50	0	116
17-Jun-25 14:39:00	80	0	187	0	247
17-Jun-25 14:40:00	96	0	255	0	351
17-Jun-25 14:41:00	111	0	260	0	371
17-Jun-25 14:42:00	158	0	180	0	338
17-Jun-25 14:43:00	180	0	260	0	440
17-Jun-25 14:44:00	180	0	300	0	480
17-Jun-25 14:45:00	180	0	350	0	530
17-Jun-25 14:46:00	180	0	360	0	540
17-Jun-25 14:47:00	180	0	360	0	540
17-Jun-25 14:48:00	180	0	360	0	540
17-Jun-25 14:49:00	180	0	360	0	540
17-Jun-25 14:50:00	180	0	360	0	540
17-Jun-25 14:51:00	180	0	360	0	540
17-Jun-25 14:52:00	180	0	360	0	540
17-Jun-25 14:53:00	180	0	360	0	540
17-Jun-25 14:54:00	180	0	360	0	540
17-Jun-25 14:55:00	180	0	360	0	540
17-Jun-25 14:56:00	180	0	360	0	540
17-Jun-25 14:57:00	180	0	360	0	540
17-Jun-25 14:58:00	180	0	360	0	540
17-Jun-25 14:59:00	180	0	360	0	540
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17-Jun-25 15:01:00	180	0	360	0	540
17-Jun-25 15:02:00	180	0	360	0	540
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17-Jun-25 15:12:00	180	0	360	0	540
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17-Jun-25 16:02:00	180	0	360	0	540
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17-Jun-25 16:04:00	180	0	360	0	540
17-Jun-25 16:05:00	180	0	360	0	540
17-Jun-25 16:06:00	180	0	360	0	540
17-Jun-25 16:07:00	180	0	360	0	540
17-Jun-25 16:08:00	180	0	360	0	540
17-Jun-25 16:09:00	180	0	360	0	540
17-Jun-25 16:10:00	180	0	360	0	540
17-Jun-25 16:11:00	180	0	360	0	540
17-Jun-25 16:12:00	180	0	360	0	540
17-Jun-25 16:13:00	180	0	360	0	540
17-Jun-25 16:14:00	180	0	360	0	540
17-Jun-25 16:15:00	180	0	360	0	540
17-Jun-25 16:16:00	180	0	360	0	540
17-Jun-25 16:17:00	180	0	360	0	540
17-Jun-25 16:18:00	180	0	360	0	540
17-Jun-25 16:19:00	180	0	360	0	540
17-Jun-25 16:20:00	180	0	360	0	540

Time of Tide

Between 11 Minutes of zero Weakest Flow

Between 18 minutes of below 350 Flow

196 minutes below 400 CFS

*111 minutes below required max flow

From: [Bernier, Kevin](#)
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Subject: RE: West Branch flow excursions and forest fire
Date: Wednesday, August 6, 2025 12:23:00 PM
Attachments: [20250805 FERC AIR for June 2025 minimum flow excursion at Ripogenus.PDF](#)
[image001.gif](#)

In follow-up to the outage that occurred at McKay Station (and other West Branch stations - see my e-mail below) on June 17th, FERC has directed (in the attached letter) that GLHA consult with MDEP, MDIFW, LUPC, and USFWS *"to determine if there are any reasonable and feasible surveys (i.e. young of year surveys for salmon) that could be conducted at this point to determine the magnitude of the adverse effects to the fish and macroinvertebrate community caused by this incident"*. Further, if resource agencies deployed staff to assess the river after the outage, FERC suggests that information collected by the agencies from these assessments may be adequate to answer this question. And finally, FERC requests that GLHA *"determine if there is any available historical data to provide context to the findings of any surveys that you conduct or to surveys that were conducted by the resource agencies after you notified them of the incident"*.

Please provide any thoughts or information you may have in response to FERC's letter **by COB next Friday, August 15th**; if you wish, GLHA can also schedule a Teams call in the coming days to discuss this. Thank you.

Kevin Bernier
Senior Compliance Specialist

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<Cameron.Goodhart@brookfieldrenewable.com>

Subject: West Branch flow excursions and forest fire

At 14:24 hrs yesterday afternoon, several of Great Lakes Hydro America, LLC's (GLHA) hydro stations on the West Branch of the Penobscot River (McKay, North Twin, and Millinocket) tripped offline due to a transmission line failure, which in turn caused a minimum flow excursion at the Ripogenus Project (FERC No. 2572) and a run-of-river and minimum flow excursion at the Millinocket Development (Penobscot Mills Project, FERC No. 2458). In response to the McKay Station trip, which is part of the Ripogenus Project, the System Operator dispatched a local operator to the Project. Following a public safety check and activation of the siren warning system, the operator opened a crest gate at the dam to re-establish river flows. Local operators were also dispatched to the North Twin and Millinocket Developments (both part of the Penobscot Mills Project) to re-establish river flows. After public safety checks were made downstream and siren warning systems activated, a Taintor gate was opened at the North Twin Development and the inflatable flashboard system was deflated at Stone Dam (part of the Millinocket Development) to restore river flows.

Article 403 of the Penobscot Mills license requires that the Millinocket, Dolby, and East Millinocket Developments be operated in a run-of-river mode while providing an instantaneous minimum flow of 2,000 cubic feet per second (cfs) to the West Branch of the Penobscot River at Millinocket. As the result of the Millinocket station trip, river flows at

Millinocket dropped below the 2,000 cfs minimum until the inflatable flashboard system could be opened approximately 58 minutes after the trip.

Article 402 of the Ripogenus license requires an outage flow of 400 cfs during generating unit outages at McKay Station, with scheduled minimum flows to be resumed as quickly and practically as possible. Although the minimum flow system at the Station functioned properly on two units currently in operation (#1 and #3) during yesterday's outage, the third unit (#2) is currently inoperable due to ongoing replacement of a thrust bearing oil cooler. As a result, approximately 350 cfs was passed through McKay Station and into the West Branch during the event, resulting in an approximate 101-minute minimum flow excursion until the gate could be opened at Ripogenus Dam.

GLHA has determined that the station trips resulted from a cross-arm failure on the Ripogenus Project transmission line, which in turn resulted in a small forest fire. The fire was extinguished by Maine Forest Service and local fire department crews last evening.

GLHA is still investigating and collecting information on this event, which will be detailed in a report to FERC within 10 days. I will copy everybody on this report, but in the meantime, please let me know if you have any comments or questions.

Kevin Bernier

Senior Compliance Specialist

Brookfield Renewable U.S.

Great Lakes Hydro America, LLC

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From: [Obrey, Tim](#)
To: [Bernier, Kevin](#)
Cc: [john.perry](#)
Subject: RE: West Branch flow excursions and forest fire
Date: Friday, August 15, 2025 4:15:32 PM
Attachments: [MDIFW comments on Ripogenous Interim Measures 11-17-2023.pdf](#)

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Kevin,

MDIFW did not deploy staff to investigate the impacts from the flow disruption below Rip dam on June 17th. When there are short term outages followed by the resumption of normal flows any impacts would literally be washed downstream before any MDIFW staff would be able to investigate. We would remind agencies that a stranding study was conducted in October 2022 as part of the relicensing process that examined the impacts from sudden flow reductions. One of the flows we examined was 500 cfs. During that event, mortalities of young landlocked salmon were documented. The June 17th disruption has likely had similar impacts. We would recommend that FERC adopt the MDIFW recommendations for interim measures submitted in November 2023 (attached) that allows GHLA and agencies to mitigate for these events.

Specifically:

“MDIFW recommends moving forward with GHLA’s proposals through the remainder of this relicensing process, but we recommend a monetary penalty for each future event that is scaled to the severity/duration of the event. This penalty would be placed in a mitigation fund for fisheries restoration and improvement projects in the region, to be utilized at MDIFW’s discretion after consultation with USFWS and MDEP. GHLA and MDIFW would negotiate the amount for each event and present it to FERC for approval.”

Tim

Brookfield
Renewable U.S.

June 26, 2025

Penobscot Mills Project
FERC No. 2458-ME

Debbie-Anne A. Reese, Secretary
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
888 First Street, N.E., Room 1A
Washington, DC 20426

Electronically Filed

Dear Secretary Reese:

Subject: Penobscot Mills Project (FERC No. 2458);
Run-of-River and Minimum Flow Excursion Report

Great Lakes Hydro America, LLC (GLHA), licensee for the Penobscot Mills Project, is reporting an excursion from flow requirements that occurred at the Project on June 17, 2025. Please see the attached excursion reporting form for details.

If you have any questions, please contact me by phone at (207) 951-5006 or by e-mail at kevin.bernier@brookfieldrenewable.com.

Sincerely,

Kevin Bernier

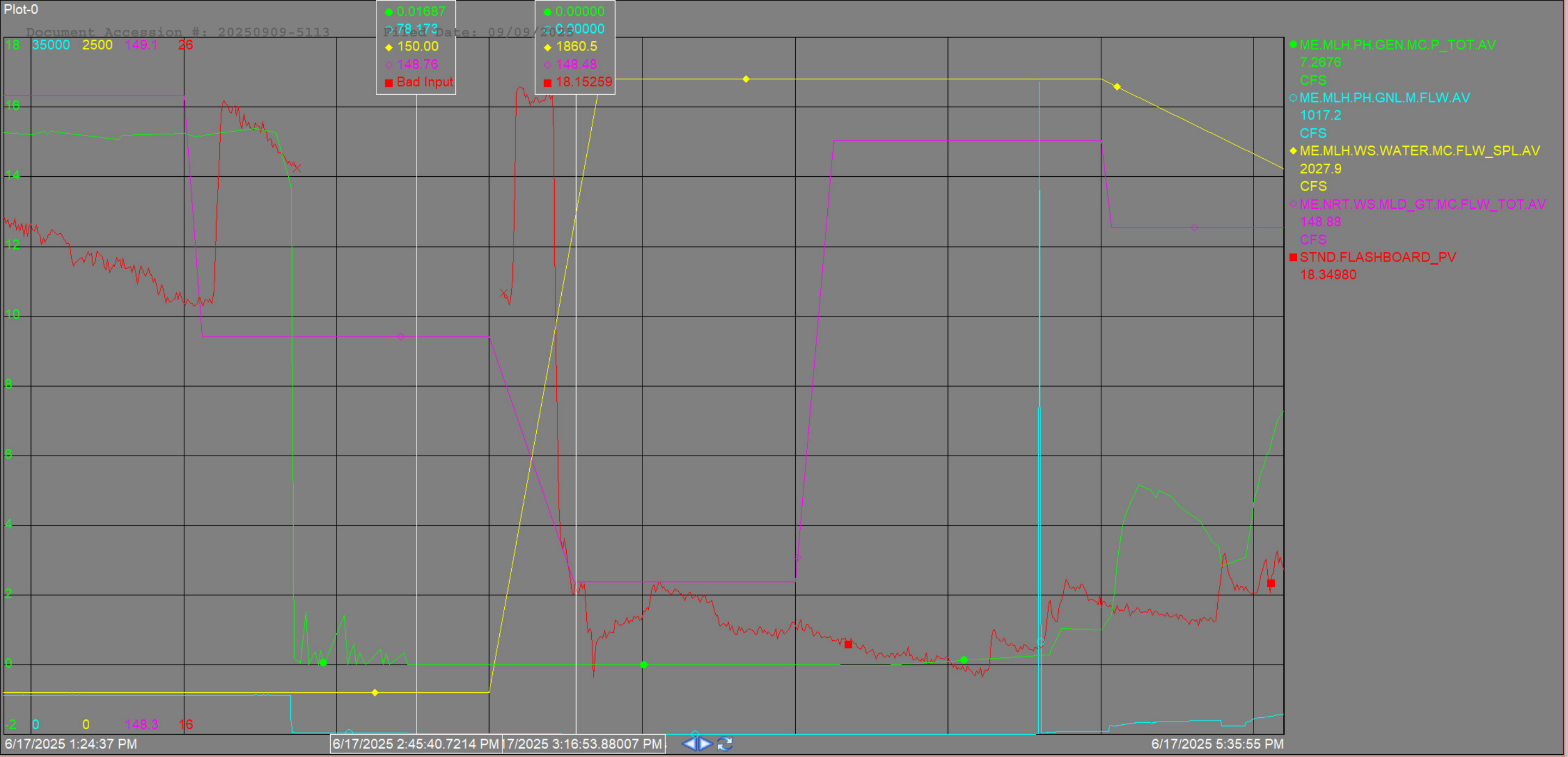
Kevin Bernier
Senior Compliance Specialist

Attachments

Cc. L. Paye, C. Briggs; MDEP
K. Dunham, K. Gallant, M. Caron, J. Perry; MDIFW
P. Dockens, A. Cross, B. Sojkowski; USFWS
J. Bishop; EPA
D. Bates, C. Goodhart, M. Osborne, N. Weaver, T. Mapletoft, R. Dill, P. Wainwright, R. Smith,
P. McDonough, D. Heidrich, J. Grevstad, R. Dorman, S. Hill, M. Scarzello, J. York,
K. Pocquette; GLHA

GLHA File: HSSE 19a/ii/Penobscot

Brookfield		COMPLIANCE EXCURSION REPORT			
Project No(s):	FERC No. 2458-ME		Project Name(s):	Penobscot Mills Project	
Licensee(s):	Great Lakes Hydro America, LLC (GLHA)		Facility:	Millinocket Development	
SUBJECT:	Run-of-River and Minimum Flow Excursion				
BACKGROUND (e.g. License Article/ Requirement; Permit Condition; Operating Procedure, etc.):	Article 403 of the Penobscot Mills license states in part that, "The licensee shall operate the Millinocket, Dolby, and East Millinocket developments in a run-of-river mode while providing an instantaneous minimum flow of 2,000 cubic feet per second (cfs) to the West Branch of the Penobscot River at Millinocket, for the protection of water quality and aquatic habitat in the Penobscot River. The licensee shall at all times act to minimize the fluctuation of the reservoir surface elevations by maintaining a discharge from each of these developments so that, at any point in time, flows, as measured immediately downstream from the tailraces of the developments, approximate the sum of the inflows to the project reservoir. Run-of-river operation or minimum flows may be temporarily modified if required by operating emergencies beyond the control of the licensee, and for short periods upon mutual agreement between the licensee, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and the Maine DEP. If the run-of-river operation or minimum flow is so modified, the licensee shall notify the Commission as soon as possible, but no later than 10 days after each such incident."				
DATE OF EVENT:	6/17/2025	TIME OF EVENT:	14:21 hrs	DURATION:	55 minutes
DESCRIPTION:	A run-of-river and minimum flow excursion (to a low of about 226 cfs) occurred on June 17, 2025 at the Millinocket Development after Millinocket Station tripped offline (see attached graph).				
CAUSE:	The station outage was caused by a fault on the Ripogenus Project (FERC No. 2572) transmission line, which in turn was caused by a broken cross-arm on a transmission line structure.				
CORRECTIVE MEASURES:	IMMEDIATE ACTION	The Brookfield System Operator promptly dispatched local Operations staff to the Millinocket Development, who were able to (after making a downstream public safety check and sounding the siren warning system) deflate the inflatable flashboard system at Stone Dam to restore the 2,000 cfs minimum flow.			
	LONG-TERM ACTION	On June 17 at 17:59 hrs, GLHA re-inflated the inflatable flashboard system at Stone Dam and restarted Millinocket Station. GLHA also expedited repairs to the Ripogenus Project transmission line, completing them on June 19.			
OBSERVED OR REPORTED EFFECTS:	GLHA is not aware of any impacts to fish and wildlife resources, water quality, dam safety, or public safety resulting from this event. In addition, GLHA did not conduct any field surveys downstream of the Development, as the event was relatively brief and Operations staff were focused on re-establishing river flows when they arrived onsite.				
AGENCIES NOTIFIED (attach correspondence):	Method of Initial Notification: ☐ Phone ☒ Email ☐ Letter Date of Notification: 6/18/2025 (attached) Federal Agencies: ☒ USFWS ☐ NMFS ☐ USACE ☒ FERC ☒ Other(s): EPA_____ State Agencies: STATE: <u>Maine</u> ☒ Env. Prot ☒ F&W ☐ Dam Safety ☒ Other(s) _____ LUPC_____ Other Agencies/NGOs: <u>None</u>				
RESOURCE AGENCY COMMENTS:	None.				
ADDITIONAL INFORMATION /COMMENTS:	None				
EXCURSION REPORT BY: (please print)			DATE:		
Kevin Bernier – Senior Compliance Specialist			6/25/25		



From: [Bernier, Kevin](#)
To: [Obrey, Tim](#); [Perry, John](#); [Doug Kane \(douglas.kane@maine.gov\)](#); [Bryan Way \(Bryan.C.Way@maine.gov\)](#); [Theriault, Billie J](#); [Godsoe, Benjamin](#); [Rob Mohlar \(robert.c.mohlar@maine.gov\)](#); [Cross, Amanda S](#); [Bryan Sojkowski](#); [Dunham, Kevin \(Kevin.Dunham@maine.gov\)](#); [Gallant, Kevin](#); [Paye, Laura](#); [Mark Caron \(mark.caron@maine.gov\)](#); [Patrick Dockens \(patrick_dockens@fws.gov\)](#); [Claire.Briggs@maine.gov](#); [Bishop, Joseph](#); [John Spain](#); [Noel J. Aglubat](#)
Cc: [Weaver, Nick](#); [Osborne, Michael](#); [Dill, Richard](#); [Bates, David S](#); [Scarzello, Michael](#); [Mapletoft, Thomas](#); [Dorman, Randy](#); [Heidrich, David](#); [Wainwright, Paul](#); [Grevstad, Justin](#); [Burnett, Amy](#); [York, Jason](#); [Mcdonough, Patrick](#); [Pocquette, Kayla](#); [Stevens, Nate](#); [Brenton, Paul](#); [Fradique, Andrea](#); [Goodhart, Cameron](#)
Subject: West Branch flow excursions and forest fire
Date: Wednesday, June 18, 2025 2:13:00 PM
Attachments: [image001.gif](#)

At 14:24 hrs yesterday afternoon, several of Great Lakes Hydro America, LLC's (GLHA) hydro stations on the West Branch of the Penobscot River (McKay, North Twin, and Millinocket) tripped offline due to a transmission line failure, which in turn caused a minimum flow excursion at the Ripogenus Project (FERC No. 2572) and a run-of-river and minimum flow excursion at the Millinocket Development (Penobscot Mills Project, FERC No. 2458). In response to the McKay Station trip, which is part of the Ripogenus Project, the System Operator dispatched a local operator to the Project. Following a public safety check and activation of the siren warning system, the operator opened a crest gate at the dam to re-establish river flows. Local operators were also dispatched to the North Twin and Millinocket Developments (both part of the Penobscot Mills Project) to re-establish river flows. After public safety checks were made downstream and siren warning systems activated, a Taintor gate was opened at the North Twin Development and the inflatable flashboard system was deflated at Stone Dam (part of the Millinocket Development) to restore river flows.

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Senior Compliance Specialist

Brookfield Renewable U.S.

Great Lakes Hydro America, LLC

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From: eFiling@ferc.gov
To: Day, Julie; eFilingacceptance@ferc.gov
Subject: FERC Acceptance for Filing in P-2458-000
Date: Thursday, June 26, 2025 3:53:47 PM

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Acceptance for Filing

The FERC Office of the Secretary has accepted the following electronic submission for filing (Acceptance for filing does not constitute approval of any application or self-certifying notice):

-Accession No.: 202506265135
-Docket(s) No.: P-2458-000
-Filed By: Brookfield Renewable Power
-Signed By: Kevin Bernier
-Filing Type: Environmental and Recreational Compliance Report
-Filing Desc: Brookfield Renewable U.S. o/b/o Great Lakes Hydro America, LLC submits report of run-of-river and minimum flow excursion that occurred on 06/17/2025 at the Millinocket Development part of the Penobscot Mills Project under P-2458.
-Submission Date/Time: 6/26/2025 3:37:49 PM
-Filed Date: 6/26/2025 3:37:49 PM

Your submission is now part of the record for the above Docket(s) and available in FERC's eLibrary system at:

https://elibrary.ferc.gov/eLibrary/docinfo?accession_num=20250626-5135

If you would like to receive e-mail notification when additional documents are added to the above docket(s), you can eSubscribe by docket at:

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Voice Mail: 866-208-3676.

Document Content(s)

20250909 To FERC Response to AIR regarding June 17 McKay outage.pdf.....1