FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION
Washington, DC 20426
June 29, 2017

OFFICE OF ENERGY PROJECTS

Project No. 2808-017–Maine
Barker's Mill Hydroelectric Project
KEI (Maine) Power Management (III) LLC

Subject: Scoping Document 1 for Barker's Mill Hydroelectric Project, P-2808.

To the Party Addressed:

The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (Commission) is currently reviewing the license application filed on January 30, 2017 by KEI (Maine) Power Management (III) LLC (or KEI (Maine)), for relicensing the Barker's Mill (also known as Lower Barker Mill) Hydroelectric Project (FERC No. 2808). The Barker's Mill Hydroelectric Project (Barker's Mill Project or project) is located on the Little Androscoggin River in the City of Auburn, Androscoggin County, Maine. The project does not occupy lands of the United States.

Pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969, as amended, Commission staff intends to prepare an Environmental Assessment (EA), which will be used by the Commission to determine whether, and under what conditions, to issue a new license for the project. To support and assist our environmental review, we are beginning the public scoping process to ensure that all pertinent issues are identified and analyzed, and that the EA is thorough and balanced.

We invite your participation in the scoping process, and are circulating the attached Scoping Document 1 (SD1) to provide you with information on the Barker Mill's Project. We are also soliciting your comments and suggestions on our preliminary list of issues and alternatives to be addressed in the EA.

We will hold two scoping meetings for the Barker's Mill Project to receive input on the scope of the EA. An evening meeting will be held Tuesday, August 29, 2017, starting at 7:00 p.m. at the Hilton Garden Inn Auburn Riverwatch,14 Great Falls Plaza, Auburn, Maine, 04210. A daytime meeting will also be held August 30, 2017, starting at 9:00 a.m. at the Hilton Garden Inn Auburn Riverwatch,14 Great Falls Plaza, Auburn, Maine, 04210. We will also conduct an Environmental Site Review on Tuesday, August 29, 2017 starting at 2:30 p.m at the Barker's Mill powerhouse parking lot, 119 Mill

Street, Auburn, Maine 04210. Section 2.2, *Comments, Scoping Meetings, and Environmental Site Review*, of the scoping document contains information about how to RSVP for the Environmental Site Review.

We invite all interested agencies, Indian tribes, non-governmental organizations, and individuals to attend one or all of these meetings. Further information on our Environmental Site Review and scoping meetings is available in the enclosed SD1.

SD1 is being distributed to both KEI (Maine)'s distribution list and the Commission's official mailing list (see section 9.0 of the attached SD1). If you wish to be added to or removed from the Commission's official mailing list, please send your request by email to efiling@ferc.gov or by mail to: Kimberly D. Bose, Secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, N.E., Room 1A, Washington, DC 20426. All written or emailed requests must specify your wish to be removed or added to the mailing list and must clearly identify the following on the first page: **Barker's Mill Hydroelectric Project No. 2808-017**.

Please review SD1 and, if you wish to provide comments, follow the instructions in section 5.0, *Requests for Information*. If you have any questions about SD1, the scoping process, or how Commission staff will develop the EA for this project, please contact Karen Sughrue at (202) 502-8556 or karen.sughrue@ferc.gov. Additional information about the Commission's licensing process and the Barker's Mill Project may be obtained from our website, http://www.ferc.gov.

Enclosure: Scoping Document 1

cc: Mailing List
Public Files

SCOPING DOCUMENT 1

BARKER'S MILL HYDROELECTRIC PROJECT

MAINE

PROJECT NO. 2808-017

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
Office of Energy Projects
Division of Hydropower Licensing
Washington, DC

June 2017

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Barker's Mill Hydroelectric Project, No. 2808

1.0 INTRODUCTION

The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (Commission or FERC), under the authority of the Federal Power Act (FPA),[1] may issue licenses for terms ranging from 30 to 50 years for the construction, operation, and maintenance of non-federal hydroelectric projects. On January 30, 2017, KEI (Maine) Power Management (III) LLC (or KEI (Maine)), filed an application for a subsequent license for the Barker's Mill (also known as Lower Barker Mill) Hydroelectric Project (FERC Project No. 2808-017).[2]

The Barker's Mill Hydroelectric Project (Barker's Mill Project or project) is located on the Little Androscoggin River in the City of Auburn, Androscoggin County, Maine (Figure 1). The Barker's Mill Dam is approximately 3,300 feet downstream from the Barker Mill Upper Dam (also known as Upper Barker Mill) (FERC Project No. 3562) and the project is approximately 2,000 feet upstream of the confluence of the main stem of the Androscoggin River. The project does not occupy lands of the United States.

The Barker's Mill Project is operated in a run-of-river mode. The project has a total installed capacity of 1.5 megawatts (MW). The average annual energy production during the period from 2007 to 2016 was 5,087 megawatt-hours (MWh). A detailed description of the project is provided in section 3.0.

The National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969,[3] the Commission's regulations, and other applicable laws require that we independently evaluate the environmental effects of relicensing the Barker's Mill Project as proposed, and also consider reasonable alternatives to the licensee's proposed action. At this time, we intend to prepare an environmental assessment (EA) that describes and evaluates the probable effects, including an assessment of the site-specific and cumulative effects, if any, of the proposed action and alternatives. The EA preparation will be supported by a scoping process to ensure identification and analysis of all pertinent issues. Although our current

[1] 16 U.S.C. § 791(a)-825(r).

[2] The current license for the Barker's Mill Hydroelectric Project was issued with an effective date of February 23, 1979, for a term of 40 years and expires on January 31, 2019.

[3] National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, 42 U.S.C. §§ 4321-4370(f) (2006).

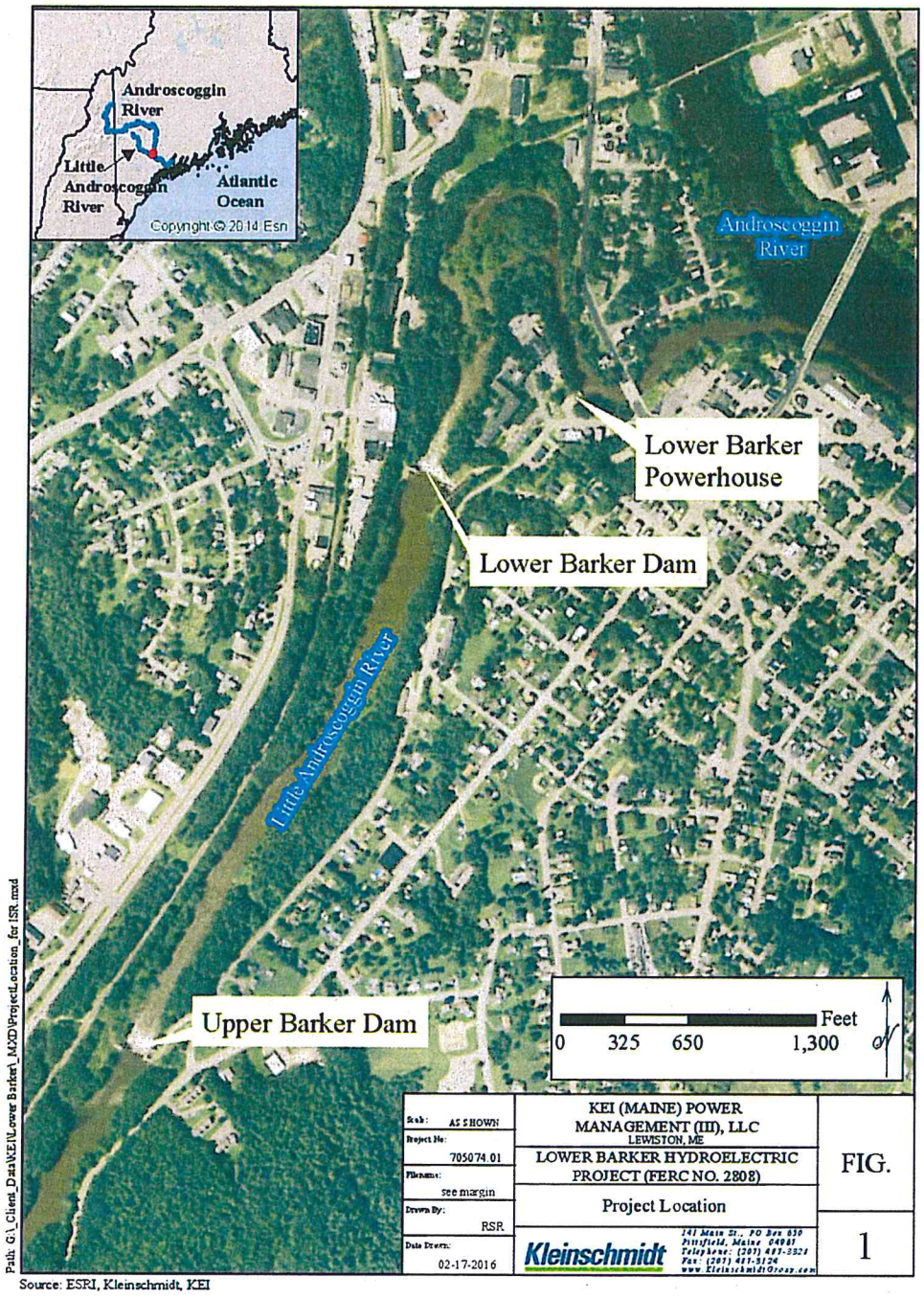

Figure 1. Location of the Barker's Mill (also known as Lower Barker Mill) Hydroelectric Project (Source: License application).

intent is to prepare a draft and final environmental assessment (EA), there is a possibility that an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) will be required. Nevertheless, this meeting will satisfy the NEPA scoping requirements, irrespective of whether an EA or EIS is issued by the Commission.

2.0 SCOPING

This Scoping Document 1 (SD1) is intended to advise all participants as to the proposed scope of the EA and to seek additional information pertinent to this analysis. This document contains: (1) a description of the scoping process and schedule for the development of the EA; (2) a description of the proposed action and alternatives; (3) a preliminary identification of environmental issues; (4) a request for comments and information; (5) a proposed EA outline; and (6) a preliminary list of comprehensive plans which are applicable to the project.

2.1 PURPOSES OF SCOPING

Scoping is the process used to identify issues, concerns, and opportunities for enhancement or mitigation associated with a proposed action. In general, scoping should be conducted during the early planning stages of a project. The purposes of the scoping process are as follows:

- invite participation of federal, state and local resource agencies, Indian tribes, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), and the public to identify significant environmental and socioeconomic issues related to the proposed project;
- determine the resource issues, depth of analysis, and significance of issues to be addressed in the EA;
- identify how the project would or would not contribute to cumulative effects in the project area;
- identify reasonable alternatives to the proposed action that should be evaluated in the EA;
- solicit, from participants, available information on the resources at issue; and
- determine the resource areas and potential issues that do not require detailed analysis during review of the project.

2.2 COMMENTS, SCOPING MEETINGS, AND ENVIRONMENTAL SITE REVIEW

During the preparation of the EA, there will be several opportunities for the resource agencies, Indian tribes, NGOs, and the public to provide input. These opportunities occur:

- during the public scoping process when we solicit oral and written comments regarding scope of the issues and analysis for the EA;
- in response to the Commission's ready for environmental analysis notice, when we solicit comments, recommendations, terms and conditions, and prescriptions for the proposed project; and
- after issuance of the EA when we solicit written comments on the EA.

In addition to written comments solicited by this SD1, we will hold two public scoping meetings and an Environmental Site Review in the vicinity of the project. An evening meeting will focus on receiving input from the public, and a daytime meeting will focus on concerns of the resource agencies, NGO's, and Indian tribes. We invite all interested agencies, Indian tribes, NGOs, and individuals to attend one or both of the meetings to assist us in identifying the scope of environmental issues that should be analyzed in the EA. The times and locations of the meetings are as follows:

Evening Scoping Meeting

Date and Time:	Tuesday, August 29, 2017, 7:00 p.m. (EST)
Location:	Hilton Garden Inn Auburn Riverwatch Grand Ballroom, 14 Great Falls Plaza, Auburn, Maine 04210.

Daytime Scoping Meeting

Date and Time:	Wednesday, August 30, 2017, 9:00 a.m. (EST)
Location:	Hilton Garden Inn Auburn Riverwatch Grand Ballroom, 14 Great Falls Plaza, Auburn, Maine 04210.

Environmental Site Review

Date and Time:	Tuesday, August 29, 2017, 2:30 p.m. (EST)

Location: Barker's Mill powerhouse parking lot, 119 Mill Street, Auburn, Maine 04210.
Phone number: (207) 203-3026

All participants interested in seeing the project should meet at 2:30 p.m. at the parking lot near the powerhouse on Mill Street, on the right as you turn onto Mill Street in Auburn. Anyone with questions about the Environmental Site Review (or needing directions) should contact Sherri Loon at (207) 203-3026 or Sherri.Loon@kruger.com. Those individuals planning to participate in the Environmental Site Review should notify Ms. Loon of their intent, no later than August 18, 2017.

The scoping meetings will be recorded by a court reporter, and all statements (verbal and written) will become part of the Commission's public record for the project. Before each meeting, all individuals who attend, especially those who intend to make statements, will be asked to sign in and clearly identify themselves for the record. Interested parties who choose not to speak or who are unable to attend the scoping meetings may provide written comments and information to the Commission as described in section 5.0. These meetings are posted on the Commission's calendar located on the internet at http://www.ferc.gov/EventCalendar/EventsList.aspx, along with other related information.

Meeting participants should come prepared to discuss their issues and/or concerns as they pertain to the relicensing of the Barker's Mill Project. It is advised that participants review the license application in preparation for the scoping meetings. Copies of the license application are available for review at the Commission in the Public Reference Room or may be viewed on the Commission's website (http://www.ferc.gov), using the "eLibrary" link. Enter the docket number, P-2808 for the Barker's Mill Project, to access the documents. For assistance, contact FERC Online Support at FERCOnlineSupport@ferc.gov or toll free at 1-866-208-3676, or for TTY, (202) 502-8659.

Following the scoping meetings and comment period, all issues raised will be reviewed and decisions made on the level of analysis needed. If our preliminary analysis indicates that any issues presented in this scoping document have little potential for causing significant effects, the issue(s) will be identified and the reasons for not providing a more detailed analysis will be given in the EA.

If we receive no substantive comments on SD1, then we will not prepare a Scoping Document 2 (SD2). Otherwise, a SD2 addressing any substantive comments received will be issued for informational use only by all participants or interested

persons; no response will be required. The EA will address recommendations and input received during the scoping process.

3.0 PROPOSED ACTION AND ALTERNATIVES

In accordance with NEPA, the environmental analysis will consider the following alternatives, at a minimum: (1) the no-action alternative, (2) the applicant's proposed action, and (3) alternatives to the proposed action.

3.1 NO-ACTION ALTERNATIVE

Under the no-action alternative, the Barker's Mill Project would continue to operate as required by the current project license (i.e., there would be no change to the existing environment). No new environmental protection, mitigation, or enhancement measures would be implemented. We use this alternative to establish baseline environmental conditions for comparison with other alternatives.

3.1.1 Existing Project Facilities

The Barker's Mill Project consists of the following existing facilities: 1) a 232-foot-long, 30-foot-high concrete dam with a 125-foot-long spillway section with flashboards, a 46-foot-long non-overflow section with two waste gates along the left buttress, and a 61-foot-long non-overflow section with seven stop-logs adjacent to the intake canal; 2) a 16.5-acre reservoir with a storage capacity of 150-acre-feet; 3) a 60-foot-long, 20-foot-wide, 9 foot, 7 inch-deep intake canal on the right bank with seven stop-logs; 4) a 35-foot-long, 20-foot-wide gatehouse containing a single gate fitted with trash racks; 5) a buried 650-foot-long, 10 foot, 2 inch-wide, 7 foot, 2 inch-high concrete penstock; 6) a 50-foot-long, 25-foot-wide concrete partially buried powerhouse containing a single semi-Kaplan-type turbine/generating unit with a rated capacity of 1.5 MW; 7) a tailrace; 8) a 250-foot-long, 4.2 kilovolt underground power line; (9) a substation; and 10) appurtenant facilities.

KEI allows public use of project land and waters for informal recreation, but does not maintain developed recreational facilities or access.

3.1.2 Existing Project Operation

The project operates as a run-of-river facility and bypasses about 0.57 miles of the Little Androscoggin River. When generating, water is conveyed through the project penstock and into the project powerhouse where it then re-enters the Little Androscoggin River through the project tailrace. A continuous minimum flow of 20 cubic feet per

second (cfs) is conveyed to the 0.57-mile-long bypass reach throughout the year to maintain aquatic habitat. From June 1 through November 15, KEI (Maine) releases the minimum flow from the stoplog section of the dam, which also provides downstream fish passage. During the remainder of the year, KEI (Maine) releases the minimum flow from one of the fixed gates on the dam. Inflows less than 170 cfs and greater than 520 cfs are passed at the dam. Because the project is run-of-river, there is minimal available storage behind the dam.

Turbine operation is automated and can be adjusted or shut down remotely, but startup must be done on-site. Plant operators visit the site daily.

3.2 APPLICANT'S PROPOSAL

3.2.1 Proposed Project Facilities and Operations

In addition to the facilities listed above, KEI (Maine) proposes to replace the existing turbine/generator unit with a new single semi-Kaplan-type turbine/generator unit with the same generating and hydraulic capacity as the existing unit. KEI (Maine) anticipates that the replacement turbine will increase overall efficiency that would allow energy production to increase by 33 percent under similar operating conditions.[4]

KEI (Maine) proposes to upgrade the existing downstream fishway to reduce entrainment potential for outmigrating diadromous fish species. Currently, KEI (Maine) provides downstream fish passage from June 1 through November 15 by releasing flows from the stoplog gate near the intake to the power canal. Water and fish exiting the gate, discharge into a plunge pool, cascade down a small set of bedrock falls, and enter the bypassed reach immediately downstream of the dam. KEI (Maine) proposes to modify the existing fishway by installing a new angled bar rack system with 1-inch spacing located upstream of the existing concrete power canal and enhancing attraction flow characteristics at the stoplog gate entrance to better direct fish away from the intake and into the existing fishway. Other modifications include installing a new concrete wall to permit a minimum 4-foot water depth within the plunge pool area and installing a new elevated operator deck to allow for cleaning of the angled bar rack system.

KEI (Maine) also proposes to increase the minimum flow released to the bypassed reach from 20 cfs to 113 cfs[5] or inflow, whichever is less, throughout the year. KEI

[4] *See* KEI (Maine)'s June 26, 2017, response to FERC's Request for Additional Information.

[5] In its license application, KEI (Maine) initially proposed to increase the

(Maine) intends to pass some of the minimum flow through the modified fishway when operating the fishway from June 1 through November 15. At other times during the year, KEI (Maine) would pass the minimum flow through either the existing stop-log gates, deep bay gates, or by passing the flow over the dam.

3.2.2 Proposed Environmental Measures

KEI (Maine) proposes the following environmental measures:

Aquatic Resources

- Continue to operate the project in run-of-river mode.
- Continue to operate and maintain a Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) system in the project impoundment to monitor compliance with run-of-river operations and minimize reservoir fluctuations.
- Increase minimum flows released at the dam from 20 cfs to 113 cfs or inflow, whichever is less, to protect fisheries and aquatic habitat in the bypassed reach.
- Operate a modified fishway at the dam from June 1 through November 15 to provide downstream fish passage during the outmigration period for juvenile herring and adult American eel;

Recreation and Aesthetic Resources

- Provide signage, parking, a hand-carry boat launch, and foot access to the project bypass reach.

Cultural Resources

- Continue to manage historic properties within the Area of Potential Effect, including properties eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Properties.

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minimum flow from 20 cfs to 50 cfs. However, KEI (Maine) revised their proposal to increase the minimum flow to 113 cfs in its June 26, 2017, response to FERC's Request for Additional Information.

- Address tribal resources, if discovered, on a case-by-case basis.

3.3 DAM SAFETY

It is important to note that dam safety constraints may exist and should be taken into consideration in the development of proposals and alternatives considered in the pending proceeding. For example, proposed modifications to the dam structure, such as the addition of flashboards or fish passage facilities, could impact the integrity of the dam structure. As the proposal and alternatives are developed, the applicant must evaluate the effects and ensure that the project would meet the Commission's dam safety criteria found in Part 12 of the Commission's regulations and the Engineering Guidelines (http://www.ferc.gov/industries/hydropower/safety/guidelines/eng-guide.asp).

3.4 ALTERNATIVES TO THE PROPOSED ACTION

Commission staff will consider and assess all alternative recommendations for operational or facility modifications, as well as protection, mitigation, and enhancement measures identified by us, the agencies, Indian tribes, NGOs, and the public.

3.5 ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED BUT ELIMINATED FROM DETAILED STUDY

At present, we propose to eliminate the following alternatives from detailed study in the EA.

3.5.1 Federal Government Takeover

In accordance with § 16.14 of the Commission's regulations, a federal department or agency may file a recommendation that the United States exercise its right to take over a hydroelectric power project with a license that is subject to sections 14 and 15 of the FPA.[6] We do not consider federal takeover to be a reasonable alternative. Federal takeover of the project would require congressional approval. While that fact alone would not preclude further consideration of this alternative, there is currently no evidence showing that federal takeover should be recommended to Congress. No party has suggested that federal takeover would be appropriate and no federal agency has expressed interest in operating the project.

[6] 16 U.S.C. §§ 791(a)-825(r).

3.5.2 Non-power License

A non-power license is a temporary license the Commission would terminate whenever it determines that another governmental agency is authorized and willing to assume regulatory authority and supervision over the lands and facilities covered by the non-power license. At this time, no governmental agency has suggested a willingness or ability to take over the project. No party has sought a non-power license, and we have no basis for concluding that the Barker's Mill Project should no longer be used to produce power. Thus, we do not consider a non-power license a reasonable alternative to relicensing the project.

3.5.3 Project Decommissioning

Decommissioning of the project could be accomplished with or without dam removal. Either alternative would require denying the relicense application and surrender or termination of the existing license with appropriate conditions. There would be significant costs involved with decommissioning the project and/or removing any project facilities. The project provides a viable, safe, and clean renewable source of power to the region. With decommissioning, the project would no longer be authorized to generate power.

No party has recommended project decommissioning would be appropriate in this case, and we have no basis for recommending it. Thus, we do not consider project decommissioning a reasonable alternative to relicensing the project with appropriate environmental enhancement measures.

4.0 SCOPE OF CUMULATIVE EFFECTS AND SITE-SPECIFIC RESOURCE ISSUES

4.1 CUMULATIVE EFFECTS

According to the Council on Environmental Quality's regulations for implementing NEPA (40 C.F.R. 1508.7), a cumulative effect is the effect on the environment that results from the incremental effect of the action when added to other past, present and reasonably foreseeable future actions, regardless of what agency (federal or non-federal) or person undertakes such other actions. Cumulative effects can result from individually minor but collectively significant actions taking place over a period of time, including hydropower and other land and water development activities.

4.1.1 Resources That Could Be Cumulatively Affected

Based on our review of the license application and preliminary staff analysis, we have identified diadromous fisheries[7] as a resource that may be cumulatively affected by the proposed operation and maintenance of the Barker's Mill Project in combination with other hydroelectric projects occurring in the basin.

4.1.2 Geographic Scope

Our geographic scope of analysis for cumulatively affected resources is defined by the physical limits or boundaries of: (1) the proposed action's effect on the resources, and (2) contributing effects from other hydropower and non-hydropower activities within the basin.

We have identified the geographic scope for our cumulative effects analysis for fisheries resources to include the Little Androscoggin River from the Marcal Hydroelectric Project (FERC No. 11482) located at River Mile (RM) 14.8 downstream to the confluence with the mainstem Androscoggin River and the mainstem Androscoggin River from the confluence at RM 21.2 downstream to the Brunswick Hydroelectric Project (FERC No. 2284) at RM 0.2.[8] We chose this geographic scope because the operation and maintenance of the Barker's Mill Project, in combination with other hydroelectric dams located both upstream and downstream of the project may influence fish movements and affect habitat availability and accessibility within this approximate 36-mile reach.[9]

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[7] Diadromous fisheries include species that spend portions of their life cycles in both fresh and saltwater.

[8] Barker's Mill Dam is approximately located at RM 0.25 on the Little Androscoggin River.

[9] Within this reach on the mainstem Androscoggin River, upstream and downstream fishways are currently operated at the Brunswick (FERC No. 2284), Pejepscot (FERC No. 4784), and Worumbo (FERC No. 3428) hydroelectric projects. In addition, Maine Department of Marine Resources traps and trucks fish at the Brunswick project and currently stocks several lakes and ponds off the Little Androscoggin River upstream of the Marcal Hydroelectric Project (FERC No. 11482). Thus, we limited the geographic scope to the 36-mile stretch starting from the Marcal Project on the Little Androscoggin River (located approximately 14 river miles upstream of the Barker's Mill Project) downstream to the Brunswick Project on the mainstem Androscoggin River (located approximately 21 miles downstream of the Barker's Mill Project).

4.1.3 Temporal Scope

The temporal scope of our cumulative effects analysis in the EA will include a discussion of past, present, and future actions and their effects on each resource that could be cumulatively affected. Based on the potential term of a new license, the temporal scope will look 30-50 years into the future, concentrating on the effect to the resources from reasonably foreseeable future actions. The historical discussion will, by necessity, be limited to the amount of available information for each resource. The quality and quantity of information, however, diminishes as we analyze resources further away in time from the present.

4.2 RESOURCE ISSUES

In this section, we present a preliminary list of environmental issues to be addressed in the EA. We have identified these issues, which are listed by resource area, by reviewing the license application and the Commission's record for the Barker's Mill Project. This list is not intended to be exhaustive or final, but contains those issues raised to date that could have substantial effects. After the scoping process is complete, we will review this list and determine the appropriate level of analysis needed to address each issue in the EA. Those issues identified by an asterisk (*) will be analyzed for both cumulative and site-specific effects.

4.2.1 Aquatic Resources

- Effects of continued project operation and maintenance on dissolved oxygen and water temperature in the bypassed reach and downstream of the project tailrace.

- Effects of continued project operation and maintenance on streamflows, aquatic habitat, and fish resources* in the bypassed reach and downstream of the project tailrace.

- Effects of continued project operation and maintenance on upstream and downstream movements of resident and migratory fish in the Little Androscoggin River.*

- Effects of continued project operation and maintenance on fish entrainment and corresponding injury and mortality.*

4.2.2 Terrestrial Resources

- Effects of continued project operation and maintenance on riparian, littoral, and wetland habitats and associated wildlife.

- Potential introduction and spread of invasive plant species during planned maintenance or facility upgrade activities.

4.2.3 Threatened and Endangered Species

- Effects of continued operation and maintenance of the project on federally listed and proposed endangered, threatened, and candidate species that may occur in the project area including: Atlantic salmon (*Salmo salar*), small whorled pogonia (*Isotria medeoloides*) and northern long-eared bat (*Myotis septentrionalis*).

4.2.4 Recreation and Aesthetic Resources

- Effects of the project on day-use facilities and other recreational and aesthetic resources in the project area, including flow-related effects and public access to the bypassed reach for fishing and boating.

4.2.5 Cultural Resources

- Effects of continued project operation and maintenance on cultural resources and historic properties, including Barker's Mill Dam and other potential properties eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places.

4.2.6 Developmental Resources

- Effects of proposed environmental measures and associated costs on energy generation and the cost of project power.

5.0 REQUEST FOR INFORMATION

We are asking federal, state, and local resource agencies, Indian tribes, NGOs, and the public to forward to the Commission any information that will assist us in conducting an accurate and thorough analysis of the project-specific and cumulative effects

associated with relicensing the Barker's Mill Project. The types of information requested include, but are not limited to:

- information, quantitative data, or professional opinions that may help define the geographic and temporal scope of the analysis (both site-specific and cumulative effects), and that helps identify significant environmental issues;

- identification of, and information from, any other EA, Environmental Impact Statement, or similar environmental study (previous, on-going, or planned) relevant to the proposed relicensing of the Barker's Mill Project;

- existing information and any data that would help to describe the past and present actions and effects of the project and other developmental activities on environmental and socioeconomic resources;

- information that would help characterize the existing environmental conditions and habitats;

- the identification of any federal, state, or local resource plans, and any future project proposals in the affected resource area (e.g., proposals to construct or operate water treatment facilities, recreation areas, water diversions, timber harvest activities, or fish management programs) along with any implementation schedules;

- documentation that the proposed project would or would not contribute to cumulative adverse or beneficial effects on any resources. Documentation can include, but need not be limited to, how the project would interact with other projects in the area and other developmental activities; study results; resource management policies; and reports from federal and state agencies, local agencies, Indian tribes, NGOs, and the public; and

- documentation showing why any resources should be excluded from further study or consideration.

The requested information and comments on SD1 may be filed electronically via the Internet no later than **September 29, 2017**. See 18 C.F.R. 385.2001(a)(1)(iii) and the instructions on the Commission's website http://www.ferc.gov/docs-filing/efiling.asp. Commenters can submit brief comments up to 6,000 characters, without prior registration, using the eComment system at http://www.ferc.gov/docs-filing/ecomment.asp. You must include your name and contact information at the end of

your comments. For assistance, please contact FERC Online Support at FERCOnlineSupport@ferc.gov or toll free at 1-866-208-3676, or for TTY, (202) 502-8659. Although the Commission strongly encourages electronic filing, documents may also be paper-filed. To paper-file, mail an original and five copies to: Kimberly D. Bose, Secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, NE, Washington, D.C. 20426.

Register online at http://www.ferc.gov/docs-filing/esubscription.asp to be notified via email of new filings and issuances related to this or other pending projects. For assistance, please contact FERC Online Support.mailto:fercoNLINEsUKPPORT@FERC.GOV

Intervenors – those on the Commission's service list for this proceeding – are reminded that if they file comments with the Commission, they must also serve a copy of their filing on each person whose name appears on the official service list. Note that the list is periodically updated. The official service list can be obtained on the Commission's web site (http://www.ferc.gov) - click on Documents and Filing and click on eService - or call the Office of the Secretary, Dockets Branch at (202) 502-8715. In addition, if any party files comments or documents with the Commission relating to the merits of an issue that may affect the responsibilities of a particular resource agency, they must also serve a copy of the document on the resource agency.

Any questions concerning the scoping meetings, Environmental Site Reviews, or how to file written comments with the Commission should be directed to Karen Sughrue at (202) 502-8556 or karen.sughrue@ferc.gov. Additional information about the Commission's licensing process and the Barker's Mill Project may be obtained from the Commission's website, www.ferc.gov.

6.0 EA PREPARATION SCHEDULE

At this time, we anticipate the need to prepare a draft and final EA. The draft EA will be sent to all persons and entities on the Commission's service and mailing lists for the Barker's Mill Project. The EA will include our recommendations for operating procedures, as well as environmental protection and enhancement measures that should be part of any new license issued by the Commission. All recipients will then have 30 days to review the EA and file written comments with the Commission. All comments on the draft EA filed with the Commission will be considered in preparation of the Final EA.

The major milestones, including those for preparing the EA, are as follows:

Major Milestone	Target Date
Scoping Meetings	August 2017
Scoping Document 2 Issued (if necessary)	September 2017
Ready for Environmental Analysis Notice Issued	October 2017
Deadline for Filing Comments, Recommendations and Agency Terms and Conditions/Prescriptions	December 2017
Draft EA Issued	April 2018
Comments on Draft EA due	May 2018
Final EA Issued	August 2018

If Commission staff determines that there is a need for additional information or additional studies, the issuance of the Ready for Environmental Analysis notice could be delayed. If this occurs, all subsequent milestones would be delayed by the time allowed for KEI (Maine) to respond to the Commission's request.

7.0 PROPOSED EA OUTLINE

The preliminary outline for the Barker's Mill Project EA is as follows:

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  - 1.4.2 Interventions

8.0 COMPREHENSIVE PLANS

Section 10(a)(2) of the FPA, 16 U.S.C. section 803(a)(2)(A), requires the Commission to consider the extent to which a project is consistent with federal or state comprehensive plans for improving, developing, or conserving a waterway or waterways affected by a project. The staff has preliminary identified and reviewed the plans listed below that may be relevant to the Barker's Mill Project. Agencies are requested to review this list and inform the Commission staff of any changes. If there are other comprehensive plans that should be considered for this list that are not on file with the Commission, or if there are more recent versions of the plans already listed, they can be filed for consideration with the Commission according to 18 CFR section 2.19 of the Commission's regulations. Please follow the instructions for filing a plan at http://www.ferc.gov/industries/hydropower/gen-info/licensing/complan.pdf.

The following is a list of comprehensive plans currently on file with the Commission that may be relevant to the Barker's Mill Project:

Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission. Interstate fishery management plan for Atlantic striped bass. (Report No. 24). March 1995.

Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission. Amendment 1 to the Interstate Fishery Management Plan for Atlantic sturgeon (*Acipenser oxyrhynchus oxyrhynchus*). (Report No. 31). July 1998.

Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission. Interstate fishery management plan for Atlantic striped bass. (Report No. 34). January 1998.

Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission. Amendment 1 to the Interstate Fishery Management Plan for shad and river herring. (Report No. 35). April 1999.

Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission. Technical Addendum 1 to Amendment 1 of the Interstate Fishery Management Plan for shad and river herring. February 9, 2000.

Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission. Amendment 2 to the Interstate Fishery Management Plan for shad and river herring, Arlington, Virginia. May 2009.

Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission. Amendment 3 to the Interstate Fishery Management Plan for shad and river herring, Arlington, Virginia. February 2010.

Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission. Interstate Fishery Management Plan for American eel (*Anguilla rostrata*). (Report No. 36). April 2000.

Maine Atlantic Sea-Run Salmon Commission. Strategic plan for management of Atlantic salmon in the State of Maine. Augusta, Maine. July 1984.

Maine Department of Agriculture, Conservation, & Forestry. Maine State Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP): 2014-2019.Augusta, Maine. July 2015.

Maine Department of Conservation. Maine Rivers Study-final report. Augusta, Maine. May 1982.

Maine State Planning Office. Maine Comprehensive Rivers Management Plan. Augusta, Maine. May 1987.

Maine State Planning Office. Maine Comprehensive Rivers Management Plan. Volume 4. Augusta, Maine. December 1992.

National Marine Fisheries Service. Final Amendment #11 to the Northeast Multi-species Fishery Management Plan; Amendment #9 to the Atlantic sea scallop Fishery Management Plan; Amendment #1 to the monkfish Fishery Management Plan; Amendment #1 to the Atlantic salmon Fishery Management Plan; and Components of the Proposed Atlantic herring Fishery Management Plan for Essential Fish Habitat. Volume 1. October 7, 1998.

National Marine Fisheries Service. Final Recovery Plan for the Shortnose Sturgeon (*Acipenser brevirostrum*). Prepared by the Shortnose Sturgeon Recovery Team for the National Marine Fisheries Service, Silver Spring, Maryland. December 1998.

National Park Service. The Nationwide Rivers Inventory. Department of the Interior, Washington, D.C. 1993.

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Atlantic salmon restoration in New England: Final environmental impact statement 1989-2021. Department of the Interior, Newton Corner, Massachusetts. May 1989.

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Canadian Wildlife Service. North American waterfowl management plan. Department of the Interior. Environment Canada. May 1986.

9.0 MAILING LIST

The list below is the Commission's official mailing list for the Barker's Mill Project (FERC No. 2808). If you want to receive future mailings for the Barker's Mill Project from the Commission and are not included in the list below, please send your request by email to efiling@ferc.gov or by mail to: Kimberly D. Bose, Secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, N.E., Room 1A, Washington, DC 20426. All written and emailed requests to be added to the Commission's mailing list must clearly identify the following on the first page: Barker's Mill Project No. 2808-017. You may use the same method if requesting removal from the mailing list below.

Register online at http://www.ferc.gov/docs-filing/esubscription.asp to be notified via email of new filings and issuances related to this or other pending projects. For assistance, please contact FERC Online Support at FERCOnlineSupport@ferc.gov or toll free at 1-866-208-3676, or for TTY, (202) 502-8659.

Mailing List

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