

Firstlight CT Housatonic LLC 143 West Street, Suite E New Milford, CT 06776

Location Address:

35 Water Street Falls Village, CT 06031 Falls Village Station

Permit Number: CT0030809

Issuance Date: Date of Signature

portal.ct.gov/DEEP

Effective Date: Is the Issuance Date

Permit Expires: [5 years after issuance]

SECTION 1: GENERAL PROVISIONS

Receiving Water Body: Housatonic River

Receiving Water Body ID: CT6000-00 06

- (A) This permit is issued in accordance with Section 22a-430 of Chapter 446k, Connecticut General Statutes ("CGS"), and Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies ("RCSA") adopted thereunder, as amended, and Section 402(b) of the Clean Water Act ("CWA"), as amended, 33 USC 1251, *et. seq.*, and pursuant to an approval dated September 26, 1973, by the Administrator of the United States Environmental Protection Agency for the State of Connecticut to administer a NPDES permit program.
- (B) Firstlight CT Housatonic LLC ("Permittee") shall comply with all conditions of this permit including the following sections of the RCSA which have been adopted pursuant to section 22a-430 of the CGS and are hereby incorporated into this permit. Your attention is especially drawn to the notification requirements of subsections (i)(2), (i)(3), (j)(1), (j)(6), (j)(8), (j)(9)(C), (j)(10)(C), (j)(11)(C), (D), (E), and (F), (k)(3) and (4) and (l)(2) of Section 22a-430-3.

Section 22a-430-3: General Conditions

- (a) Definitions
- (b) General
- (c) Inspection and Entry
- (d) Effect of a Permit
- (e) Duty to Comply
- (f) Proper Operation and Maintenance
- (g) Sludge Disposal
- (h) Duty to Mitigate
- (i) Facility Modifications; Notification

- (j) Monitoring, Records and Reporting Requirements
- (k) Bypass
- (m) Effluent Limitation Violations (Upsets)
- (n) Enforcement
- (o) Resource Conservation
- (p) Spill Prevention and Control
- (q) Instrumentation, Alarms, Flow Recorders
- (r) Equalization

Section 22a-430-4: Procedures and Criteria

- (a) Duty to Apply
- (b) Duty to Reapply
- (c) Application Requirements
- (d) Preliminary Review
- (e) Tentative Determination
- (f) Draft Permits, Fact Sheets
- (g) Public Notice, Notice of Hearing
- (h) Public Comments
- (i) Final Determination
- (j) Public Hearings
- (k) Submission of Plans and Specifications, Approval
- (*l*) Establishing Effluent Limitations and Conditions
- (m) Case by Case Determinations
- (n) Permit Issuance or Renewal
- (o) Permit Transfer
- (p) Permit Revocation, Denial or Modification
- (q) Variances
- (s) Treatment Requirements
- (C) Violations of any of the terms, conditions, or limitations contained in this permit may subject the Permittee to enforcement action including, but not limited to, seeking penalties, injunctions and/or forfeitures pursuant to applicable sections of the CGS and RCSA.
- (D) Any false statement in any information submitted pursuant to this permit may be punishable as a criminal offense under section 22a-438 or 22a-131a of the CGS or in accordance with section 22a-6, under section 53a-157b of the CGS.
- (E) The authorization to discharge under this permit may not be transferred without prior written approval of the Commissioner of Energy and Environmental Protection ("Commissioner"). To request such approval, the Permittee and proposed transferee shall register such proposed transfer with the Commissioner, at least thirty days prior to the transferee becoming legally responsible for creating or maintaining any discharge which is the subject of the permit transfer. Failure, by the transferee, to obtain the Commissioner's approval prior to commencing such discharge(s) may subject the transferee to enforcement action for discharging without a permit pursuant to applicable sections of the CGS and RCSA.

- (F) No provision of this permit and no action or inaction by the Commissioner shall be construed to constitute an assurance by the Commissioner that the actions taken by the Permittee pursuant to this permit will result in compliance or prevent or abate pollution.
- (G) Nothing in this permit shall relieve the Permittee of other obligations under applicable federal, state and local law.
- (H) An annual fee shall be paid for each year this permit is in effect as set forth in section 22a-430-7 of the RCSA.
- (I) The Permittee shall operate and maintain its collection and treatment system in accordance with its Operation and Maintenance Plan and with all approvals issued in accordance with RCSA section 22a-430-3(i)(3).

SECTION 2: DEFINITIONS

- (A) The definitions of the terms used in this permit shall be the same as the definitions contained in section 22a-423 of the CGS and sections 22a-430-3(a) and 22a-430-6 of the RCSA.
- (B) In addition to the above, the following definitions shall apply to this permit:

"40 CFR" means Title 40 of the Code of Federal Regulations.

"Average Monthly Limit" means the maximum allowable "Average Monthly Concentration" as defined in section 22a-430-3(a) of the RCSA when expressed as a concentration (e.g., mg/l). Otherwise, it means "Average Monthly Discharge Limitation" as defined in Section 22a-430-3(a) of the RCSA.

Connecticut Water Quality Standards means the regulations adopted under RCSA sections 22a-426-1 through 22a-426-9, as amended.

"Daily Concentration" means the concentration of a substance as measured in a daily composite sample, or the arithmetic average of all grab sample results defining a grab sample average.

"Daily Quantity" means the quantity of wastewater discharged during an operating day.

"Dilution Factor" means the inverse of the "Instream Waste Concentration".

"DMR" means Discharge Monitoring Report.

"Instantaneous Limit" means the highest allowable concentration of a substance as measured by a grab sample, or the highest allowable measurement of a parameter as obtained through instantaneous monitoring. "Instream Waste Concentration" means the concentration of a discharge in the receiving water after mixing has occurred in the allocated zone of influence.

"Maximum Daily Limit" means the maximum allowable "Daily Concentration" (defined above) when expressed as a concentration (e.g., mg/l). Otherwise, it means the maximum allowable "Daily Quantity" as defined above, unless it is expressed as a flow quantity. If expressed as a flow quantity, it means "Maximum Daily Flow" as defined in Section 22a-430-3(a) of the RCSA.

"Range During Sampling" ("RDS"), as a sample type, means the maximum and minimum of all values recorded as a result of analyzing each grab sample of: 1) a Composite Sample or, 2) a Grab Sample Average. For those Permittees with continuous monitoring and recording pH meters, Range During Sampling means the maximum and minimum readings recorded with the continuous monitoring device during the Composite or Grab Sample Average sample collection.

"Reporting Frequency" means the frequency at which monitoring results must be provided.

"Semi-annually" when used as a sampling frequency in this permit, means that sampling will be done from April 1 to September 30 and October 1 to March 31, April through September data shall be reported on the September DMR. October through March data shall be reported on the March DMR.

SECTION 3: COMMISSIONER'S DECISION

- (A) The Commissioner has issued a final determination and found that the discharge will not cause pollution of the waters of the state. The Commissioner's decision is based on Application No. 202201108 for permit issuance received on February 03, 2022, and the administrative record established in the processing of that application.
- (B) Effective from issuance date for a term not to exceed five years and until this permit expires or is modified or revoked, the Commissioner hereby authorizes the Permittee to discharge in accordance with the terms and conditions of Permit No. CT0030809, issued by the Commissioner to the Permittee based on Application No. 202201108, received by the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection ("DEEP") on February 03, 2022, and all modifications and approvals issued by the Commissioner or the Commissioner's authorized agent for the discharge and/or activities authorized by, or associated with, Permit No. CT0030809, following the issuance date of this permit.
- (C) The Commissioner reserves the right to make appropriate revisions to the permit in order to establish any appropriate effluent limitations, schedules of compliance, or other provisions which may be authorized under the Federal Clean Water Act or the CGS or regulations adopted thereunder, as amended. The permit as modified or renewed under this paragraph may also contain any other requirements of the Federal Clean Water Act or the Connecticut General Statutes (Conn. Gen. Stat.) or regulations adopted thereunder which are then applicable.

- (D) This permit includes a determination regarding section 316(a) of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act 33 U.S.C. § 1326(a) regarding the thermal component of the discharge, and compliance with this permit is sufficient to assure the protection and propagation of a balanced indigenous population of shellfish, fish, and wildlife in and on the receiving waters. A Zone of Influence of 1,035,723 gallons per day has been allocated to the discharge.
- (E) This permit contains a determination under section 316(b) of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act, 33 U.S.C. § 1326(b) regarding cooling water intake structures and Conn. Gen. Stat. § 22a-430(a), and compliance with this permit is sufficient to assure the protection and propagation of a balanced indigenous population of shellfish, fish, and wildlife in and on the receiving waters. Based on the evaluation detailed in the fact sheet, DEEP has determined that the facility employs Best Technology Available pursuant to 40 CFR § 125.90(b).
- (F) Nothing in this permit authorizes take for the purposes of a facility's compliance with the Endangered Species Act.

SECTION 4: GENERAL EFFLUENT LIMITATIONS

- (A) The Permittee shall assure that the discharge will not cause or contribute to an instream violation of the *Connecticut Water Quality Standards*.
- (B) No discharge shall contain, or cause in the receiving stream, a visible oil sheen or floating solids, or cause visible discoloration or foaming in the receiving stream.
- (C) No discharge shall cause acute or chronic toxicity in the receiving water body beyond any zone of influence specifically allocated to that discharge in this permit.
- (D) The temperature of any discharge shall not increase the temperature of the receiving stream above 85 °F, or in any case, raise the temperature of the receiving stream by more than 4 °F.
- (E) There shall be no discharge of polychlorinated biphenyl (PCB) compounds such as those commonly used for transformer fluid.

SECTION 5: SPECIFIC EFFLUENT LIMITATIONS AND MONITORING REQUIREMENTS

(A) The discharge is restricted by and shall be monitored in accordance with the following tables in this section. The wastewater discharge shall not exceed the effluent limitations in these tables and shall otherwise conform to the specific terms and conditions listed in the tables. The Permittee shall comply with the "Remarks" and "Footnotes" noted in the tables that follow. Such remarks and footnotes are enforceable like any other term or condition of this permit.

- (B) All samples shall be comprised of only the wastewater described in these tables. Samples shall be collected prior to combination with receiving waters or wastewater of any other type, and after all approved treatment units, if applicable. All samples collected shall be representative of the discharge during standard operating conditions. Samples and measurements taken for the purpose of monitoring shall be representative of the monitored activity. Collection of permit required effluent samples in any location other than the authorized location noted in this permit shall be a violation of this permit.
- (C) In cases where limits and sample type are specified but sampling is not required by this permit, the limits specified shall apply to all samples which may be collected and analyzed by DEEP personnel, the Permittee, or other parties.
- (D) Calculations for all limitations which require averaging of measurements shall utilize an arithmetic mean unless otherwise specified by the Director in the permit.



Table A										
Discharge Serial Numb	Discharge Serial Number: DSN 101 Monitoring Location: 1									
Wastewater Descriptio	on: Unit No. 1, '	2, and 3 T	Thrust Bearing	Non-Contact (Cooling Water	, Packing Leakage, I	Jpstream Genera	tor Bearing Non	-Contact Cooling	
Water, Downstream	Generator Bear	ring Non-(Contact Coolin	g Water, and F	leadcover Leal	- xage	-	-		
Monitoring Location D	Description: Sar	nple port f	from Packing I	Leakage and T	hrust Bearing I	Non-Contact Cooling	Water for Unit N	No. 1, 2 or 3		
		Ι	Dilution Factor:	None			I	Outfall Location: Latitude		
Discharge is to: Housa	tonic River						ļ	41.957342 N and	d Longitude -	
							ļ 	73.369444 W		
	(ELOW/TIME BASED MONITORING				INSTANTANFOUS MONITORING			
	NET DMR		· · · · ·		ASED MORT					
PARAMETER	CODE	UNITS	Average	Maximum	Sample/	Sample Type or	Instantaneous	Sample/	Sample Type or	
	CODE		Monthly	Daily	Reporting	Measurement to be	limit or	Reporting	measurement to	
			Limit	Limit	Frequency	reported	required range	Frequency	be reported	
Daily Flow	74076	gpd	NA	91,539	Daily/	Total Daily Flow ¹	NA	NR	NA	
		i		·	Semi-		l !	1		
		ı			annually					
Oil and Grease,	00556	mg/L	NA	NA	NR	NA	!	Semi-annually	Grab	
Total		ı								
pH, Day of Sampling	00400	SU	NA	NA	NR	NA	6.5-8.0	Semi-annually	Grab	

TABLE A FOOTNOTES AND REMARKS

Footnotes:

¹ Total Daily Flow shall be an estimation of flow discharged from all turbine units over 24 hours. Total Daily Flow shall be calculated as the sum of Thrust Bearing Non-Contact Cooling Water, Packing Leakage, Upstream Generator Bearing Non-Contact Cooling Water, Downstream Generator Bearing Non-Contact Cooling Water, and Headcover Leakage wastewater discharged from turbine units 1, 2, and 3. The Permittee shall report the Thrust Bearing Non-Contact Cooling Water, Packing Leakage, Upstream Generator Bearing Non-Contact Cooling Water, Packing Leakage discharge flows from turbine units 1, 2, and 3 as an attachment to the DMR.

<u>Remarks:</u>

1. Abbreviations used for units are as follows: gpd means gallons per day; mg/L means milligrams per liter; SU means Standard Units. Other abbreviations are as follows: NA means Not Applicable; NR means Not Required; RDS means Range During Sampling.

2. If "---" is noted in the limits column in the table, this means that a limit is not specified but a value must be reported on the DMR.

3. Samples shall be collected from the monitoring location of either Turbine Unit No. 1, 2, or 3 and shall be considered representative of the discharge from DSN 101. The Turbine sampled must be identified on the DMR.

4. Semi-annual monitoring shall be conducted between April 1 and September 30 and October 1 and March 31. April through September data shall be reported on the September DMR. October through March data shall be reported on the March DMR.

SECTION 6: SAMPLE COLLECTION, HANDLING AND ANALYTICAL TECHNIQUES

- (A) All samples shall be collected, handled, and analyzed in accordance with the methods approved under 40 CFR 136, unless another method is required under 40 CFR subchapter N or unless an alternative method has been approved in writing pursuant to 40 CFR 136.5. To determine compliance with limits and conditions established in this permit, monitoring must be performed using sufficiently-sensitive methods approved pursuant to 40 CFR 136 for the analysis of pollutants having approved methods under that part, unless a method is required under 40 CFR subchapter N or unless an alternative method has been approved in writing pursuant to 40 CFR 136.5.
- (B) All metals analyses identified in this permit shall refer to analyses for Total Recoverable Metal as defined in 40 CFR 136, unless otherwise specified.
- (C) The term Minimum Level (ML) refers to either the sample concentration equivalent to the lowest calibration point in a method or a multiple of the method detection limit (MDL). MLs may be obtained in several ways: They may be published in a method; they may be sample concentrations equivalent to the lowest acceptable calibration point used by the laboratory; or they may be calculated by multiplying the MDL in a method, or the MDL determined by a lab, by a factor.
- (D) The value of each parameter for which monitoring is required under this permit shall be reported to the maximum level of accuracy and precision possible, consistent with the requirements of this section of the permit.
- (E) Analyses for which quantification was verified to be at or below a ML, and which indicate that a parameter was not detected, shall be reported as "non-detect" where 'non detect' is the numerical value equivalent to the ML for that analysis. If the Permittee is required to submit its DMRs through the NetDMR system, the Permittee shall report the non-detect value consistent with the reporting requirements for NetDMR.
- (F) Results of analyses which indicate that a parameter was not present at a concentration greater than or equal to the ML specified for that analysis shall be considered equivalent to zero (0.0) for purposes of determining compliance with effluent limitations or conditions specified in this permit.

SECTION 7: REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

(A) The results of chemical analyses and any aquatic toxicity test required by this permit will be submitted electronically by or on behalf of the NPDES-regulated facility, any person providing the electronic signature for such documents shall meet all relevant requirements of this section, and shall ensure that all of the relevant requirements of 40 CFR part 3 (including, in all cases, subpart D to part 3) (Cross-Media Electronic Reporting) and 40 CFR part 127 (NPDES Electronic Reporting Requirements) are met for that submission.

- (B) Monitoring results will be reported at the frequency specified in this permit. Any monitoring required more frequently than monthly will be reported on an attachment to the DMR, and any additional monitoring conducted in accordance with 40 CFR 136, or another method required for an industry-specific waste stream under 40 CFR subchapter N or O, or other methods approved by the Commissioner, will also be included on the DMR, or as an attachment, if necessary, and the results of such monitoring will be included in the calculation and reporting of the data submitted in the DMR. All aquatic toxicity reports will also be included as an attachment to the DMR. A report will also be included with the DMR which includes a detailed explanation of any violations of the limitations specified.
- (C) NETDMR REPORTING REQUIREMENTS. The Permittee will report electronically using NetDMR, a web-based tool that allows Permittees to electronically submit Discharge Monitoring Reports (DMRs) and other required reports through a secure internet connection. Specific requirements regarding NetDMR, submittal of reports using NetDMR, are described below:
- (D) SUBMITTAL OF NETDMR SUBSCRIBER AGREEMENT. The Permittee will electronically submit the signed Connecticut DEEP NetDMR Subscriber Agreement to DEEP at <u>deep.netdmr@ct.gov</u> prior to using NetDMR.
- (E) SUBMITTAL OF REPORTS USING NETDMR. The Permittee and/or the signatory authority will electronically submit DMRs and applicable reports required under this permit to DEEP using NetDMR. DMRs will be submitted electronically no later than the last day of the month following the completed reporting period. The Permittee will also electronically file any written report of noncompliance as an attachment in NetDMR. NetDMR is accessed from: https://npdes-ereporting.epa.gov/net-netdmr
- (F) "NO DISCHARGE" SUBMISSIONS. If this permit requires monitoring of a discharge, but a discharge has not occurred within the frequency of sampling specified in the permit, the Permittee must submit the DMR and ATMR, as scheduled, indicating "NO DISCHARGE". For those Permittees whose required monitoring is discharge dependent (e.g., per batch), the minimum reporting frequency is monthly. Therefore, if there is no discharge during a calendar month for a batch discharge, a DMR must be submitted indicating such by the end of the following month.

SECTION 8: RECORDING AND REPORTING OF VIOLATIONS, ADDITIONAL TESTING REQUIREMENTS

- (A) In addition to any other written reporting requirements, the Permittee shall report any instances of noncompliance with this permit with its DMR. Such reporting shall be due no later than the last day of the month following the reporting period in which the noncompliant event occurred. The information provided in the DMR shall include, at a minimum: the type of violation, the duration of the violation, the cause of the violation, and any corrective action(s) or preventative measure(s) taken to address the violation.
- (B) The Permittee shall notify but the Bureau of Materials Management and Compliance Assurance, Water Permitting and Enforcement Division, within 72 hours and in writing within thirty days of the discharge of any substance listed in the application if the concentration or quantity of that substance exceeds two times the level listed in the application.

This permit is hereby issued on Emma Cimino, Deputy Commissioner Department of Energy and Environmental Protection EC/PB

National Pollution Discharge Elimination System Factsheet

SECTION 1 FACILITY SUMMARY

APPLICANT	FirstLight CT Housatonic LLC
PERMIT NO.	СТ0030809
APPLICATION NO.	202201108
DATE APPLICATION RECEIVED	February 3, 2022
LOCATION ADDRESS	Falls Village Station 35 Water Street, Falls Village, CT, 06031
FACILITY CONTACT	Daniel Timlake Office Phone: 860-350-3617 Email: <u>daniel.timlake@firstlightpower.com</u>
MAILING ADDRESS	143 West Street, Suite E New Milford, CT 06776
DMR CONTACT	Daniel Timlake Office Phone: 860-350-3617 Email: <u>daniel.timlake@firstlightpower.com</u>
SECRETARY OF STATE BUSINESS ID	1304727
PERMIT TERM	5 Years
PERMIT CATEGORY	Minor NPDES
SIC & NAICS CODE(S)	4911, 221111
APPLICABLE EFFLUENT GUIDELINES	N/A
PERMIT TYPE	New Issuance
OWNERSHIP	Private
RECEIVING WATER	Discharge to the Housatonic River
WATERBODY SEGMENT ID'S	CT6000-00_06
WATERBODY CLASSIFICATION	В
DISCHARGE LOCATIONS	DSN 101 (Lat 41.957342 Long -73.369444)
COMPLIANCE ACTIONS	Permit Required under Consent Order Number: WC5435
DEEP STAFF ENGINEER	Patrick Bieger Patrick.bieger@ct.gov

TABLE OF CONTENTS

SECTION 1 FACILITY SUMMARY 1	
1.1 PERMIT FEES 4	
1.2 OTHER PERMITS 4	
1.3 APPLICATION SUBMITTAL INFORMATION 4	
1.4 COMPLIANCE HISTORY	
1.5 DESCRIPTION OF INDUSTRIAL PROCESS 6	1
1.6 FACILITY DESCRIPTION	1
1.7 FACILITY CHANGES	1
1.8 TREATMENT SYSTEM DESCRIPTION	1
1.9 GENERAL ISSUES RELATED TO THE APPLICATION	1
1.9.1 Federally Recognized Indian Land	1
1.9.2 Coastal Area/Coastal Boundary7	
1.9.3 Endangered Species	
1.9.4 Aquifer Protection Areas	
1.9.5 Conservation or Preservation Restriction7	
1.9.6 Public Water Supply Watershed7	
SECTION 2 RECEIVING WATER BODY INFORMATION	
SECTION 3 PERMIT CONDITIONS AND EFFLUENT LIMITATIONS	
3.1 EFFLUENT GUIDELINES	
3.2 POLLUTANTS OF CONCERN	
3.3 BASIS FOR LIMITS	
3.4 MIXING ZONE	
3.5 RESONABLE POTENTIAL ANALYSIS	
3.6 RECEIVING WATERBODY AMBIENT CONDITIONS	
3.7 THERMAL EVALUATION	
3.8 WHOLE EFFLUENT TOXICITY11	
3.9 WATER QUALITY BASED EFFLUENT LIMITATIONS 11	
3.10 TECHNOLOGY BASED EFFLUENT LIMITATIONS	
3.11 COMPARISON OF LIMITS	
3.12 SAMPLING FREQUENCY, TYPE, AND REPORTING	
3.13 OTHER PERMIT CONDITIONS 12	

3.14 COMPLIANCE SCHEDULE	
3.15 ANTIDEGRADATION	
3.16 ANTI-BACKSLIDING	
3.17 CATEGORICAL DISCHARGE CONDITIONS	
3.18 COOLING WATER INTAKE STRUCTURE §316(b)	
3.19 VARIANCES AND WAIVERS	
3.20 E-REPORTING	
SECTION 4 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCEDURES	
4.1 INFORMATION REQUESTS	
4.2 PUBLIC COMMENT	



1.1 PERMIT FEES

Application Fee:

Filing Fee	Invoice No.: DEP384414	Amount: \$1,300	Date Paid: February 4, 2022
Processing Fee	Invoice No.: N/A	Amount: \$0	Date Paid: N/A

Annual Fee:

	WASTEWATER CATEGORY (per RCSA sec. 22a-430-7)	FLOW CATEGORY (gallons per day ("gpd"))	DSN (per Application)	ANNUAL FEE (per RCSA sec. 22a-430-7 and CGS sec. 22a- 6f)
	Floor Drain Wastewater	21,600	DSN 101B, 104B, 110-114	\$0
	Non-Contact Cooling Water	69,939	101A, 102, 103, 104A, 105-109	\$775
TOTAL				\$775

<u>1.2 OTHER PERMITS</u>

Comprehensive General Permit for Discharges to Surface Water and Groundwater ("Comprehensive General Permit") No.: CTCSW0029

This permit covers the non-contact cooling water discharges from the facility and the Permittee will no longer be authorized under the Comprehensive General Permit.

1.3 APPLICATION SUBMITTAL INFORMATION

On February 3, 2022, the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection ("DEEP") received an application (Application 202201108) from FirstLight CT Housatonic LLC. ("Permittee", "Applicant") for a facility in Falls Village for the issuance of a NPDES permit consistent with the requirements of Section 22a-6g of the Connecticut General Statutes ("CGS"). The Applicant caused a Notice of Permit Application to be published in the Connecticut Post on January 14, 2022. On February 1, 2023, the application was determined to be timely and administratively sufficient. The Permittee seeks authorization for the following in Application 202201108:

DSN IN APPLICATION	DSN IN PERMIT	PROPOSED MAXIMUM DAILY FLOW (gpd)	PROPOSED WASTESTREAMS	TREATMENT TYPE	DISCHARGE TO
101A	101	4,795	Unit No. 1 Thrust Bearing Non-Contact Cooling Water	NA	Housatonic River
101B	101	2,880	Unit No. 1 Packing Leakage NA		Housatonic River
102	101	4,795	Unit No. 1 Upstream Generator Bearing Non-Contact Cooling Water	NA	Housatonic River
103	101	4,795	Unit No. 1 Downstream Generator Bearing Non-Contact Cooling Water	NA NA	Housatonic River
104A	101	3,177	Unit No. 2 Thrust Bearing Non-Contact Cooling Water	NA	Housatonic River
104B	101	2,880	Unit No. 2 Packing Leakage	NA	Housatonic River
105	101	3,177	Unit No. 2 Upstream Generator Bearing Non-Contact Cooling Water	NA	Housatonic River
106	101	3,177	Unit No. 2 Downstream Generator Bearing Non-Contact Cooling Water	NA	Housatonic River
107	101	15,341	Unit No. 3 Thrust Bearing Non-Contact Cooling Water	NA	Housatonic River
108	101	15,341	Unit No. 3 Upstream Generator Bearing Non-Contact Cooling Water	NA	Housatonic River
109	101	15,341	Unit No. 3 Downstream Generator Bearing Non-Contact Cooling Water	NA	Housatonic River
110	101	2,880	Unit No. 3 Packing Leakage	NA	Housatonic River
111	101	4,320	Unit No. 1 Headcover Leakage	NA	Housatonic River
112	101	4,320	Unit No. 2 Headcover Leakage	NA	Housatonic River
113	101	4,320	Unit No. 3 Headcover Leakage	NA	Housatonic River

<u>1.4 COMPLIANCE HISTORY</u>

The applicant is required to obtain a permit for this facility under Consent Order Number: WC5435.

1.5 DESCRIPTION OF INDUSTRIAL PROCESS

FirstLight CT Housatonic LLC is a business that performs hydroelectric generation. This wastewater is discharged to the Housatonic River by way of DSN No. 101 under this proposed permit. All wastestreams convene at the same location under the facility and discharge through DSN 101 via the tailrace to the Housatonic River.

1.6 FACILITY DESCRIPTION

The facility is a Federal Energy Regulatory Commission ("FERC") licensed hydroelectric generation plant in the Town of Falls Village. The facility is a run-of-river-station, meaning it operates based on the water level and flow of its intake stream (Housatonic River). The facility has three turbines and started operations in 1914.

Wastewater includes non-contact cooling water and turbine leakage created during turbine operation. Non-contact cooling water flows from the intake through three parallel loops on each turbine: at the generator bearing before the turbine, at the generator bearing after the turbine, and at the thrust bearing. The leakage comes from the small amount of water that escapes the turbine from the turbine packing. The source of all wastewater is the Housatonic River.

The facility can discharge a total of 91,539 gpd of leakage and non-contact cooling water. The average discharge volume is highly variable due to the river conditions required for the turbines to operate. Wastewater comingles with the turbine flow-through water (a maximum of 1,098,738,432 gpd combined) below the building in the turbine tailrace. The tailrace discharges below the facility and flows into the Housatonic River. The turbine flow-through water is not covered under this permit because it is considered a diversion and not a process wastewater discharge.

1.7 FACILITY CHANGES

This is a new permit, hence there were no requested changes to the facility for this permit issuance. The only historic changes made at the facility have been to modernize the turbines during the 100 years of operation.

1.8 TREATMENT SYSTEM DESCRIPTION

The discharge consists of turbine leakage and non-contact cooling water both made solely of river water. There is no treatment system at the facility.

1.9 GENERAL ISSUES RELATED TO THE APPLICATION

1.9.1 Federally Recognized Indian Land

As provided in the permit application, the site is not located on federally-recognized Indian land.

1.9.2 Coastal Area/Coastal Boundary

The activity is not located within a coastal boundary as defined in CGS 22a-94(b).

1.9.3 Endangered Species

A National Diversity Data Base (NDDB) request was made during the application process. It was found that DEEP did not anticipate any negative impacts to State-listed species resulting from the discharges.

1.9.4 Aquifer Protection Areas

As provided in the permit application, the site is not located within a protected area identified on a Level A or B map.

1.9.5 Conservation or Preservation Restriction

As provided in the permit application, the property is not subject to a conservation or preservation restriction.

1.9.6 Public Water Supply Watershed

As provided in the permit application, the site not located within a public water supply watershed.

SECTION 2 RECEIVING WATER BODY INFORMATION

The water classification of section 6000-00_06 of the Housatonic River is B. Class B waters are designated for: habitat for fish and other aquatic life and wildlife; recreation; and industrial and agricultural water supply. This segment of the Housatonic River is subject to *A Total Maximum Daily Load Analysis to Achieve Water Quality Standards for Dissolved Oxygen in Long Island Sound*, December 2000 (Tmdl.pdf (longislandsoundstudy.net)) and the CT Statewide Bacteria TMDL (CT Statewide Bacteria TMDL).

A review of Attachment O in the permit application revealed fecal coliform is not believed to be present, hence it is not a pollutant of concern and monitoring requirements for fecal coliform are not included in this permit. The facility does not add any substances to the wastewater and the discharge is characteristically similar to the intake water of the facility. Based on a review of the information provided in the application, the facility is not adding any additional pollutants to the receiving stream and the discharge would not impact the dissolved oxygen levels in Long Island Sound.

SECTION 3 PERMIT CONDITIONS AND EFFLUENT LIMITATIONS

3.1 EFFLUENT GUIDELINES

No categories found under 40 CFR Chapter 1 Subchapter N match the description of wastewaters discharged by DSNs 101-104. 40 CFR § 423 Steam Electric Power Generating Point Source Category was reviewed for applicability as the facility is a hydroelectric power plant. Under the Applicability Section in 423.10, this category applies to electricity resulting primarily from fossil-

type fuels or nuclear fuel. The facility uses water turbines to generate electricity and would not fall under this category, hence there is no federal applicable effluent limit guideline.

3.2 POLLUTANTS OF CONCERN

The following pollutants are included as monitoring pollutants in the permit for the reasons noted below:

	REASON FOR INCLUSION						
POLLUTANT	POLLUTANT WITH AN APPLICABLE TECHNOLOGY- BASED LIMIT	POLLUTANT WITH A WASTE LOAD ALLOCATION FROM A TMDL	POLLUTANT IDENTIFIED AS PRESENT IN THE EFFLUENT THROUGH SAMPLING	POLLUTANT OTHERWISE EXPECTED TO BE PRESENT IN THE EFFLUENT			
pH			X				
Oil and grease			x				

3.3 BASIS FOR LIMITS

Technology and water-quality based requirements are considered when developing permit limits. Technology-based limits represent the minimum level of control imposed under the Clean Water Act ("CWA"). Industry-specific technology-based limits are set forth in 40 CFR 405 – 471 (EPA's Effluent Limitation Guidelines) and in RCSA section 22a-430-4(s)(2). Water quality-based limits are designed to protect water quality and are determined using the procedures set for in EPA's *Technical Support Document for Water Quality-Based Toxics Control*, 1991 ("TSD"). When both technology and water quality-based limits apply to a particular pollutant, the more stringent limit would apply. In addition, water quality-based limits are required when any pollutant or pollutant parameter (conventional, non-conventional, toxic, and whole effluent toxicity) is or may be discharged at a level that causes, has reasonable potential to cause, or contributes to an excursion above any water quality criteria. Numeric water quality criteria are found in RCSA section 22a-429-9 of the *Connecticut Water Quality Standards*.

3.4 MIXING ZONE

A mixing zone has not been allocated in this permit.

3.5 RESONABLE POTENTIAL ANALYSIS

Pursuant to CWA § 301(b)(1)(C) and 40 CFR § 122.44(d)(1), NPDES permits must contain any requirements in addition to technology-based effluent limits ("TBELs") that are necessary to achieve water quality standards established under § 303 of the CWA. *See also* 33 U.S.C. § 1311(b)(1)(C). In addition, limitations "must control any pollutant or pollutant parameter (conventional, non-conventional, or toxic) which the permitting authority determines are or may be discharged at a level which will cause, have the reasonable potential to cause, or contribute to

an excursion above any water quality standard, including State narrative criteria for water quality." 40 CFR § 122.44(d)(1)(i).

To determine if the discharge causes, or has the reasonable potential to cause, or contribute to an excursion above any water quality standards, EPA considers: 1) existing controls on point and non-point sources of pollution; 2) the variability of the pollutant or pollutant parameter in the effluent; 3) the sensitivity of the species to toxicity testing (when evaluating whole effluent toxicity); and 4) where appropriate, the dilution of the effluent by the receiving water. *See* 40 CFR § 122.44(d)(1)(ii).

If the permitting authority determines that the discharge of a pollutant will cause, has the reasonable potential to cause, or contribute to an excursion above water quality standards, the permit must contain water quality-based effluent limits ("WQBELs") or require additional monitoring if there is insufficient data to develop a WQBEL, for that pollutant. *See* 40 CFR § 122.44(d)(1)(i).

Zinc, copper, and nitrate are present in the Housatonic River upstream of the facility and as a result also present in the discharge. A reasonable potential analysis was not conducted on these pollutants because the facility does not add these chemicals to its processes or wastewater and the only source of these pollutants is the river water used as the facility's intake water.

The facility does discharge non-contact cooling water; therefore, a reasonable potential analysis was conducted for temperature. See the Thermal Evaluation in Section 3.5 of this Fact Sheet.

Based on the reasonable potential analysis, monitoring for oil and grease and effluent limits for pH have been included in the permit to further characterize the discharges.

3.6 RECEIVING WATERBODY AMBIENT CONDITIONS

The 7Q10 is 6.41 cfs. The 7Q10 was found by using Cervione's regression equation:

 $7Q10 = 0.67A_{sd} + 0.01A_{till}$, where A_{sd} and A_{till} are the drainage areas of stratified drift and till covered bedrock.

Using USGS's StreamStats, the Stratified drift was 11% and the drainage area at the location of the discharge is 634 square miles.

3.7 THERMAL EVALUATION

Section 22a-426-9(a)(1) of the CTWQS states there shall be no changes from natural conditions that would impair any existing or designated uses assigned to Class B waters and, in no case exceed 85 degrees Fahrenheit (deg. F.), or in any case raise the temperature of surface water more than 4 deg. F. A RPA was conducted using 25% of the 7Q10 flow of the Housatonic River as authorized in the CTWQS. It was determined that there was no reasonable potential to exceed these limits with the designated zone of influence ("ZOI").

A review of Housatonic River temperature data from United State Geological Survey ("USGS") from June 2022 to October 2022, showed the highest and lowest temperature to be 40 deg. F. and 78.6 deg. F. (<u>http://waterdata.usgs.gov/ct/nwis/</u>).

The maximum recorded volume of non-contact cooling water discharged from this facility is 69,939 gpd. The highest recorded temperature of non-contact cooling water reported by the facility is 79 deg. F.

The critical 7Q10 river flow is 6.41 cubic feet per second (cfs) or 4,142,891 gpd. This critical flow is conservative for this analysis because the facility would not be able to discharge the maximum non-contact cooling water flow of 69,939 gpd while the river was running at critical flows due to operating limitations of the turbines.

25% of the 7Q10 flow (1,035,723 gpd) is designated as the zone of influence for this analysis to evaluate compliance with the CTWQS. This approach is consistent with the CTWQS ZOI guidance for evaluating thermal discharges.

The following mixing equation is used to determine if the maximum discharge temperatures have the potential to exceed CTWQS.

Mixing equation

 $QT = Q_1T_1 + Q_2T_2$

Where Q is the summation of the ZOI and effluent flow rate, $(Q = Q_1+Q_2)$

T is the new river temperature after discharge

Q₁ is the ZOI

 T_1 is the temperature of the receiving stream prior to discharge

Q₂ is the effluent flowrate

T₂ is the effluent temperature

	Q1	T1	Q2	T2	Q	Т	Delta T
Winter	69,939	79	1,035,722	40.00	1,105,662	42.47	2.47
Summer	69,939	79	1,035,723	64.75	1,105,662	65.66	1.1

The results above show that after complete mixing of the discharge in the designated ZOI, the predicted temperature increase would be 2.47 deg. F. in the winter and 1.1 deg. F. in the summer. The calculated difference in temperature is consistent with CTWQS Section 22a-426-9(a)(1), which states that the discharge must not raise the temperature of the receiving stream more than 4 deg. F. Therefore, the facility does not have a reasonable potential to exceed the CTWQS for temperature.

3.8 WHOLE EFFLUENT TOXICITY

The Permittee shall comply with effluent standards or prohibitions established by CWA § 307(a) and RCSA Section 22a-430-4(l) and may not discharge toxic pollutants in concentrations or combinations that are harmful to humans, animals, or aquatic life.

If toxicity is suspected in the effluent, DEEP may require the Permittee to perform acute or chronic whole effluent toxicity testing. Toxicity is not expected in the effluent due to the characteristics of the discharged waters.

The wastewater is comprised mainly of turbine leakage and non-contact cooling water. The source of the water is the Housatonic River upstream of the discharge. No chemicals or other substances are added to the water while in the turbine or when used for cooling. Therefore, the water discharged from the turbines and the non-contact cooling water are characteristically similar to the Housatonic River.

3.9 WATER QUALITY BASED EFFLUENT LIMITATIONS

The CWA and federal regulations require that effluent limitations based on water quality considerations be established for point source discharges when such limitations are necessary to meet state or federal water quality standards that are applicable to the designated receiving water. This is necessary when less stringent TBELs would interfere with the attainment or maintenance of water quality criteria in the receiving water. *See* CWA § 301(b)(1)(C) and 40 CFR §§ 122.44(d)(1),122.44(d)(5), 125.84(e) and 125.94(i).

Based on the Reasonable Potential Analysis, WQBELs are not necessary for these discharges.

3.10 TECHNOLOGY BASED EFFLUENT LIMITATIONS

Technology-based treatment requirements, or TBELs, represent the minimum level of control that must be imposed under CWA §§ 301(b) and 402 to meet best practicable control technology currently available (BPT) for conventional pollutants and some metals, best conventional control technology (BCT) for conventional pollutants, and best available technology economically achievable (BAT) for toxic and non-conventional pollutants. *See* 40 CFR § 125 Subpart A and RCSA Section 22a-430-4(1)(4)(A).

Subpart A of 40 CFR §125 establishes criteria and standards for the imposition of technologybased treatment requirements in permits under § 301(b) of the CWA, including the application of EPA promulgated Effluent Limitation Guidelines (ELGs) and case-by-case determinations of effluent limitations under CWA § 402(a)(1). EPA promulgates New Source Performance Standards (NSPS) under CWA § 306 and 40 CFR § 401.12. *See also* 40 CFR §§ 122.2 (definition of "new source") and 122.29.

In the absence of published technology-based effluent guidelines, the permit writer is authorized under CWA § 402(a)(1)(B) and RCSA section 22a-430-4(m) to establish effluent limitations on a case-by-case basis using best professional judgment (BPJ).

There are no federal TBELs for hydroelectric generation wastewaters.

3.11 COMPARISON OF LIMITS

After preparing and evaluating applicable TBELs and WQBELs, the most stringent limits are applied in the permit. Pollutants of concern that only require monitoring without limits are not included in the below table.

		LIMITS WATER QUALITY BASED EFLLUENT LIMITS			
PARAMETER	UNITS	AVERAGE MONTHLY LIMIT OR pH Minimum	MAXIMUM DAILY LIMIT OR pH Maximum		
pH	S.U.	6.5	8.0		

3.12 SAMPLING FREQUENCY, TYPE, AND REPORTING

Sample Type	Sample Frequency	Parameter	Reason
Grab Sample 40 CFR § 403.12(g)(3)	Semi- Annually	Oil and Grease, Total	RCSA Section 22a-430-4(1)(4)(A) and 22a-430-4(m) Source: River Water
		pH	RCSA Section 22a-430-4(1)(4)(A) and 22a-430-4(m) Source: River Water

3.13 OTHER PERMIT CONDITIONS

For DSN 101, only 1 turbine is required to be sampled at a given time. All waste streams under this permit are characteristically similar to each other; therefore, a sample of a turbine's package leakage and thrust bearing non-contact cooling water is considered representative of the other waste streams and overall discharge. The DMR will have the total flow of the facility along with the breakdown of flows from each turbine and each wastewater source as a note in the DMR.

3.14 COMPLIANCE SCHEDULE

Does the Permit contain a compliance schedule?

TYes No

3.15 ANTIDEGRADATION

Implementation of the Antidegradation Policy follows a tiered approach pursuant to the federal regulations (40 CFR 131.12) and consistent with the Connecticut Antidegradation Policy included in the Connecticut Water Quality Standards (Section 22a-426-8(b-f) of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies). Tier 1 Antidegradation review applies to all existing permitted discharge activities to all waters of the state. Tiers 1 and 2 Antidegradation reviews apply to new or increased discharges to high quality waters and wetlands, while Tiers 1 and 3 Antidegradation reviews apply to new or increased discharges to outstanding national resource waters.

The non-contact cooling water discharges are existing discharges previously permitted under Comprehensive General Permit No. CTCSW0029. The Permittee does not propose an increase in volume or concentration of constituents to high quality waters or wetlands. Therefore, only the Tier 1 Antidegradation Evaluation and Implementation Review was conducted to ensure that existing and designated uses of surface waters and the water quality necessary for their protection are maintained and preserved, consistent with Connecticut Water Quality Standards, RCSA Sec.22a-426-8(a)(1). This review involved:

- An evaluation of narrative and numeric water quality standards, criteria and associated policies,
- The discharge activity both independently and in the context of other dischargers in the affected waterbodies, and
- Consideration of any impairment listed pursuant to Section 303d of the federal Clean Water Act or any TMDL established for the waterbody.

The facility and its discharges have existed since 1914 with minor modifications to the turbines and the facility to modernize the equipment. The source water for the facility is the Housatonic River above the dam and the facility does not add chemicals, nor alter the water prior to it flowing through the turbines to generate electricity. DEEP has determined that the discharges will not have a negative impact on the water quality entering the Housatonic River below the facility.

DEEP has determined that the discharges and activities are consistent with the maintenance, restoration, and protection of existing and designated uses assigned to the receiving water body by considering all relevant available data.

3.16 ANTI-BACKSLIDING

This is the first individual permit for the facility and its wastewater discharges; hence an antibacksliding evaluation cannot be performed.

3.17 CATEGORICAL DISCHARGE CONDITIONS

There are no applicable federal or state categorical discharge regulations for these discharges.

3.18 COOLING WATER INTAKE STRUCTURE §316(b)

§ 316(b) of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act, U.S.C. § 1326(b) states that "any standard established pursuant to § 301 or 306 of this Act and applicable to a point source shall require that the location, design, construction, and capacity of cooling water intake structures (CWIS) reflect the best technology available (BTA) for minimizing adverse environmental impact".

The federal regulations establish requirements under § 316(b) of the CWA for existing power generating facilities and existing manufacturing and industrial facilities with a cooling water intake structure having a design intake flow greater than 2 million gallons per day (MGD) of water from waters of the United States and use at least 25 percent of the water they withdraw exclusively for cooling purposes. 40 CFR § 125.92 defines "Cooling water intake structure" as "the total physical structure and any associated constructed waterways used to withdraw cooling water from waters of the United States. The cooling water intake structure extends from the point at which water is first withdrawn from waters of the United States up to and including the intake pumps."

40 CFR § 125.90(b), states "Cooling water intake structures not subject to requirements under §§ 125.94 through 125.99 or subparts I or N of this part must meet requirements under § 316(b) of the CWA established by the Director on a case-by-case, best professional judgment (BPJ) basis."

The August 15, 2014, 316(b) final rule applies to existing facilities that withdraw more than 2 MGD of water and uses at least 25% of the actual intake flow exclusively for cooling purposes. In July 2022, EPA published guidance to the Region and State in the Memorandum "Transmittal of the Revised Framework for Best Professional Judgment for Cooling Water intake Structures at Hydroelectric Facilities." This document maintains EPA's interpretation that the 2014 rule's substantive provisions were not intended to apply to hydroelectric facilities and that instead CWIS at hydroelectric facilities are subject to site-specific requirements set on a BPJ basis pursuant to 40 CFR § 125.90(b). The memorandum continues to give 4 factors to consider in developing BTA on a BPJ basis and are provided below.

1. Volume of cooling water used relative to other power generation facilities and relative to total water use at the facility:

The amount of cooling water used at the facility is comparable to the other hydroelectric facilities in Connecticut. The maximum water that could run through the facility is 1,098,738,432 gallons per day and the maximum flow of non-contact cooling water is 69,939 gallons per day. The percentage of cooling water used at the facility during maximum flow is 0.000064%.

2. Cooling water withdrawn relative to waterbody flow:

The application states the percentage of cooling water utilized would be approximately 0.0009% of the river's flow.

3. Location of the intake structure:

The intake structure is located within the facility's penstock.

4. Technologies at the facility:

The facility's penstock includes trash racks to limit the flow of organisms and debris through the penstock. The non-contact cooling water also goes through screens that are cleaned on a monthly basis. The trash racks at the head gates have 6" openings. The penstock racks have approximately 4" openings. The racks are raked when a target differential pressure is reached. Additionally, the non-contact cooling water is gravity fed from the penstock. The flow and pressure would be negligible compared to the flow and pressure through the penstock itself.

Based on this information, DEEP's best professional judgement concludes that this facility meets BTA pursuant to 40 CFR § 125.90(b).

3.19 VARIANCES AND WAIVERS

The facility did not request a variance or a waiver.

3.20 E-REPORTING

The Permittee is required to electronically submit documents in accordance with 40 CFR § 127.

SECTION 4 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCEDURES

4.1 INFORMATION REQUESTS

The application has been assigned the following numbers by the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection. Please use these numbers when corresponding with this office regarding this application.

APPLICATION NO. 202201108

PERMIT ID NO. CT0030809

Interested persons may obtain copies of the application from Daniel Timlake, FirstLight Housatonic LLC, 35 Waters Street, Falls Village, CT 06031, (860-350-3617) or Daniel.timlake@firstlightpower.com.

The application is available for inspection by contacting Patrick Bieger at <u>Patrick.bieger@ct.gov</u>, at the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection, Bureau of Materials Management and Compliance Assurance, 79 Elm Street, Hartford, CT 06106-5127 from 8:30 - 4 :30, Monday through Friday.

Any interested person may request in writing that his or her name be put on a mailing list to receive notice of intent to issue any permit to discharge to the surface waters of the state. Such request may be for the entire state or any geographic area of the state and shall clearly state in writing the name and mailing address of the interested person and the area for which notices are requested.

4.2 PUBLIC COMMENT

Prior to making a final decision to approve or deny any application, the Commissioner shall consider written comments on the application from interested persons that are received within 30 days of this public notice. Written comments should be directed to Patrick Bieger, Bureau of Materials Management and Compliance Assurance, Department of Energy and Environmental Protection, 79 Elm Street, Hartford, CT 06106-5127 or Patrick.bieger@ct.gov. The Commissioner may hold a public hearing prior to approving or denying an application if in the Commissioner's discretion the public interest will be best served thereby and shall hold a hearing upon receipt of a petition signed by at least twenty five persons. Notice of any public hearing shall be published at least 30 days prior to the hearing.

Petitions for a hearing should include the application number noted above and also identify a contact person to receive notifications. Petitions may also identify a person who is authorized to engage in discussions regarding the application and, if resolution is reached, withdraw the petition. Original signed petitions may be scanned and sent electronically to deep.adjudications@ct.gov or may be mailed or delivered to: DEEP Office of Adjudications, 79 Elm Street, 3rd floor, Hartford, 06106-5127.

All petitions must be received within the comment period noted above. If submitted electronically, original signed petitions must also be mailed or delivered to the address above within ten days of electronic submittal. If a hearing is held, timely notice of such hearing will be published in a newspaper of general circulation. For additional information go to www.ct.gov/deep/adjudications.

The Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection is an Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Employer that is committed to complying with the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). If you are seeking a communication aid or service, have limited proficiency in English, wish to file an ADA or Title VI discrimination complaint, or require some other accommodation, including equipment to facilitate virtual participation, please contact the DEEP Office of Diversity and Equity at 860-418-5910 or by email at deep.accommodation@ct.gov. Any person needing an accommodation for hearing impairment may call the State of Connecticut relay number - 711. In order to facilitate efforts to provide accommodation, please request all accommodations as soon as possible following notice of any agency hearing, meeting, program, or event.



NOTICE OF TENTATIVE DECISION INTENT TO ISSUE A NATIONAL POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM PERMIT FOR THE FOLLOWING DISCHARGES INTO THE WATERS OF THE STATE OF CONNECTICUT

TENTATIVE DECISION

The Commissioner of Department of Energy and Environmental Protection "DEEP" hereby gives notice of a tentative decision to issue a permit based on an application submitted by **FirstLight CT Housatonic LLC** ("the applicant") under section 22a-430 of the Connecticut General Statutes ("CGS") for a permit to discharge into the waters of the state. The tentative decision to issue this permit also includes a tentative decision regarding section 316(a) and 316(b) of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act, 33 U.S.C. § 1326(b).

In accordance with applicable federal and state law, the Commissioner has made a tentative decision that the discharge will not cause pollution of the waters of the state and the Commissioner proposes to issue a permit for the discharge to the Housatonic River.

The proposed permit, if issued by the Commissioner, will require periodic monitoring to demonstrate that the discharge will not cause pollution.

APPLICANT'S PROPOSAL

FirstLight CT Housatonic LLC proposes to discharge a maximum daily flow of 91,539 gallons per day of non-contact cooling wastewaters and turbine leakage to the Housatonic River from power generating operations at a hydroelectric generation plant in Falls Village.

The name and mailing address of the permit applicant are:

FirstLight CT Housatonic LLC 143 West Street Suite E New Milford, CT 06776

The activity takes place at:

35 Water Street Falls Village, CT 06031

An Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Employer



REGULATORY CONDITIONS

Type of Treatment

DSN 101: No Treatment

Effluent Limitations

This permit contains effluent monitoring only consistent with a Case-by-Case Determination using the criteria of Best Professional Judgement and which will meet Water Quality Standards when the permittee complies with all permit requirements.

In accordance with section 22a-430-4(l) of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies ("RCSA"), the proposed permit contains effluent monitoring requirements for effluent flow, total oil and grease, and monitoring with limits for pH.

COMMISSIONER'S AUTHORITY

The Commissioner of Energy and Environmental Protection is authorized to approve or deny such permits pursuant to section 402(b) of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act, as amended, 33 USC 1251, <u>et</u>. <u>seq</u>. and section 22a-430 of the CGS and the Water Discharge Permit Regulations (Section 22a-430-3 and 4 of the RCSA).

INFORMATION REQUESTS

The application has been assigned the following numbers by the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection. Please use these numbers when corresponding with this office regarding this application.

APPLICATION NO. 20221108

PERMIT ID NO. CT0030809

Interested persons may obtain copies of the application from: Daniel Timlake 143 West Street Suite E New Milford, CT 06776 860-350-3617 Daniel.timlake@firstlightpower.com

The application is available for inspection by contacting Patrick Bieger at 860-424-3805 or <u>Patrick.bieger@ct.gvom</u> at the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection, Bureau of Materials Management and Compliance Assurance, 79 Elm Street, Hartford, CT 061065127 from 8:30AM to 4:30PM, Monday through Friday.

Any interested person may request in writing that his or her name be put on a mailing list to receive notice of intent to issue any permit to discharge to the surface waters of the state. Such request may be for the entire state or any geographic area of the state and shall clearly state in writing the name and mailing address of the interested person and the area for which notices are requested.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Prior to making a final decision to approve or deny any application, the Commissioner shall consider written comments on the application from interested persons that are received within 30 days of this public notice. Written comments should be directed to Patrick Bieger, Bureau of Materials Management and Compliance Assurance, Department of Energy and Environmental Protection, 79 Elm Street, Hartford, CT 06106-5127 or Patrick.bieger@ct.gov. The Commissioner may hold a public hearing prior to approving or denying an application if in the Commissioner's discretion the public interest will be best served thereby, and shall hold a hearing upon receipt of a petition signed by at least twenty -five persons. Notice of any public hearing shall be published at least 30 days prior to the hearing.

Petitions for a hearing should include the application number noted above and also identify a contact person to receive notifications. Petitions may also identify a person who is authorized to engage in discussions regarding the application and, if resolution is reached, withdraw the petition. Original signed petitions may be scanned and sent electronically to deep.adjudications@ct.gov or may be mailed or delivered to: DEEP Office of Adjudications, 79 Elm Street, 3rd floor, Hartford, 06106-5127. All petitions must be received within the comment period noted above. If submitted electronically, original signed petitions must also be mailed or delivered to the address above within ten days of electronic submittal. If a hearing is held, timely notice of such hearing will be published in a newspaper of general circulation. For additional information go to www.ct.gov/deep/adjudications.

The Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection is an Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Employer that is committed to complying with the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). If you are seeking a communication aid or service, have limited proficiency in English, wish to file an ADA or Title VI discrimination complaint, or require some other accommodation, including equipment to facilitate virtual participation, please contact the DEEP Office of Diversity and Equity at 860-418-5910 or by email at deep.accommodations@ct.gov. Any person needing an accommodation for hearing impairment may call the State of Connecticut relay number - 711. In order to facilitate efforts to provide accommodation, please request all accommodations as soon as possible following notice of any agency hearing, meeting, program, or event.

Audra Dickson, Director Water Permitting and Enforcement Division Bureau of Materials Management and Compliance Assurance Department of Energy and Environmental Protection

Dated: January 9, 2024