

REQUEST FOR LETTERS OF INTEREST

The State of New Hampshire, Department of Environmental Services (State) is seeking letters of interest from parties (Hydropower Operators) interested in leasing the State-owned Squam Lake Dam and associated water rights on Squam Lake in Ashland, New Hampshire and resuming hydropower operation at the site. This work is being solicited under the terms of New Hampshire Statutes RSA 481.3, 481.8, and 481.32.

The Squam Lake Dam is a 16.5-foot-high 150-foot-long concrete and gravity structure which impounds Squam Lake at full pond (elevation 562.50) The lake has an area of 7,450 acres and a permanent volume of 39,600 acre-feet. The impoundment is generally held at or slightly below full pond during the summer months and lowered to a minimum elevation of 560 by March/April. A court order issued in 1951 and modified in 1965, calls for a minimum flow of 60 cubic feet per second be released from the dam. The intake consists of a gate discharging into a 5.5-foot-diameter steel penstock with the invert at elevation 550.60 which empties into a control house, the floor being at elevation 549.50. Two 3.5-foot-diameter outlet draft tubes empty out of the powerhouse at elevation 552.50 and are submerged in the river downstream. Normal tailwater has been reported to be at approximately 551.00 feet. The powerhouse has an installed capacity of 80 kw, and, when operating, generated an average of 200,000 kwh annually.

The project was issued an Exemption from Licensing from the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) on January 27, 1982 (Project No. 5274) with the State of New Hampshire and the Town of Ashland as Co-Exemtees, and the Town of Ashland generated electricity at the site under a lease with the State of New Hampshire. On March 31, 2015, the Town of Ashland terminated its lease with the State of New Hampshire and surrendered its status as FERC Co-Exemptee.

Additional information pertaining to the dam will be provided following receipt of the letters of interest and may also be reviewed prior to that time by interested Developers at the following location:

New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services, Dam Bureau
29 Hazen Drive
Concord, NH 03302

Contact: Daniel Mattaini, PE – Operations and Maintenance Section
603-271-8867
Daniel.Mattaini@des.nh.gov

At a minimum, the letter of interest should include the following;

1. Hydropower Operator name, address and proposed business structure.
2. Primary and secondary contact name, telephone number and e-mail address.
3. A brief description of prior hydroelectric project experience of the Hydropower Operator and pertinent staff members.

4. A detailed list of information/data that the Hydropower Operator will require from the State or other sources as necessary to prepare a thorough proposal to resume hydropower operation t the site.
5. A statement signifying the Hydropower Operator's understanding that the State and the Hydropower Operator shall be FERC Co-Exemptees with respect to the project.
6. A statement signifying the Hydropower Operator's understanding that the State will only enter into a lease of the Squam Lake Dam under RSA 481.8, not an outright sale.

Letters of interest, as well as any supporting documentation the Hydropower Operator wishes to submit, should be sent to the following address:

New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services
Dam Bureau
PO Box 95
Concord, NH 03302-0095

Attention: Daniel Mattaini, P.E.

Letters of interest shall be received by the State no later than March 31, 2018. A selection committee will review all submittals, and may request proposals from Hydropower Operators judged to be qualified.