

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS  
EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF  
ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS  
**DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY RESOURCES**  
100 CAMBRIDGE ST., SUITE 1020  
BOSTON, MA 02114  
Telephone: 617-626-7300  
Facsimile: 617-727-0030

**Charles D. Baker**  
Governor

**Karyn E. Polito**  
Lt. Governor

**Matthew A. Beaton**  
Secretary

**Judith F. Judson**  
Commissioner

January 5, 2016

William F. Welch  
Senate Clerk  
Office of the Clerk of the Senate  
24 Beacon Street  
Room 335 — State House  
Boston, MA 02133

Steven T. James  
House Clerk  
Office of the Clerk of the House  
24 Beacon Street  
Room 145 — State House  
Boston, MA 02133

Dear Senate Clerk Welch and House Clerk James,

This letter is being submitted pursuant to Section 47 of Chapter 209 of the Acts of 2012 (An Act Relative to Competitively Priced Electricity in the Commonwealth), regarding a Department of Energy Resources (DOER) study into the process for reactivation of pre-existing hydroelectric power sites, including a review of all necessary permitting and approvals to determine whether and how the process can be expedited and streamlined. This section provides:

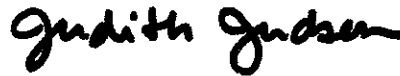
*... The department of energy resources shall conduct a study into the process for reactivation of pre-existing hydroelectric power sites, including a review of all necessary permitting and approvals to determine whether and how the process can be expedited and streamlined. The investigation shall include a determination of those permits necessary from federal, state and local agencies for the reactivation of a pre-existing site, and recommendations to streamline the process to allow for timely and cost-effective redevelopment. In the course of the investigation, the department shall convene, to the*

*extent possible, those state and federal agencies responsible for permitting, and any entities that may have obtained, or pursued, permits for the reactivation of pre-existing hydroelectric power sites. The department shall file a report of the findings not later than January 1, 2016 with the clerks of the house of representatives and the senate who shall forward a copy of the report to the chairs of the joint committee on environment, natural resources and agriculture and the chairs of the joint committee on telecommunications, utilities and energy.*

The Department of Energy Resources is in the process of finalizing such mandated study. The report is forthcoming and will be submitted to your offices in February of 2016.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call Tony Barletta, DOER Director of Government Affairs, at 617-626-1109.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Judith Judson". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Judith Judson  
Commissioner