

# TURNERS FALLS HYDROELECTRIC PROJECT INSTREAM FLOW STUDY SCOPING MEETING

## JANUARY 24, 2013 PROPOSED AGENDA

### 1. INTRODUCTION/ORIENTATION

- Review highlights of previous meeting
- Overview of supporting information provided
- Preview agenda and goals for current meeting
- Summary of Instream Flow Incremental Methodology (IFIM) study methods and output

### 2. DEFINITION OF SPECIFIC STUDY OBJECTIVE(S)

- Overview of habitat resource management objectives in affected area (*bypass reach and Connecticut River below Cabot Station*)
- Statement of instream flow decision objective(s)
- Statement about what kind of data product(s) will be needed to support decision making
  - Quantitative vs. qualitative
  - Incremental vs. standard setting

### 3. DEFINE STUDY AREA and HABITAT TYPES

- Review available reconnaissance, macrohabitat & mesohabitat mapping information
- Review past flow and habitat information
  - HG&E water level study
- Consider critical vs. representative habitat evaluation
  - sturgeon spawning
  - sturgeon feeding
  - sturgeon overwintering
- Rationale for study area boundaries

### 4. STUDY INPUTS

- Species and lifestages for evaluation
- Habitat Suitability Indices
  - sturgeon spawning
- Calibration flows
- Source of flows during study
- Hydrologic (flow duration) data
- Hydraulic (flow gaging) data
- Approximate number of study sites and transects

### 5. ANALYSIS

- Flow range and increments to be evaluated
- Preferred time increments (monthly, seasonal, calendar dates, *etc*)

### 6. FOLLOW-UP

- Logistical considerations/ safety protocols
- Tentative schedule
- Interagency participation & communication
- Involvement of other stakeholder groups