CONSOLIDATED WATER POWER COMBANY

P. O. BOX 8050, WISCONSIN RAPIDS: WI 544 805

August 27, 1997

Ms. Lois D. Cashell, Secretary Federal Energy Regulatory Commission 888 1st Street, N.E., Room 11-G1 Washington, D.C. 20426

Wisconsin Rapids Project, FERC No. 2256 - Article 409 (Purple Loosestrife Monitoring - 1997)

Dear Secretary Cashell:

The order approving and modifying Consolidated Water Power Company's (CWPCo.) Purple Loosestrife Monitoring Plan required annual monitoring of the noxious plant within project waters. Additionally, an annual report must be filed with the Commission and copies provided to the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service detailing the annual monitoring.

Enclosed is an original and seven copies of the monitoring actions for 1997.

Sincerely,

CONSOLIDATED WATER POWER COMPANY

Mark E. Anderson
Resources Coordinator

Enclosure: 1

Route: Ken Knapp - Dick Hilliker - File (WR - Article 409)

CC: Mr. Ronald A. Lesniak, Regional Director, Chicago Regional Office, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

Mr. Bob Martini, Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, Rhinelander, WI

Mr. James Fossum, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, Green Bay, WI

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1. Introduction.

Consolidated Water Power Company (CWPCo.) conducted Purple Loosestrife monitoring on July 17, 1997. In accordance with the plan developed by CWPCo. and modified and approved by the FERC, small colonies would be mapped and removed to the best extent possible while larger colonies would be mapped only. Additionally, CWPCo. agreed to acquire through the state a one-page fact sheet for distribution with recreational maps the company offers to the public.

2. Flowage Monitoring.

Two sites were found within the project boundary and a third was found north of the project boundary, adjacent to the Biron Project (FERC No. 2192). Attachment 1 depicts the location of the listed sites.

- a. Site 1. Located on a small bedrock outcrop, this colony consisted of approximately six plants clustered in one spot. Because of their small size, the plants with root systems were removed and disposed of in a plastic bag and landfilled.
- b. Site 2. A small colony of four plants were found along a sandy shoreline of a small island. Again, because of their small size, the plants were removed and disposed of in the same manner as Site 1.
- c. Site 3. This colony actually exists outside the project boundary for Wisconsin Rapids but is adjacent to the Biron Project. The colony is medium in density and is spread over approximately four-hundred feet along the base of the Biron dam. Because of it's relative size, no action was taken to remove the plant colony at this time.
- 3. Information Distribution. CWPCo. acquired through the WDNR, the small pamphlet Purple Loosestrife, An Attractive but Serious Threat to Wisconsin's Wetlands and Waterways. This pamphlet is being distributed along with any requests for our recreation maps.





