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CONSOLIDATED WATER POWER COMPANY

GENERAL OFFICES P. O. BOX 8050, WISCONSIN RAPIDS, WI 54495-8050

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November 23, 1999

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

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Wisconsin Rapids Project, FERC No. 2256 - Article 409 (Purple Loosestrife Monitoring - 1999)

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, filing a report every two years.

Enclosed is an original and seven copies of the monitoring actions for 1999.

Sincerely,

CONSOLIDATED WATER POWER COMPANY

Resources Coordinator

Enclosure: 1

CC: Ms. Peggy Harding, Acting 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

Route: Tom Scharff - Dick Hilliker - File (WR - Article 409)

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## 1. Introduction.

Consolidated Water Power Company (CWCPo.) conducted Purple Loosestrife monitoring on August 10, 1999. 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.

CWPCo reported two sites within the Project boundary in the 1997 report and one site adjacent to the Project. A survey of the flowage showed no additional sites. For comparative purposes, we have left the original site description as detailed in the 1997 report. The results from the 1999 survey are in bold letters following each site.

- 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.
  - 1999 No plants were observed at this site.
- 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.
  - 1999 Approximately ten plants were found at this site. They were removed similar to the previous method and disposed of via landfill in plastic bags.
- 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.
  - 1999 The site seemed to actually be smaller in size than observed in 1997. However density and spread were similar. No further action was taken at this time.
- 3. Information Distribution. CWPCo. acquired through the WDNR, the small pamphlet <u>Purple Loosestrife</u>, An Attractive But Serious Threat to Wisconsin's Wetlands and Waterways. We provide these informational brochures to all members of the public who request any of our flowage recreational maps or other information relating to the Projects. To-date, we have approximately passed out 1,500 brochures on purple loosestrife.



