

Designing the future

March 2, 2007

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Ms. Magalie R. Salas, Secretary Federal Energy Regulatory Commission ATTN: OEP/DHAC 888 First Street, NE Washington, DC 20426

Subject: Supplement to the November 2006 Invasive Species Monitoring Report Middle Appleton Dam Hydroelectric Project FERC Project No. 7264 Lower Fox River; Outagamie County, Wisconsin

Dear Ms. Salas:

On behalf of the Fox River Paper Company and N.E.W. Hydro, Inc. (Licensees), we are hereby filing one original and eight copies of the *Supplement to the November 2006 Invasive Species Monitoring Report* for the Middle Appleton Dam Hydroelectric Project (Project). This Supplement was prepared in accordance with the *Invasive Species Monitoring Plan* (Plan) developed pursuant to Article 405, Order Issuing Subsequent License – Minor Project, issued August 31, 2005. The Supplement is being filed in response to a February 27, 2007, telephone request from Ms. Brandi Sangunett (Commission staff). Ms. Sangunett's request was that the November 2006 monitoring report be supplemented to include a discussion of zebra mussel (*Dreissena polymorpha*) monitoring conducted at the Project.

On February 24, 2006, the Commission issued an *Order Modifying and Approving the Invasive Species Monitoring Report* pursuant to Article 405. Section 4 of the Plan outlines monitoring procedures to be conducted by the Licensees. In regards to zebra mussels, Section 4.8 of the Plan states:

"Inspections of hard surfaces that are normally submerged will be conducted during any drawdown of the impoundment and inspections of construction equipment from other infested waters of the state will be required on all contractor work specifications for the project. In addition, project structures (dam, gates, trashracks, etc.) will also be inspected.

Drawdowns for maintenance occur on an intermittent basis. During these periods, inspections for the presence of zebra mussels will be conducted and documented. Inspections of the project structures will be done on a monthly basis. If the presence of zebra mussel colonies is confirmed, zebra mussel monitoring at the project will be discontinued."

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Section 8 of the Plan outlines control measures to be utilized in the event invasive species are found at the Project. In regards to zebra mussels, Section 8.C of the Plan states:

"Currently, no methods exist for widespread control of zebra mussels present in the natural environment. If suitable zebra mussel control methods are developed by the agencies, the Fox River Paper Company and N.E.W. Hydro, Inc. will cooperate with the agencies to control zebra mussels in the project waters. The Fox River Paper Company and N.E.W. Hydro, Inc. will inspect and steam clean as needed, any equipment brought into project waters by the Fox Rover Paper Company and *N.E.W.* Hydro, Inc. or their contractor that may have been exposed to invasive species."

Results of Monitoring

Fox River Paper Company personnel have been monitoring for zebra mussels as outlined above. To date, there have been no observed occurrences of zebra mussels associated with project structures. If zebra mussels are observed in the future, zebra mussel monitoring at the project will be discontinued and the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources will be contacted.

Copies have been sent to those entities that were consulted on matters related to this filing. Proof of service is also included.

Thank you for your time and consideration in this matter. If you have any questions, please contact me.

Respectfully submitted,

MEAD & HUNT, Inc.

Aire Dalvaal

Arie DeWaal Senior Project Manager

Enclosures

cc: See attached list

Certificate of Service

I hereby certify that I, on behalf of the Fox River Paper Company and N.E.W. Hydro, Inc., have this day served copies of this filing upon each person designated on the attached distribution list.

Dated this _____2nd day of March, 2007 _____

Aire DeWool

Arie DeWaal MEAD & HUNT, Inc.



Distribution List

Middle Appleton Dam Hydroelectric Licensing FERC Project No. 7264

Article 405

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