ORIGINAL We energies

November 28, 2011

SECRETARY OF THE COMMISSION

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Ms. Kimberly Bose
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
Division of Licensing and Compliance
888 First Street NE
Washington, DC 20426

Dear Ms. Bose:

RE: 2011 REPORTS ON NUISANCE PLANT (PURPLE LOOSESTRIFE AND EURASIAN WATER MILFOIL) CONTROL SURVEYS

White Rapids – FERC No. 2357
Chalk Hill – FERC No. 2394
Pine – FERC No. 2486
Big Quinnesec Falls – FERC No. 1980
Kingsford – FERC No. 2131
Brule – FERC No. 2431
Michigamme Falls – FERC No. 2073
Peavy Falls – FERC No. 11830
Way Dam – FERC No. 1759

The "Terrestrial Based Natural Resources Management Plan," filed in September of 1999 as part of the Wilderness Shores Settlement Agreement, which affects Way Dam (FERC No. 1759), Hemlock Falls (FERC No. 2074), Peavy Falls (FERC No. 11830), Michigamme Falls (FERC No. 2073), Lower Paint (FERC No. 2072), Twin Falls (FERC No. 11831), Kingsford (FERC No. 2131), and Big Quinnesec Falls (FERC No. 1980), and the "Order Modifying and Approving Purple Loosestrife and Eurasian Water Milfoil Monitoring Plan" issued on April 30, 1996, for the Pine (FERC No. 2486), August 14, 1997, for the Brule (FERC No. 2431), December 11, 1997, for the Chalk Hill (FERC No. 2394) and White Rapids (FERC No. 2357) projects, we are to provide the final reports on the required annual and biennial monitoring for those projects no later than 30 days after the monitoring is completed. An annual extension for submitting these reports by the end of November was granted in 2010. Monitoring is scheduled each year for a portion of these twelve projects, with the field portion of the project to be completed by August 7. Eight required projects were surveyed during 2011, plus Way Dam.

Wisconsin Electric Power Company, doing business as We Energies (WE), is required to inspect and report on Eurasian water milfoil and purple loosestrife during 2011 for Chalk Hill, White Rapids, Pine, Brule, Big Quinnesec, Kingsford, Michigamme Falls, and Peavy Falls at the Annual Land Management Meeting and by providing a filing with your office. Although not required, Way Dam was again surveyed and purple loosestrife was managed in an effort to reduce the purple loosestrife infestation. Attached are the results of the surveys conducted earlier this year. The Annual Land Management Meeting was held on October 24, 2011, with representatives from the Wisconsin and Michigan DNR, the Michigan DEQ, the River Alliance of Wisconsin/Michigan Hydro Relicensing Coalition (an NGO), as well as some local agency representatives that work on tracking and controlling invasive species.

Page 2 November 28, 2011 Ms. Kimberly Bose

Hard copies of the survey summaries and maps of each project showing the location and density of the noxious weeds were offered to the resource agencies at the land management meeting. A CD that contains the electronic files of the same is attached for the FERC's reference and files, as well as for the agencies copied on this letter.

If you have any questions please feel free to contact me at 906-779-4099.

Sincerely,

Todd P. Jastremski, Manager Hydroelectric Operations Division

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## **Attachment**

cc: P. Harding – FERC CRO

M. Donofrio – WDNR

J. Mistak - MDNR

N. Utrup - FWS

J. Fossum - MHRC/RAW

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