

ORIGINAL

we energies



November 24, 2009

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

FEDERAL ENERGY
 REGULATORY COMMISSION

2009 NOV 25 P 1:08

FILED
 SECRETARY OF THE
 COMMISSION

Dear Ms. Bose:

RE: 2009 REPORTS ON PURPLE LOOSESTRIPE AND EURASIAN MILFOIL SURVEYS

Peavy Falls – FERC No. 11830 – 076
Michigamme Falls – FERC No. 2073 – 102
Kingsford – FERC No. 2131 – 122
Big Quinnesec Falls – FERC No. 1980 – 103
Brule – FERC No. 2431 – 084
Pine – FERC No. 2486 – 082
Chalk Hill – FERC No. 2394 – 107
White Rapids – FERC No. 2357 – 118

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. 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 projects were surveyed during 2009.

Wisconsin Electric Power Company, doing business as We Energies (WE), is required to inspect and report on Eurasian Milfoil and Purple Loosestrife during 2009 for Chalk Hill, White Rapids, Pine, Brule, Peavy Falls, Michigamme Falls, Kingsford, and Big Quinnesec Falls at both the Annual Land Management Meeting and by providing a filing with your office. Attached are the results of the inspections conducted earlier this year. The results of the monitoring as well as testing several methods for control of these noxious weeds, was reviewed by our environmental staff. The Annual Land Management Meeting was held on November 13, 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.

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Hard copies of the survey summaries and maps of each project showing the location and density of the noxious weeds were distributed 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

TPJ/kng

Attachment

cc: P. Harding – FERC CRO
M. Donofrio – WDNR
J. Mistak – MDNR
N. Utrup – FWS
J. Fossum – MHRC/RAW



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Memo

To: Ron Arndt
From: Mike Grisar
Date: 11/18/09
Subject: Hydro Operations - Annual Nuisance Plant Control Survey Reports

Ron,

Please find enclosed 8 CDs with the entire annual reports for the Nuisance Plant Control Surveys included as a single .pdf file for your use and distribution. Annual reporting for 2009 includes the 4 annual sites (Brule, Pine, White Rapids, and Chalk Hill) as well as 4 of the biannual sites including Big Quinnesec Falls, Kingsford, Michigamme Falls, and Peavy Falls. In each of the project area reports, there is a summary discussion, 2009 data summary, and the maps for each reservoir.

Also included is the report for the Way Dam and Michigamme Reservoir project area. As this is an "off" year for this project area, the report is for only the Michigamme arm of the project area where we have found purple loosestrife in the past. The Way Dam report includes results for the purple loosestrife survey of the 5-mile stretch of the Michigamme River upstream of the project area.

Finally, I included our 2009 Eurasian water milfoil management plan summary as well as the report summary I received from EnviroScience. These documents occur at the back of the compiled document.

At the agency meeting last week (11/12/09), I distributed one hard copy of these reports each to Jessica Mistak (MDNR), a copy to WDNR for delivery to Mike Donofrio (WDNR), Jim Fossum (MI Hydro Relicensing Coalition & WI River Alliance), Maureen Ferry (Florence County Land Conservation Department), Jeremy Chiamulura (Steigerwaldt Land Services), and yourself. My understanding from Todd Jastremski last year was that electronic copies (CD) get submitted to FERC. I provided 7 CD copies last year, and included 1 extra for your use and distribution.

Please let me know if you have any questions regarding the reports or need additional CD copies.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mike Grisar".

Mike Grisar