



State of Wisconsin \ DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

Scott McCallum, Governor
Darrell Bazzel, Secretary
Ruthe Badger, Regional Director

South Central Region
3911 Fish Hatchery Road.
Madison, Wisconsin 53711
Telephone 608-275-3266
FAX 608-275-3338
TTY 608-267-6897

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
01 JUN 29 PM 4:24
FEDERAL ENERGY
REGULATORY COMMISSION

FAXed on June 24, 2001

Thomas Reiss, Jr.
Indianford Water Power Company, Inc.
PO Box 553
Watertown, WI 53094

Subject: Initial Consultation Package, Indianford Dam, FERC # 11844

Dear Mr. Reiss:

We have completed our review of the Indianford Dam Initial Consultation Package (ICP). We will first address the content of the ICP followed by general comments.

COMMENTS ON THE CONTENTS OF THE ICP:

1. Page 2-3, Section 2. B. (5) (a) – Several dam repairs/modifications are listed in the ICP. I also recommend that the 6 gates on the east side of the dam be reversed (downstream smooth side be turned to be upstream side) to prevent ice problems.
2. Page 2-3, Section 2. B. (5) (b) – Installation of headwater monitoring equipment –The Indianford Dam is operated based on Lake Koshkonong levels measured at a gage on the lake. The gage is located at Pottawatomi Trail Bridge at Bingham Point Estates, about 9 miles upstream of the dam. To be consistent with the existing water level orders and current operation, your upstream water level monitoring equipment for dam operation automation will need to be located in approximately the same location. The water level can vary from 0.2 to 3 feet from the lake to the dam.
3. Page 2-5, Section 5. C. (2) – The Project will be operated in a run-or-river mode. Consistent with your additional comments and Condition G. in the existing water level orders, the inflow is to be measured at the inlet to the lake. The existing water level order uses Crawfish River gage at Milford and the Rock River gage at Watertown but there is a new Rock River gage at Ft. Atkinson, which should be used for the inflow to the lake.
4. Page 2-5, Section 5. C. (2) – The minimum discharge from the dam is 64 cfs in the current water level orders and in your ICP. Your proposed operation mode is run-of-river but in extreme low flow/high evaporation periods, run-of-river may not be sufficient to maintain the Rock River downstream. Department staff recommends that you, in cooperation with the WDNR and USFWS, contract for an incremental flow release/stage analysis below the dam. The purpose of the study will be to dam operation during low flow periods on the Rock River to protect public interests.
5. Page 2-5, Section 5. C. (2) – You are proposing a ‘summer’ target level of 776.20 feet and a ‘winter’ target level of 775.6 feet. The department and the Rock Koshkonong Lake District are participating

010719.0564.3

Quality Natural Resources Management
Through Excellent Customer Service

AS
DOCKETED



in a joint study on water levels which considers wetlands, water quality, erosion, fish, herptiles, etc. The study is expected to take two years. The results of the study may be new water level orders for Lake Koshkonong/Indianford Dam. We reserve the right to recommend new target water levels at the end of the current study.

6. Page 3-4, Section 3. A. (5) – Fisheries Resources section in the application needs to be updated to include the current fisheries data on Lake Koshkonong and the Rock River. Please contact Don Bush at our Janesville office at 608-743-4823.
7. Page 3-5, Section 3. A. (6) – Wildlife/Waqtterfowl Resources section in the application needs to be updated to include the current waterfowl surveys for Lake Koshkonong and the Rock River.
8. Page 3-7, Section 3. A. (9) – Water Quality Certification or waiver of the right to certify is requested in the Initial Consultation Package. In a telephone call and an e-mail, you have withdrawn application for water quality certification at this time and agreed to apply for certification in stage 2.
9. Page 4-1, Section 4. – We request that you perform additional studies.
 - a. Temperature and dissolved oxygen levels need to be monitored over a 12 month period, both up and downstream of the dam. Monthly measurements should be taken during fall, winter and spring. Summer sampling should be conducted weekly in the early morning hours before 8:00 am. Measurements should be taken at representative sites in the lake, at the intake side of the dam at varying depths and at the discharge side of the dam using Winkler method with mercury thermometer, YSI Model 57 DO/temperature meter or comparable equipment approved by the department.
 - b. Consistent with #4 above, the department requests an incremental flow release/stage analysis below the dam.
 - c. The department has begun and has partially funded a fisheries study to determine water flow distribution and water levels impacts on fish movement in and out of the reservoir. This study may impact water levels and fish passage construction at the Indianford Dam. This study will take at least two years or more depending on funding. If you would like to ensure that the study is not delayed because of funding, you are invited to contribute funding to the completion of the study.
 - d. The department is concerned with fish mortality, impingement and entrainment associated with the turbines. The department requests that you study the most current methods to protect fish and incorporate appropriate equipment, such as angled bar-racks at the Indianford Dam.

GENERAL COMMENTS

1. The department will include in the Terms and Conditions that we reserve the right to require a fish passage at the Indianford Dam. The need for fish passage will be consistent with the conditions set forth in our new fish passage administrative code, when it is finalized.
2. The department will include in the Terms and Conditions that WDNR retains Chapter 30 & 31 permit and approval authority.
3. The department will request in the Terms and Conditions that a log of daily levels and gate operations be maintained and available upon request.
4. The department will request in the Terms and Conditions that the dam gates be kept ice-free.

RECEIVED

