

FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION
Washington, D. C. 20426

OFFICE OF ENERGY PROJECTS

Project No. 2785-016--Michigan
Sanford Water Power Project

Project No. 10808-007--Michigan
Edenville Project

Project No. 10809-006--Michigan
Secord Project

Project No. 10810-008--Michigan
Smallwood Project

Boyce Hydro Power, Inc.

March 13, 2013

Frank O. Christie, P.E.
General Manager
Boyce Hydro Power, LLC
6000 South M-30 (P.O. Box 15)
Edenville, MI 48624

Subject: 2012 Eurasian Water Milfoil and Purple Loosestrife Survey Report

Dear Mr. Christie:

On January 24, 2013, you filed the 2012 Eurasian water milfoil and purple loosestrife survey report for the Sanford Project No. 2785, Edenville Project No. 10808, Secord Project No. 10809, and Smallwood Project No. 10810, pursuant to license articles 409, 408, 407, and 407, respectively.¹ The respective license articles required you to file, for Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (Commission) approval, a plan to monitor purple loosestrife and Eurasian watermilfoil in project waters. Your plans were

¹ Order on Rehearing and Amending License Order (61 FERC ¶ 61,066); Order Issuing Original License (85 FERC ¶ 61,063); Order Issuing Minor License (85 FERC ¶ 61,064); and Order Issuing Minor License (85 FERC ¶ 61,065); respectively, all issued October 16, 1998.

approved on May 10, 1999, for all four projects.²

The May 10 approval order requires you to survey, on a five-year basis, the entire project lakes to determine the extent and concentration of purple loosestrife and Eurasian watermilfoil. The data collected from the surveys are to be plotted on U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) maps, showing three levels of concentration for each plant. Each concentration should be identified by a different color and the criteria for the various densities of infestation should be included on the maps.

In addition to the maps, a written report is required that includes: (1) an estimate, in acres, of the infestation of Eurasian watermilfoil and purple loosestrife; (2) a summary and copies of lake management studies done by various organizations; (3) a list of Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDNR) permits for chemical treatments in each lake; (4) a description of weed treatments, including the method and extent of treatment; (5) a summary of community activities that address the nutrient loading problems in each lake, such as sewer feasibility studies; and (6) a description of your participation in and a summary of the Michigan State University Purple Loosestrife Program as it relates to your projects. The maps and written report should be filed with the Commission and MDNR by October 31, of the year in which the five-year survey for purple loosestrife and Eurasian watermilfoil was conducted.

By Commission letter dated January 14, 2013, you were granted an extension of time until February 1, 2013, to file the written report along with the accompanying maps. Your 2012 Eurasian water milfoil and purple loosestrife survey report was filed on January 24, 2013.

Your report provides a summary of the Eurasian watermilfoil and purple loosestrife surveys undertaken at the four project reservoirs - Sanford, Edenville, Smallwood, and Secord. The report provides color-coded maps depicting the extent and degree of concentration of Eurasian watermilfoil throughout the four project reservoirs. There was no purple loosestrife surveyed in the project reservoirs; however, their presence along some shorelines is noted on the maps. Your report also provided the activities of the various lake improvement organizations, including independent weed infestation surveys, treatment methods, and public education activities.

Your report also noted that the Michigan State University no longer has an active purple loosestrife monitoring program but that past biocontrol programs using beetles (*Gallerucella californiensis*) on purple loosestrife were highly successful. Your 2012 survey report fulfills the requirements of the respective project license articles and the approved monitoring plans.

² Order Approving and Amending Purple Loosestrife and Eurasian Milfoil Monitoring Plans (87 FERC ¶ 62,171).

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You are reminded that your next Eurasian water milfoil and purple loosestrife survey is to be conducted in 2014. The 2014 field reconnaissance will bring you back onto the original five-year surveying and reporting cycle. Your 2014 survey report is due by October 31, 2014.

Thank you for your cooperation. If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact John Mark at (212) 273-5940 or by email at john.mark@ferc.gov.

Sincerely,

Thomas J. LoVullo
Chief, Aquatic Resources Branch
Division of Hydropower Administration
and Compliance

cc: Mr. Lee W. Mueller
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