

FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON D.C. 20426

OFFICE OF ENERGY PROJECTS

Project No. 2785-081—Michigan
Sanford Hydroelectric Project
Boyce Hydro Power, LLC

February 8, 2013

Mr. Brian D. Conway
State Historic Preservation Officer
Michigan State Housing Development Authority
702 West Kalamazoo Street
Lansing, MI 48909-8240

Reference: Determination of No Effect Under Section 106

Dear Mr. Conway:

On September 11, 2012, Boyce Hydro, LLC, filed a non-capacity amendment application with the Commission to perform an in-kind replacement of one of the three existing turbines at the 3.3-megawatt (MW) Sanford Hydroelectric Project No. 2785. The project is located on the Tittabawassee River in Midland County, Michigan. The licensee is proposing to replace an existing turbine with a new, more efficient turbine, that would allow the licensee to generate more electricity while still meeting the minimum flow requirements. Replacing the turbine would increase the project's installed capacity from 3.3 to 3.6 MW with no increase in hydraulic capacity or other changes to project features or operations.

The project received a license from the Commission on December 1, 1987. The license was modified in an Order on Rehearing and Amending the License Order dated October 16, 1998. In conjunction with this 1998 order, the Commission developed an Environmental Assessment to determine the significance of the Sanford project's impacts. As part of that analysis, the licensee consulted with your office on potential impacts to historic properties. Your office indicated that none of the Sanford project facilities were considered eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places (National Register). Further, your office stated that the project would not affect known historical properties in the immediate vicinity of the project or any other cultural resources.

Based on staff's review of the amendment application, we conclude that there would be no effect to historic properties. The turbine would be replaced in-kind in order to maintain the efficient operation of the project. Pursuant to section 800.4(d)(1) of the

Advisory Council on Historic Preservation's regulations, we are requesting your concurrence with our determination. If you disagree with our determination of no effect, please respond within 30 days and provide your reasons.

Please file any response electronically via the Internet using the Commission's eFiling system or file an original and seven copies of your response with:

The Secretary
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
888 First Street, N.E.
Washington, DC 20426

Thank you for your cooperation in this matter. If you have any questions concerning this letter, please contact Kurt Powers at (202) 502-8949.

Sincerely,

Steve Hocking
Chief, Environmental Review Branch,
Division of Hydropower Administration
and Compliance

cc: Mr. Lee Mueller
Boyce Hydro Power, LLC
6000 S. M-30
Edenville, Michigan 48620