



RICK SNYDER
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
LANSING



KEITH CREAGH
DIRECTOR

April 3, 2018

Ms. Michele G. Mueller
Acting Compliance Officer
Boyce Hydro Power, LLC
6000 S M-30
Edenville, MI 48620

RE: IMPOUNDMENT LEVEL AND WATER TEMPERATURE DATA REQUEST FOR SPRING 2018 FOR THE SECORD (FERC NO. 10809), SMALLWOOD (FERC NO. 10810), EDENVILLE (FERC NO. 10808), AND SANFORD (FERC NO. 2785) PROJECTS ON THE TITTABAWASSEE RIVER, MICHIGAN

Dear Ms. Mueller,

The Michigan Department of Natural Resources (Department) has received a number of inquiries regarding the level of the impoundments for the projects. The observations as described to us is that the impoundments are at the lower end of the winter elevations.

Despite this spring is unusual weather with the run off coming quite early, and persistent cold nights, stream temperatures are rising. The other rivers where temperature data is available and that have large impoundments indicate all are approaching or exceeding 39°F. The Department understands that the impoundments should be back to full pool prior to the time the water temperatures reaches 39°F. We were provided documentation of the temperature of Wixom Lake taken in the current below the M-30 bridge between the Tobacco arm and Tittabawassee arm of the impoundment is above 39°F (Attachment 1). Given the amount of flow through that opening between the impoundment halves, we believe it is a reasonable approximation of impoundment temperatures in the Lake. While that may not be the mean temperature of the water column there, it certainly suggests that the average temperature in the lake is at or exceeding 39°F.

Article 404 – (Edenville License) Within sixty days of the installation of reservoir level gages required by Article 406, the Licensee shall operate the Edenville Project so that the project reservoir elevation does not fluctuate more than 0.4 foot below or 0.3 foot above the normal pool elevation of 675.8 feet National Geodetic Vertical Datum (NGVD) except during the winter drawdown. The Licensee shall begin the winter drawdown after December 15 and shall complete the winter drawdown by January 15 of each year. **The Licensee shall complete the refill of the reservoir, thus ending the winter drawdown period, prior to the surface water temperature of the reservoir reaching 39°F [emphasis added].** During the winter drawdown, the Licensee shall operate the

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Edenville Project so that the reservoir level does not fall below 672.8 feet NGVD, and so that the daily fluctuation in reservoir elevation does not exceed 0.7 foot.

To help the Department respond to these inquiries, we are requesting tailrace water temperature data from March 15, 2018 to present along with the corresponding impoundment level data. We will then be able to provide accurate information to anyone contacting the Department regarding levels in the impoundments. If possible, we would like the data in electronic spreadsheet format. We thank you in advance for your assistance. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at: Michigan Department of Natural Resources, Mio Field Office, 191 S. Mt. Tom Rd., Mio, MI 48647.

Sincerely,

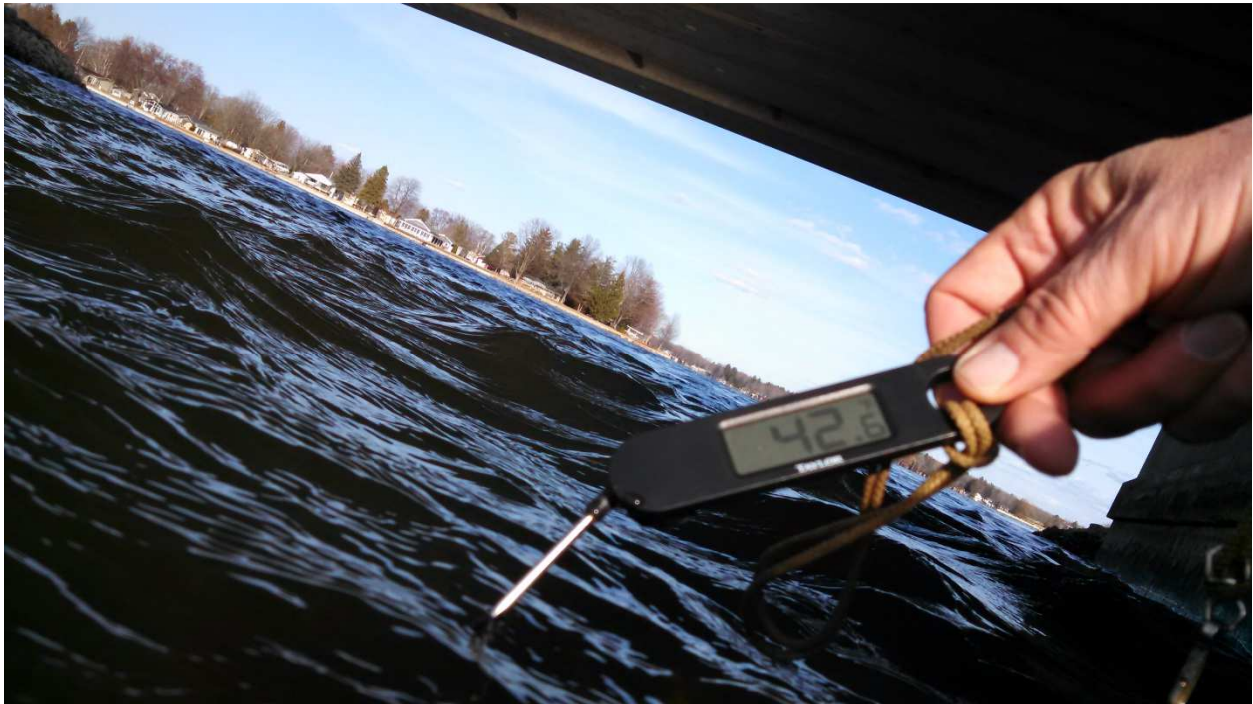
A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kyle Kruger", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Kyle Kruger
Senior Fisheries Biologist
Habitat Management Unit
Fisheries Division
(989) 826-3211 x 7073

cc Kimberly D. Bose, FERC, DC
Thomas LoVullo, FERC, DC
Amira Oun, DEQ, Lansing
Burr Fisher, USFWS, E. Lansing

Attachment 1

Photo 1: Temperature of the water in the causeway between the Tobacco Arm and the Tittabawassee Arm of Wixom Lake. Photo date April 1, 2018.



Document Content(s)

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