

90 FERC ¶ 62,117

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION

Alliant Energy

Project No. 710-024

ORDER APPROVING 1999 TEMPERATURE AND
DISSOLVED OXYGEN MONITORING REPORT

(Issued February 18, 2000)

On December 27, 1999, Alliant Energy (licensee) filed its 1999 Temperature and Dissolved Oxygen Monitoring Report for the Shawano Hydroelectric Project. The Shawano Project is located on the Wolf River in Shawano County, Wisconsin.

LICENSE REQUIREMENTS

The Commission's February 17, 1999 Order Approving and Modifying Dissolved Oxygen and Temperature Monitoring Plan¹ approved the licensee's plan to monitor dissolved oxygen (DO) and water temperature in the Wolf River upstream and downstream of the project for 1999, during the critical summer period of July 1 through September 15. The plan was required by article 405 of the project license.² The monitoring and subsequent report were required to ensure that DO concentrations of not less than 5 milligrams per liter (mg/l), and water temperatures of not more than 89 degrees Fahrenheit, are maintained upstream and downstream of the project dam and powerhouse (equivalent to state water quality requirements). The Commission's order required the licensee to conduct the planned monitoring during the critical summer period and to file the results of the monitoring by March 2000, with any recommendations for further monitoring or enhancements based on the results of that monitoring. The filed report was to include documentation of consultation with the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR) and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS), and the licensee's responses to any comments or recommendations from those agencies.

LICENSEE'S REPORT

The licensee's report included hourly temperature and dissolved oxygen data collected through the identified period from both above and below the dam and powerhouse. The data indicate that the water temperature and dissolved oxygen at the data collection sites did not exceed 89 degrees Fahrenheit or fall below 5 mg/l,

¹ 86 FERC ¶ 62,139 (1999).

² 79 FERC ¶ 61,181 (1997).

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powerhouse. The data indicate that the water temperature and dissolved oxygen at the data collection sites did not exceed 89 degrees Fahrenheit or fall below 5 mg/l, respectively, during the collection periods. Also, the collected data indicate that impoundment waters did not undergo temperature stratification or oxygen depletion during the data collection period. The licensee did not include any copies of comments from any resource agencies, or recommendations for continued monitoring in future years.

RESOURCE AGENCY CONSULTATION

Because the licensee did not include copies of letters of comment from any resource agencies or evidence that such agencies had been contacted, Commission staff contacted the licensee via telephone. The licensee indicated that copies of the report had been distributed to the WDNR, FWS, and the Menominee Indian Tribe of Wisconsin, but that no comments had been received. Commission staff therefore contacted each of these agencies via telephone³ and learned that the agencies had reviewed the report but had no comments at that time.

CONCLUSIONS

The licensee's report indicates that the waters of the Shawano Project were within state water quality requirements regarding temperature and dissolved oxygen during the critical period of summer 1999. It does not appear that there is any need for future monitoring at the project, nor have there been any requests for further monitoring or enhancements from the resource agencies. The licensee's report should be approved.

The Director orders:

(A) The licensee's 1999 Temperature and Dissolved Oxygen Monitoring Report, filed December 27, 1999, as required by the Commission's February 17, 1999 Order Approving and Modifying Dissolved Oxygen and Temperature Monitoring Plan, is approved.

³ February 7, 2000 telephone conversations between B. Peter Yarrington, Commission staff, and Tom Thuemler, Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources; Jim Fossum, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service; and Doug Cox, Menominee Indian Tribe of Wisconsin. Telephone records filed with Commission Secretary.

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(B) This order constitutes final agency action. Requests for rehearing by the Commission may be filed within 30 days of the date of issuance of this order, pursuant to 18 CFR § 385.713.



J. Mark Robinson

Director

Division of Licensing and Compliance