

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION

N.E.W. Hydro, Inc.

Project No. 2523-012

ORDER GRANTING EXTENSIONS OF TIME

MAY 18 1998

The licensee for the Oconto Falls Hydroelectric Project has requested a one-year extension of time of the existing deadlines to comply with articles 203, 402, 403, 404, 405, 407, 408, and 409 of its license. 1/ The project is located on the Oconto River in Oconto County, Wisconsin.

Article 203 requires the licensee to file an original set and two duplicate sets of aperture cards of the approved A, F, and G drawings.

Article 402 requires the licensee to file with the Commission, for approval, a gaging and compliance plan to document compliance with the run-of-river (R-O-R) operation and reservoir elevation range required by article 401.

Article 403 requires the licensee to file with the Commission, for approval, a plan to conduct a three-year evaluation to determine whether operation of the project in a R-O-R mode as required by article 401 has been achieved.

Article 404 requires the licensee to file with the Commission, for approval, a reservoir drawdown plan.

Article 405 requires the licensee to file with the Commission, for approval, a plan to monitor dissolved oxygen (DO), temperature, and pH of the project's tailwater.

Article 407 requires the licensee to develop and file with the Commission, for approval, a plan to monitor and control the spread of purple loosestrife and Eurasian milfoil in project waters.

Article 408 requires the licensee to file with the Commission, for approval, a recreation plan for the project.

1/ 81 FERC ¶ 62,238 (1997).

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Article 409 requires the licensee to file, for Commission approval, the Cultural Resources Management Plan (CRMP) identified in the Programmatic Agreement, together with letters from both, the Wisconsin and Michigan State Historic Preservation Officers (SHPO) commenting on the plan. The licensee is also required to file an annual report with the Commission and SHPO documenting activities conducted to prepare the CRMP for filing with the Commission.

The reasons advanced by the licensee in support of the requested extensions of time are reasonable and justify the extensions.

The Director orders:

(A) The deadline to comply with article 203 is extended to January 6, 1999.

(B) The deadline to comply with articles 403, 404, and 407 is extended to May 19, 1999.

(C) The deadline to comply with articles 402, 405, 408, and 409 is extended to November 19, 1999.

(D) 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 C.F.R. § 385.713.



Carol L. Sampson
Director

Office of Hydropower Licensing