

ORIGINAL



FILED
OFFICE OF THE
SECRETARY

1414 West Hamilton Avenue
P.O. Box 8
Eau Claire, WI 54702-0008

January 28, 2005

2005 JAN 31 P 2:26

FEDERAL ENERGY
REGULATORY COMMISSION

Office of the Secretary
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
888 First Street, NE
Washington, D.C. 20426

Subject: Monitoring Results of the 2004 Surveys of Water Quality Conditions at the Big Falls (FERC Project No. 2390) and Thornapple (FERC Project No. 2475) Hydro Projects.

Dear Secretary:


Enclosed is an original and eight copies of the results of the water quality monitoring performed at the above-mentioned projects in 2004 as directed by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission's (Commission) license orders. The license orders require Northern States Power Company – Wisconsin (d.b.a. Xcel Energy) to perform water quality sampling on the two flowages after ice-out, in mid-July, and mid-August to monitor long-term changes in water quality.

Also included is a summary of the data that has been collected since 1998, the first year of the required water quality sampling. While there appears to be some variability in some of the parameters analyzed, for the most part, the results have been relatively consistent. The data collected in 2004 appears consistent to the sampling that has been completed to date and well within the normal ranges expected for natural environments.

The sampling results were filed with the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR) on December 16, 2004 and they were allowed time to provide comments on the sampling results (*see attached letter*). The WDNR did not provide any written or electronic mail comments.

If you have any questions in regards to the monitoring results or to this filing, please feel free to give me a call at (715) 839-2692 or Mr. Robert Olson of my staff at (715) 839-1353.

Very truly yours,


Lloyd Everhart
Administrator, Hydro Licensing

Attachment: Water quality monitoring results

c: Mr. Jeff Scheirer (Wisconsin DNR)