

1759



**we energies**

231 W. Michigan Street  
Milwaukee, WI 53203  
www.we-energies.com

August 17, 2004

**Mr. Thomas Meronek**  
WDNR Regional FERC  
Coordinator  
P.O. Box 208  
101 N. Ogden Rd.  
Peshtigo, WI 54157

**Ms. Janet Smith**  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife  
Service  
2661 Scott Tower Rd.  
New Franken, WI. 54229-  
9595

**Ms. Jessica Mistak**  
Fisheries Biologist  
MDNR Marquette  
Fisheries Station  
484 Cherry Creek Road  
Marquette, MI 49855

RE: Way Dam Hydroelectric Project, FERC No. 1759  
Article 413  
Purple Loosestrife and Eurasian Water Milfoil Monitoring

Please find the enclosed results of monitoring for purple loosestrife and Eurasian water milfoil at the Way Dam Project.

In addition to annual monitoring, Wisconsin Electric Power Company, doing business as We Energies, continues to post information on identifying and preventing the spread of purple loosestrife and Eurasian water milfoil on bulletin boards at recreation Areas 26, 20, 19, 18 and 17.

Please feel free to call me at (906) 779-2547, if you have any questions on this matter.

Sincerely,

*William Rauscher*

William Rauscher, Manager  
Hydroelectric Operations Division

*WR*

**Report for 2004 on Monitoring  
For Purple Loosestrife  
And Eurasian Water Milfoil  
At the Way Dam Project - FERC 1759**

The entire shoreline of the Way Dam impoundment was visually surveyed by We Energies scientific staff (John Hrobar and Noel Cutright) in a boat. All waters and appropriate wetlands also were surveyed, including those areas of the impoundment supporting growth of submersed aquatic plants. The surveys were conducted on July 30 and 31, 2004. Three purple loosestrife (*Lythrum salicaria*) plants were found in three different locations in the eastern end of the Way Dam Project. The first plant with two flowering stalks was found in a wetland in the northwestern quarter of Section 30. Signs of duck hunting use of the marsh were observed, which may be one avenue for seed introduction into the wetland. The plant was removed. A second plant with seven flowering stalks was found deep within a marsh in the northeastern quarter of section 19. It too was successfully removed. This plant was approximately 4,600 feet (direct) or approximately 8,000 feet following the Michigamme River from where two plants were found in 2002. The third plant was found at the same location as the two clumps in 2002. Unlike in 2002 when only the flowering stalks could be removed, the entire plant with its four flowering stalks was removed. The purple loosestrife was growing in a riverside wet meadow on a bend in the Michigamme River. The location of the three plants was plotted on a vegetative cover map so the areas can be examined during the next survey in 2006. No Eurasian water milfoil (*Myriophyllum spicatum*) was found.