

Thomas Church, Watersmeet, MI.
November 9, 2012

Ms. Kimberly D. Bose, Secretary
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
888 First St., NE
Washington, DC 20426

COMMENT ON APPLICATION BY UPPER PENINSULA POWER COMPANY (UPPCO) TO REMOVE THE
CISCO DAM FROM THE BOND FALLS FERC LICENSE
PROJECT 1864 (FERC NOTICE ISSUED OCTOBER 12, 2012)
Comment submitted by: Thomas Church, PO Box 778, Watersmeet, MI 49969 906-
358-4171

Dear Ms. Bose,

I'd like to submit the following comments on the above proposal:

- The extent of UPPCO's improvements done around the dam when the associated bridge was replaced a few years ago were underwhelming, and in no way represent compliance with the license requirement that they replace the dam prior to relinquishing ownership as required by the license.

- The dam needs to be replaced in accordance with the license (75' fixed-crest dam) prior to UPPCO relinquishing ownership. The maintenance and operational costs for the existing structure are just too high to allow ownership by any other entity.

- As a Township Trustee in Watersmeet, Michigan (the local unit of government where the dam is located), the Township board was not interested in taking ownership and/or responsibility for the dam. I have discussed the matter with several Gogebic County Board members and officials and they have voiced the same concerns.

- Ownership and operation by the Cisco Chain Lake Association faces the same long term maintenance and operational cost issues. Within Watersmeet Township, we have had lake level disputes and control of water outlets which have led to the dissolution of the lake's association. Lake Associations come and go, and this dam is too important to allow it's ownership to be subject to this possibility when we have long-term ownership and stable operation by UPPCO under the FERC license.

- FERC should take no action on UPPCO's request for license amendment until UPPCO begins dispute resolution talks with the resource agencies as required by the Settlement Agreement.

I urge FERC to reject any effort to remove the Cisco Dam from UPPCO ownership and operation (with FERC regulation) until the dam is replaced as required by the existing FERC license, and UPPCO completes the Dispute Resolution process.
Sincerely,

Thomas Church
PO Box 778
Watersmeet, MI 49969

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