

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY FILED DETROIT DISTRICT, CORPS OF ENGINEERS REGULATORY OFFICE P.O. BOX 1027 19 SEP 29 PH 3: 10

August 22, 2008

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PEUUL ATORY COMMISSION

Engineering & Technical Services Regulatory Office File No. LRE-2008-00885-252

. . . . . Jon Cofrancesco Federal Energy Regulatory Commission Division of Hydropower Administration and Compliance Washington, District of Columbia, 20426

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Dear Mr. Cofrancesco,

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This is in response to your recent Environmental Assessment (Docket No.: P-10854), dated July 2, 2008, requesting a jurisdictional determination by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers on the proposed FERC Cataract Hydroelectric Project and Cataract Shoreline Management Plan located in Marquette County, Michigan.

In 1984 a portion of the Corps' regulatory responsibilities were assumed by the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ). This project site is within an area of MDEQ assumed jurisdiction. Unless otherwise notified, a separate authorization from the Corps is not required. However, your project may require permits from the MDEQ. We recommend that you contact the MDEQ's Upper Peninsula District Office at (906) 875-2071 for a regulatory determination and information regarding Michigan's statute and permit requirements.

Thank you for giving the Corps of Engineers the opportunity to review this project on the Middle Branch of the Escanaba River. If you have any questions please contact Sabrina Miller at the above address or at (313) 226-7495. Please refer to File No. LRE-2008-00885-252 in all future communications with this office.

Sincerely. Robert M. Tucker

Chief, Enforcement Branch **Regulatory** Office

Enclosures Copy Furnished: MDEQ, Upper Peninsula District Office, Mike Smolinski Upper Peninsula Power Company USACE, Marquette Regulatory Field Office

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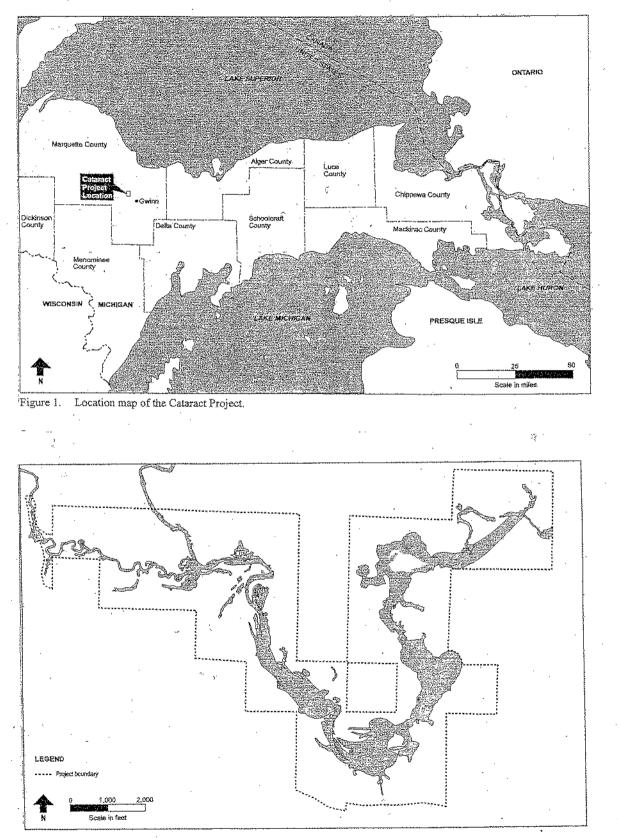


Figure 2. Cataract Project boundary map.