

**Upper Peninsula Power Company** 

1002 Harbor Hills Drive Marquette, MI 49855 www.UPPCO.com

January 29, 2016

FERC Project No. 02506 NATDAM No. MI00166 & MI00167

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

Dear Secretary Bose:

Escanaba Hydro Electric Project - Dam #4 (Boney Falls) & Dam #3 Developments Article 402 Reservoir Surface Elevation Deviation

In accordance with Article 402 of the License dated July 13, 1995, and the Orders Amending Article 402 dated November 12, 1996, October 1, 1997 and August 16, 2011, for the Escanaba Hydroelectric Project (FERC Project No. 2506), Upper Peninsula Power Company (UPPCO) is required to file a deviation report with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC), the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (MDNR) and United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) when the operation deviates from the conditions of Article 402.

On December 29, 2015, the pond levels at both Boney Falls and Dam #3 exceeded the License limits for headwater elevation, 906.17±0.34 feet USGS Datum, and 665.08±0.34 feet USGS Datum, respectively.

At the Boney Falls Development the License headwater exceedance occurred at 09:10 CST, with the peak elevation of 907.09 feet NGVD occurring at 9:13 CST. The Boney Falls headwater elevation returned below the License limit of 906.17±0.34 feet USGS Datum at 11:41 CST. The Dam #3 headwater level exceedance occurred at 16:02 CST with a peak of 666.76 feet USGS Datum at 16:11 CST. The Dam #3 headwater elevation returned to below the License limit of 665.08±0.34 feet USGS Datum at 16:57 CST.

The License headwater limit exceedances at Boney Falls and Dam#3 were caused by the release of upstream ice jams on the Escanaba River. This event has happened in the past, and was primarily caused by a heavy snow fall, followed by low temperatures. In each instance, Operators were called to Boney Falls and Dam #3, to manage the outflows of both Developments. There were no adverse environmental impacts observed as a result of these headwater deviations. Additionally, UPPCO did not receive any agency comment on the deviations.

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If you have any questions regarding this letter, please do not hesitate to contact Bob Meyers at (906) 485-2419, or Jarrod Nelson at (906) 232-1433.

Sincerely,

Virgil Schlorke

Director of Generation & Environmental Services

Upper Peninsula Power Company

Enc. Operational data

RJM/wmp

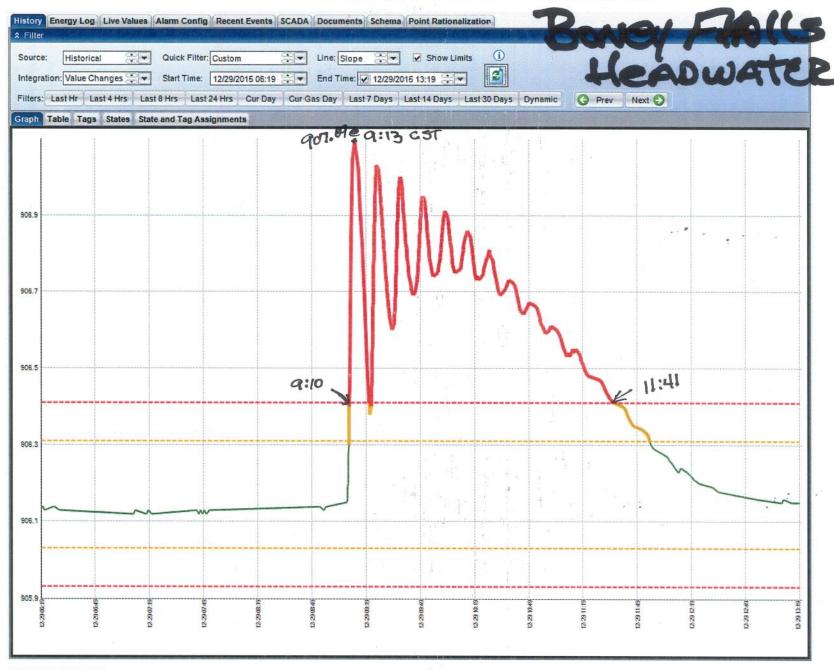
cc: Ms. Koren Carpenter, MDEQ

Mr. Kenneth Carruthers, UPPCO
Mr. Burr Fisher, USFWS
Mr. Keith Moyle, UPPCO
Mr. Gary Kohlhepp, MDEQ
Mr. Jarrod Nelson , UPPCO

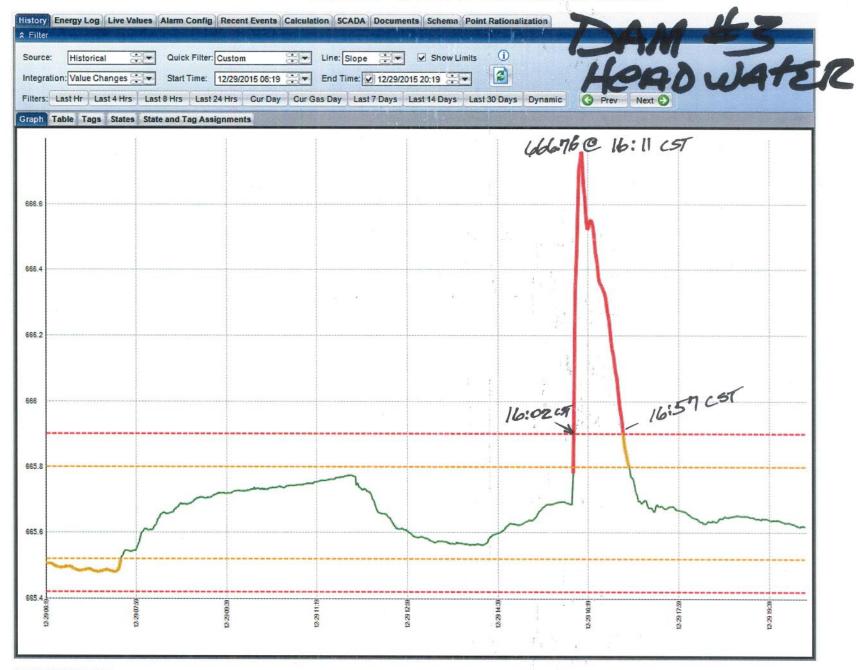
Mr. Kyle Kruger, MDNR

Ms. Diana Klemans, MDEQ Mr. David Tripp, UPPCO

## FERC Project No. 2506 Point Info - UPPCO-BNYH: Headwater Elevation



Point Info - UPPCO-END3: Headwater Elevation



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