



Meeting Notes

Project: Loup River Hydroelectric Project FERC Project No. 1256	
Subject: Agency Follow-up Meeting – Identify Issues & Concerns	
Meeting Date: June 25, 2008, 10:00 am – 2:00 pm	Meeting Location: Wunderlichs, Columbus, NE
Notes by: HDR	

Attendees: See Attached

Meeting Agenda:

1. Welcome
2. Introductions
3. Process Review
4. Issues Received to Date
5. Issues Discussion
6. Next Steps

Discussion:

1. Welcome

This meeting was a follow-up to the agency orientation meeting held on May 7, 2008. The purpose of the meeting was to introduce, discuss and compare the hydropower related issues and concerns identified by the participating agencies. The objectives for this meeting were to talk through and reach a mutual understanding of the basis or rationale for each issue or concern.

2. Introductions

The protocol for the meeting was intended to be an open dialog to get the issues identified.

Items of housekeeping discussions included that each agency was asked to review the point of contact information for their agency for accuracy.

A first draft of meeting notes from each agency meeting will be provided by HDR within one (1) week. Comments on meeting notes from the agencies are requested to be sent to HDR within one (1) week so the final notes can be posted to the relicensing website.

The question was raised as to whether non-governmental organizations (NGOs) should be included in the agency meetings to discuss issues? The District noted that NGOs were invited to the public meetings and that three attended the meeting (Nebraska Off Highway Vehicle Association, Tern and Plover Partnership, and the Lower Platte River Corridor Alliance). The National Park Service (NPS) noted they like to see NGO participation at the agency meetings. It was decided to include NGOs at the next agency meeting.

The question was also raised as to whether tribes were included for the meeting. The District noted that tribal coordination is occurring independently and they are working to identify a time to meet. Tribal coordination will continue separately because of their sovereign nation status - unless they would prefer to join the larger group.

Matt Pillard, HDR, will be the new point of contact for agencies (Emily Buss was the previous point of contact). He will be responsible for coordinating with agencies throughout the relicensing process.

3. Process Review

HDR provided a review of the FERC Integrated Licensing Process (ILP), the opportunities for agency input, and the current stage process is in. It was noted that the process requires a long-term commitment from all involved.

The general timing of key milestones was discussed (see attached for general submittal time frames). HDR noted that if the Project is not relicensed by mid-April of 2014, FERC will issue an annual license that allows the District to operate under the previous license terms and conditions until a new license can be issued. It was also noted that the relicensing effort does not stop after the new license is issued. Certain items, such as plan development, mitigation and monitoring, may continue or be required after the new license is issued. FERC establishes comment timeframes and other milestones based on submittals and it is important for each agency to monitor these timeframes. When the Pre-Application Document (PAD) is submitted, a schedule identifying these milestones will be made available.

Agency study requests were discussed. The agencies were encouraged to provide their preliminary list of study needs for inclusion in the PAD. There will be other opportunities after the PAD submittal to identify and discuss studies, it was noted that this is the time to think about specific study needs to address issues of concern. Study requests should ultimately consider the seven (7) basic study criteria identified by FERC. However they do not need to address every criteria at this time. Eventually all study requests will need to address the seven criteria in order for FERC to include them in the Study Plan to be conducted by the District (as the applicant).

The National Park Service (NPS) asked if Loup Power District would entertain a settlement agreement or if was too early to tell. HDR responded that while it is too early to tell at this time, that it is a possibility. Any agreement on the issues at hand is important and the process to resolve them is also important. It was noted that FERC will consider how the group has collaborated relative to study requests and settlement agreements.

4. Issues Received to Date

Based on the request for comments, eight (8) agencies responded. The US Environmental Protection Agency (Kansas City Regional Office) responded that they had no comments at this time. A summary of the agency issues identified prior to the meeting is included in the presentation handout. Additionally, specific comment letters received from US Fish & Wildlife Service/NE Game & Parks, NE Department of Natural Resources, and US Geological Survey are attached.

5. Issues Discussion

Each agency was asked to provide a discussion of their comments:

- National Park Service – Agency authority for participation in relicensing is provided through the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act and Section 10A of the Federal Power Act. The NPS provided six issues:
 - Recreation – land and water based. Land recreation issues are focused on trails, outdoor recreation opportunities, fishing, and camping (interest to improve/expand existing). Water based recreation issues are focused on opportunities for canoeing/boating.
 - Land Use – issues relate primarily to access points to recreational facilities and conflict/opportunity points with adjacent land uses.
 - Aesthetics – aesthetics can cover the whole spectrum of analysis. NPS noted that this will be one area where the level of analysis needs to be discussed as a group prior to submittal of the PAD.

- Natural Resources – NPS is an agency within the Department of Interior and thus has interest in natural resource impacts.
 - Stakeholders/NGOs – NPS is interested in input from these groups.
 - Project Operations – Flows and how project operation affects the above listed interests. NPS noted this area was not a major interest, but is considered.
 - The District asked if NPS would be detailing more specific issues. NPS said they would and that the tour of the facilities will be of help in that regard.
- United States Geologic Survey (USGS) – The USGS has no regulatory authority on the Project. However, they have a responsibility as a technical resource to the Department of Interior to provide technical information and to ensure that good science is applied. The questions the USGS have relative to the Project are related to (specific issues questions are attached):
 - Water temperature changes in the Loup River bypassed reach and in the Platte River below the return point
 - Sediment budget in the bypassed reach and below the discharge point – how much sediment is removed and how does that affect the Loup River and once returned, how does that affect the Platte River?
 - Effects from hydrocycling – have enough studies been done to know the effects on sand bar characteristics and longevity, change in sediment moisture and its effect on water content in sand bars, vegetation composition, and erosion.
 - Habitat connectivity
 - Effects on in-channel vegetation – does hydrocycling effect soil moisture regime and its implications on nesting habitat? Does removal of water in the Loup River by-pass reach effect woodland expansion/species composition? How does hydrocycling after a natural high or low-water event effect plant establishment?

HDR inquired about USGS studies that might be of some assistance in beginning to look at how to address their questions. USGS identified that they currently monitor turbidity and temperature at the gauge at Louisville (since 2002). No studies have been performed to date on temperature.

- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) & Nebraska Game and Parks Commission (NGPC) – The USFWS has authorities under the Endangered Species Act, the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act, the National Environmental Policy Act, the Migratory Bird Treaty Act, and other federal policies and procedures. The NGPC has authorities under the Non-game and Endangered Species Conservation Act. The USFWS works closely with the NGPC through the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act and prepared a single list of issues (attached)

The USFWS and NGPC provided a list of seven (7) issues, concerns, and related questions relative to the Project, copies were provided to attendees (list attached). Each item was not discussed in detail but summarized:

- Flow depletions on the Loup River below Genoa – diversion effect on sandbars and tern/plover habitat; low flow effects on fish migration, water temperature, fish kills
- Flow depletion above the diversion – lack of water upstream and water rights. The question was asked if Loup Power District can sell credits/water rights to upstream users. It was noted that the District does not have the authority to sell water rights; however, through preference (agriculture over industry) and under low flow conditions, upstream irrigators receive water before the District. A negotiated interference agreement exists which provides for irrigators to compensate the District for the equivalent power generation lost due to water use for irrigation. The District has no control over the appropriations. It was noted that upstream water appropriation issues that are not within the District's control are not part of the relicensing project.
- Flow depletions on the Platte River – concerns relate to evaporation from the District's Power Canal/Regulating Reservoirs and losses due to irrigation along the canal.

- Sediment-deprived flows – effect sediment removal has on downstream sandbar creation.
- Dredging operations at the settling basin – effects on tern and plover nests and fish entrainment/stranding.
- Hydrocycling – effect of daily stage changes on tern/plover nests, loss of nesting and foraging habitat, erosion of sandbars, fish passage and thermal stress.
- Recreational benefits – impediments to fish passage in the Power Canal, access to facilities and camping. It was noted that Section 10(J) was still part of the relicensing process.

The NGPC added that the Project does provide some very good recreation resources and that they have had a good working relationship with the District relative to maintenance timing and flow releases. They added that some items needed a closer look, such as impediments to fish passage, the Diversion Weir as a potential barrier to fish passage and that they don't have a good handle on how this affects fish.

The comment was made that the positive benefits of the Project should be mentioned, such as increased water surface area, recreation, lakes, wetlands via seepage in some areas. It was acknowledged that there are some good benefits and that the issues raised by the USFWS and NGPC were questions that they have and some of the issues may become non-issues pending studies or subsequent information.

USFWS noted that they expect this Project to require formal consultation (under Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act).

HDR noted that some of the comments appear to be written as if considering a new construction project. However, this is a relicensing of an existing project. The process is not intended to go back to look at situations prior to the project being constructed. However, it was also noted that the relicensing action may result in a change in operations and the process will evaluate how would this could affect resources.

NGPC also noted that the river otter historically occurred in the Loup River Basin and the impact to this species is unknown.

- Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality (NDEQ) – NDEQ's authority is provided under administering the Section 401 water quality certification as part of the Clean Water Act. However, the conditions they have authority on relate only to water quality. They need to determine if there is a discharge of pollution that affects water quality. There have been a few fish kills reported, but they were determined to be disease related. Lake Babcock is currently on the impairments list (low priority) to have a TMDL established. They are obligated to coordinate with NGPC to make sure no NDEQ action affects state non-game or endangered species. The question was asked relative to placing dredged material back into the Loup River (for added sediment). NDEQ commented that that would be a Section 404 issue. It was also noted that the other item to consider under this scenario is the ability of the bypassed reach flow to carry the sediment.
- Nebraska Department of Natural Resources (DNR) – The DNR is involved in the Project through the appropriation for the diversion (1934*) and a permit for power generation. The DNR commented that the District does not hold a storage permit; however, power companies are allowed to store water for 24 hours to build up head for generation. Water rights are determined through age of appropriations (first in time) and preference. A higher preference (domestic, irrigation, industry) allows for water from a junior appropriation to be satisfied before a senior appropriation, but the junior water right must compensate the senior water right holder for its loss of water. DNR noted an issue for the District to consider is the possibility that, if there are enough requests for water with higher preference, will enough be left for power generation?

Another concern of the DNR is that the District is charging different amounts for compensation for loss of water from the canal verses requests for water upstream from the diversion. This shouldn't be a problem as long as the amount is less than the just compensation amount.

DNR speculated that the District is in a unique situation where it has a canal that is acting as a river. DNR questioned under what agreements were adjacent property owners accessing the canal. DNR noted that the District could potentially decide not to grant irrigators access to get water out of the canal. The District noted that all District properties (with some exceptions for public safety) are publicly accessible. Another DNR concern is that irrigators who get water from the canal are using an appropriation from a 1934* permit, even though their water right may be younger than other permits along the bypass reach.

Another concern of the DNR is - what happens to irrigators if water in the canal is down and they can't get water? All irrigators from the canal are adjacent to District property, and the ability to use the canal water for irrigation is provided through an agreement or easement that provides access to the irrigators. This access is allowed under the existing FERC license (access to water is only provided if the requestor has a water right from the State). The agreement between the irrigators and the District grants the ability to pump water, but there is no guarantee of water being in the canal. It was also noted that the DNR issues priority shut-off notices to irrigators in times of water shortage.

There are 78 diversion points and 42 irrigators on the Loup Power Canal. The District noted that there is a meter on every irrigation pump. These meters are checked at the beginning and end of the irrigation season. On the Loup River, the DNR has done the pump inspections for 55 years. The District will take over this task in 2009. Pumping books are used to check appropriations.

Waters of the State was also discussed. All water in Nebraska is considered to be in the public trust and a water of the state. The DEQ uses the definition of waters of the State as defined by the legislature and provides added definition per their regulations. The Power Canal has defined stream segments and is not unique in this regard as being considered a waters of the State. These segments clearly differentiate the Power Canal from the Loup River bypassed reach.

**Per DNR water right application A-2287, Priority Date of 1932.*

- Lower Loup Natural Resources District – Their only concern/issue noted was the issue of appropriations in the Loup River Basin.
- Nebraska Public Power District – Their primary issue is that, under the new FERC license, Loup Power District retains the operational flexibility to the follow fluctuations in power demand (hydrocycling). They also stressed the importance of basing relicensing decisions on good science.
- Health and Human Services – Their issues/concerns are related to public drinking water supply. There are a number of supplies in the basin which become an appropriations issue. They have seen an increase in lake front developments and they need to consider how supply and overall quality and quantity of drinking water sources are affected.

Issue Categories

The issues were grouped into basic categories:

- Sediment Budget
- Hydrocycling
- Flow Depletions
- Project Maintenance and Operations (timing)

- Recreation/Land Use/Aesthetics
- Threatened and Endangered Species Habitat
- Water Rights/Appropriations

The formation of working groups was discussed - it was decided that the majority of the issues are interrelated and cannot be broken into working groups. Two working groups were identified: 1) Recreation/Land Use/Aesthetics and 2) Water Rights and Appropriations. Members of working groups were established (see attached).

The working groups will discuss categorical issues and to help define the questions/issues that are to be answered. The intent of the working groups was discussed as a way to have smaller groups address the issues and report back to the larger group.

USFWS noted that it would need to maintain some autonomy due to Section 7 Consultation.

6. Next Steps

Data Request

Agencies were requested to provide data that they may have relative to the Project and the issues identified. The purpose of providing this information is to allow the District to determine data gaps and will relate to the need for studies.

- NDEQ will provide information relative to fish kills.
- USFWS will review its information to determine what can be provided.
- NGPC will look for information available on the lower Loup River.

Study Needs and Requests

The District requested that agencies begin to formulate study needs that may be necessary to address the issues and concerns identified by the agencies and forward that information to HDR as soon as possible. When developing study needs and requests, agencies should keep in mind the seven (7) criteria FERC uses to assess study viability. At this point it is not necessary for agencies to address every item of the FERC criteria, the intent of the request is to consider what kind of information can be used to address the defined issues/concerns. The District is interested in collaboration on study requests, to the extent the agencies wish. Studies should focus on specific project related issues.

Eventually the FERC criteria will be used to determine which studies the District (as the applicant) will perform. There will be additional opportunities to introduce study requests after the PAD is submitted and during the FERC scoping process. A Study Plan will be developed in 2009 that must be approved by FERC.

USFWS asked what flexibility the District has in changing project operations and addressing the issues and noted that there will need to be an alternatives analysis under NEPA. HDR noted that the issue of flexibility is still too early to address, as of now, we have a list of issues/concerns and multiple assumptions of impacts. HDR noted that, as the studies are conducted, the data is reported and may result in alteration of some studies and that some studies may include testing of ways to mitigate impacts.

The USFWS noted that the Section 7 Consultation process may also require studies to be performed.

The next agency meeting is scheduled for July 24, 2008 from 9:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at the Holiday Inn Express in Columbus, Nebraska to discuss study needs and requests. Prior to that meeting, HDR and the District may contact agencies for further clarification of issues and to request data.

Action Items:

Who	Task	Date Assigned
All Agencies	Identify preliminary study needs and requests.	6/25/08
Recreation/Land Use/Aesthetics Working Group	Coordinate and determine date/time for conference call meeting	6/25/08
Water Rights/Appropriations Working Group	Coordinate and determine date/time for conference call meeting	6/25/08
NPS	Further definition of issues.	6/25/08
USFWS	Review available information to provide to the District relative to threatened and endangered species.	6/25/08
NGPC	Information available on the Lower Loup River	6/25/08
NDEQ	Provide the District with information on fish kill reports.	6/25/08

Next Meeting:

What: Potential Studies Discussion
When: Thursday, July 24, 2008: 9:00 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. Lunch will be provided
Where: Holiday Inn Express, 524 E 23rd St, Columbus, NE 68601 (402) 564-2566
RSVP: On or before Friday, July 18, 2008 to Matt Pillard, matt.pillard@hdrinc.com or 402-399-1186

The purpose of the meeting is to discuss the potential studies to be performed to address Project related issues.



Agency Meeting Attendees
June 25, 2008
10:00 AM to 2:00 PM

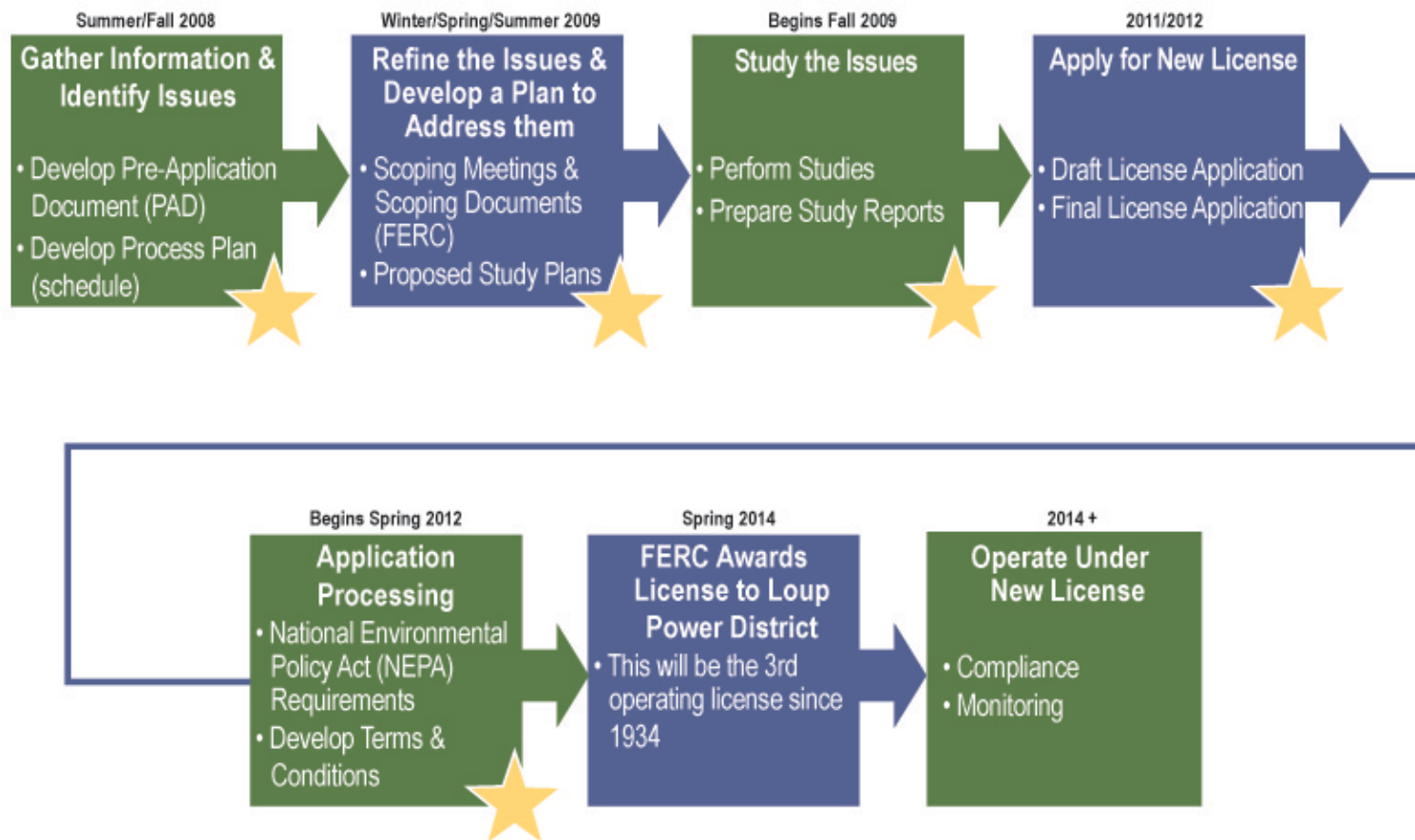
Last Name	First Name	Agency / Organization
Albrecht	Frank	Nebraska Game and Parks
Alexander	Jason	United States Geological Survey
Angell	Jean	Nebraska Department of Natural Resources
Bender	John	Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality
Cochnar	John	United States Fish and Wildlife Service
Engelbert	Pat	HDR
Frear	Jim	Loup Power District
Harms	Bob	United States Fish and Wildlife Service
Jundt	David	Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services; Division of Public Health
Mangiamelli	Joe	City of Columbus
Mohler	Robert	Lower Loup Natural Resources District
Pillard	Matt	HDR
Richardson	Lisa	HDR
Runge	Jeff	United States Fish and Wildlife Service
Santin	Henry	Nance County Supervisors
Shadle	John	Nebraska Public Power District



Last Name	First Name	Agency / Organization
Sigler	Bill	HDR
Soenksen	Phil	United States Geological Survey
Stoner	Kristal	Nebraska Game and Parks
Sunneberg	Jon	Nebraska Public Power District
Tacha	Martha	United States Fish and Wildlife Service
Thoreson	Randy	National Park Service
Tunink	Dave	Nebraska Game and Parks
Waldow	George	HDR
Weekley	Mark	National Park Service
White	Stephanie	HDR
Zelt	Ronald	United States Geological Survey; Nebraska Water Science Center
Ziola	Ron	Loup Power District
Zuerlein	Gene	Nebraska Game and Parks



What is the Relicensing Process and Timeline?



★ Includes Public Comment Opportunities

**Preliminary Concerns,
Loup Power District Relicensing**

**U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Nebraska Game and Parks Commission
June 25, 2008**

1) Flow depletion on the Loup River below the diversion at Genoa. Affected resources include:

- a) diminished peak flows affecting sand bar suitability for nesting and foraging piping plover and least tern;
- b) increased susceptibility of invasive and/or woody plant species becoming established on sandbar habitats;
- c) water diversion for hydropower, irrigation, and any associated evaporation from the Loup River may increase susceptibility of land-based predation due to shallow water in channels affecting least tern and piping plover;
- d) water diversion from the Loup River may increase human disturbance which may affect nest initiation and/or abandonment for the least tern and piping plover;
- e) water diversion from the Loup River may lower production of invertebrates and fish affecting food availability for the least tern, piping plover, Tier 1 species, and other riverine fish and wildlife species;
- f) low flows affecting fish movement/migration;
- g) water diversion from the Loup River will increase probability of fish kills due to stranding of fish in pools and increased water temperatures;
- h) loss and/or degradation of adjacent wetland habitats connected to the river via groundwater; and
- i) narrow channels could result in vegetative encroachment.

2) Flow depletion on the Loup River above the diversion at Genoa due to potential sales of water rights to other upstream water users. Affected resources include:

- a) diminished peak flows affecting sand bar suitability for nesting and foraging piping plover and least tern;
- b) increased susceptibility of invasive and/or woody plant species becoming established on sandbar habitats;

c) water withdrawals for other uses on the Loup River may increase susceptibility of land based predation due to shallow water in channels affecting least tern and piping plover;

d) water withdrawals from the Loup River may increase human disturbance which may affect nest initiation and/or abandonment for the least tern and piping plover;

e) water withdrawals from the Loup River may lower production of invertebrates and fish affecting food availability for the least tern, piping plover, Tier 1 species, and other riverine fish and wildlife species;

f) low flows affecting fish movement/migration;

g) water withdrawals from the Loup River will increase probability of fish kills due to stranding of fish in pools and increased water temperatures;

h) loss and/or degradation of adjacent wetland habitats connected to the river via groundwater; and

i) narrower channels could result in vegetative encroachment.

3) Flow depletion on the Platte River system from: a) evaporative losses within the power canal system, and b) withdrawal of water from canal for irrigation uses. Affected resources include:

a) diminished peak flows affecting sand bar suitability for nesting piping plover and least tern;

b) reduced production of invertebrates and fish potentially affecting food availability for the least tern, piping plover, pallid sturgeon, Tier 1 species, and other riverine fish and wildlife resources;

c) reduced flows affecting pallid sturgeon migration/movement;

d) increased susceptibility of invasive and/or woody plant species becoming established on sandbar habitats;

e) potential impact on spawning cues for pallid sturgeon, catfish, sauger, and other river fish;

f) loss and/or degradation of adjacent wetland habitats connected to the river via groundwater;

g) narrower channels could result in vegetative encroachment; and

h) thermal stress on fish.

4) Sediment-deprived flow that is discharged from the tailrace into the Platte River may have the following impacts:

a) reduced sandbar formation/maintenance for least tern, piping plover nesting and foraging habitats and

b) channel degradation resulting in disconnected side-channels, backwaters, a deeper, narrower main channel, and floodplain affecting least tern, piping plover and other riverine fish and wildlife resources.

5) Dredging and discharge activities at the settling basin. Impacts include:

a) overcovering of nests with discharge on nesting least terns and piping plovers;

b) entrapment of fish on spoil pile; and

c) entrainment and mortality of fish during dredging operations.

6) Hydrocycling. Affected resources include:

a) inundation of sandbars and loss of least tern and piping plover nests;

b) inundation of sandbars results in the loss of sandbar habitat that could have otherwise been used by least terns and piping plovers for nesting and foraging;

c) frequent daily erosion of sandbars affecting least tern and piping plover habitat needs;

d) impacts to benthic production affecting food resources for riverine fish and wildlife including listed threatened endangered species; and

e) seasonal hydrocycling impacts to pallid sturgeon and other riverine fish species affecting fish passage, stranding fish in pools, heat stress, and elevated levels of predation.

7) Recreation. Recreational benefits of the multiple use project may have degraded over the project period. Have the proposed benefit components been completed, maintained and operated, or enhanced during the project period? Affected resources include:

a) aquatic habitat for recreational fish species in storage reservoirs;

b) impediments in canal delivery system for distribution of recreational fish species;

- c) access to project property for public fishing and hunting;
- d) project operation activities resulting in fish kills within the canal and storage reservoirs;
- e) degradation of the recreational fishery due to project-related activities;
- f) a barrier to fish movement at the diversion dam; and
- g) Canal maintenance activities may affect fish.

TO: Emily Buss

RE: Issues concerning the relicensing of the Loup Public Power District with FERC.

FROM: Nebraska Department of Natural Resources

DATE: June 20, 2008

1. Nebraska law provides that waters used for irrigation have preference over waters used for manufacture of power. This means an irrigator with an appropriation junior to LPPD's appropriation may require the senior water right for power – LPPD -- to subordinate its water use. The law also provides that just compensation must be paid by an irrigator to LPPD when subordination is demanded. Just compensation is not an arbitrary amount, but an amount not greater than the cost of replacing the power which would be generated by the water so acquired. LPPD has set amounts for irrigators to take water out of priority. The rate for those irrigators taking water from the canal between the diversion on the Loup River and the power plants at Monroe and Columbus is different than the rate charged for those irrigators taking water upstream of the diversion. How does LPPD figure "just compensation"? The Power Interference Agreement states that the amount charge irrigators is not just compensation.

2. Why does LPPD allow farmers to irrigate out of its canal? The Nebraska Department of Natural Resources knows of no easements in place for those irrigators taking from the canal. LPPD appears to operate as an irrigation district, rather than a power district.

3. At times LPPD diverts most or all of the Loup River, in effect changing the channel of the river. What if an irrigator requests water be delivered out of the river downstream of the diversion point and upstream of the discharge into the Platte River, willing to pay LPPD just compensation?

4. Has LPPD considered its response in the event irrigation development continued in areas upstream of LPPD's plants to the point of making the manufacturing of electricity no longer feasible?

5. Should LPPD be allowed to divert their entire appropriation when making power with less than the entire appropriation, given that LPPD has no storage permit?

From: Philip J Soenksen [pjsoenks@usgs.gov]
Sent: Monday, June 02, 2008 1:38 PM
To: Buss, Emily D.
Cc: Neal Suess; Robert B Swanson; Richard C Wilson; rbzelt@usgs.gov; pjsoenks@usgs.gov
Subject: Re: Loup Power District: Agency Follow-up Meeting
Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Emily,

Sorry for the late response to your e-mail. Our senior staff has been scattered for the last several weeks (prior commitments out of town, 2 weeks of flooding, time off, ...), and we were not able to have the necessary discussions to respond until today. Below are those responses as per the numbering in your e-mail.

1. Primary points of contact:

Ben Dietsch, Hydrologist, bdietsch@usgs.gov, 402-328-4122 (office), 402-416-5154 (cell)
Jason Alexander, Hydrologist, jalexand@usgs.gov, 402-328-4132 (office), 402-314-7661 (cell)

2. June 11th meeting attendance:

Ben Dietsch, Jason Alexander, Ron Zelt, Phil Soenksen

3. List of NGOs:

Platte River Recovery Implementation Program, Jerry F. Kenny, Executive Director,
kennyj@headwaterscorp.com, 308-237-5728 (office), 303-514-1305 (cell)

Nebraska Airboaters Association

Suggest contacting Rodney Verhoeff, Coordinator for the Lower Platte River Corridor Alliance to get more NGOs (he was out when I called today)

RVerhoeff@lpsnrd.org, 402-476-2729 (office at LPS NRD), 402-429-0334 (cell)

4. Preliminary list of issues/concerns: As a non-regulatory science agency, we do not, in a sense, have issues/concerns of our own; but rather, we seek to provide the necessary good science information to help answer such issues/concerns for others. That being said, below is a list of general scientific inquiries that might be of interest.

Effects of LPD operations on water temperature in lower Loup and lower Platte Rivers (implications for aquatic biota)

Effects of LPD operations on sediment budget below the tailrace canal outfall (implications for in-channel sources)

Effects of LPD operations (especially hydropeaking) on sandbar elevations (implications for aquatic biota)

Effects of LPD operations on hydraulic habitat connectivity and distribution (implications for aquatic biota)

Effects of LPD operations on in-channel vegetation extent and composition (implications for woodland expansion and invasive species)

Phil Soenksen
Chief, Hydrologic Data Section
USGS Nebraska Water Science Center
402-328-4150
pjsoenks@usgs.gov
<http://ne.water.usgs.gov>



Loup Power District
Hydroelectric Relicense Project
Recreation/Land Use/Aesthetics Work Group Contact List

First Name	Last Name	Organization	Address 1	Address 2	City	State	Zip Code	Phone	Fax	E-Mail
Randy	Thoreson	National Park Service Field Office	111 E. Kellogg Blvd., Suite 105		St. Paul	MN	55101- 1256	1-651- 290-3004	1-651- 290- 3815	randy_thoreson@nps.gov
Dave	Tunink	Nebraska Game and Parks Commission	2201 North 13th		Norfolk	NE	68701	1-402 471-5553		Dave.Tunink@ngpc.ne.gov
Henry	Santin Jr.	Nance County	209 Esther St		Fullerton	NE	68638	1-308- 894-5495		santin@hamilton.net
Bob	Harms	United States Fish and Wildlife Service	Federal Building	203 West Second Street	Grand Island	NE	68801	1-308- 382-6468 ext. 17		robert_harms@fws.gov
Matt	Pillard	HDR Engineering, Inc.	8404 Indian Hills Drive		Omaha	NE	68114- 4049	402-399- 1186		matt.pillard@hdrinc.com
Ron	Ziola	Loup Power District	P.O. Box 988	2404 15th Street	Columbus	NE	68602- 0988	402-564- 3171 ext. 254		rziola@loup.com



Loup Power District
Hydroelectric Relicense Project
Water Rights Work Group Contact List

First Name	Last Name	Organization	Address 1	Address 2	City	State	Zip Code	Phone	Fax	E-Mail
Jean	Angell	Nebraska Department of Natural Resources	State Office Building, 4th Floor	300 Centennial Mall South; P.O. Box 4676	Lincoln	NE	68509-4676	1-404-471-3931	1-402-471-2900	jangell@dnr.ne.gov
Bob	Harms	United States Fish and Wildlife Service	Federal Building	203 West Second Street	Grand Island	NE	68801	1-308-382-6468 ext. 17		robert_harms@fws.gov
Phil	Soenksen	U.S. Geologic Survey	5231 South 19th		Lincoln	NE	68512-1271	1-402 328-4150		pjsoenks@usgs.gov
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