

Relicensing the Loup River Hydroelectric Project

Agency Orientation

May 7, 2008

Columbus, Nebraska

The logo for the Loup Power District Hydro Project is located in the bottom right corner. It features a stylized graphic of three curved lines in shades of green and blue, resembling a wave or a dam structure. Below this graphic, the text "Loup Power District" is written in a smaller font, and "Hydro Project" is written in a larger, bold font.

Loup Power District
Hydro Project

Welcome and Introductions

- Relicensing Team
 - Loup Power District
 - HDR
- Agency Representatives

Meeting Objectives

- Introduce participants to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) hydro license process
- Explain the license process and schedule
- Establish points of contact
- Initiate a collaborative relationship

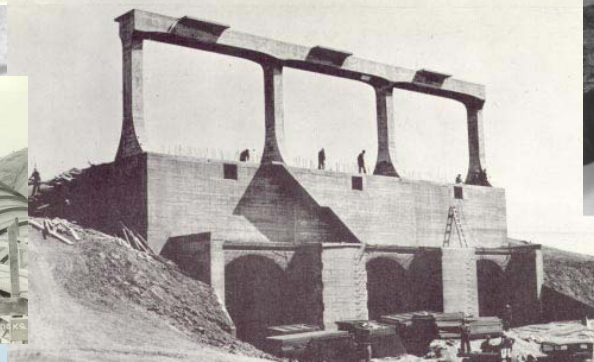
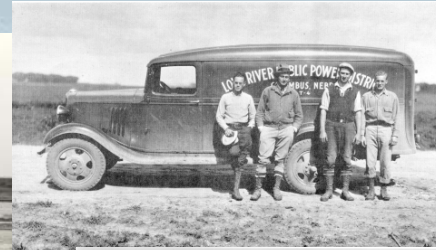
Today's Agenda

- The History of Loup Power District (Neal)
- Loup Hydro Facilities & Operation (Neal)
- FERC Licensing Process (George)
- The Role of the Agencies (Neal)
- Next Steps (Neal)

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- I. The History of Loup Power District
- II. Loup Hydro Facilities & Operations
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- V. Next Steps

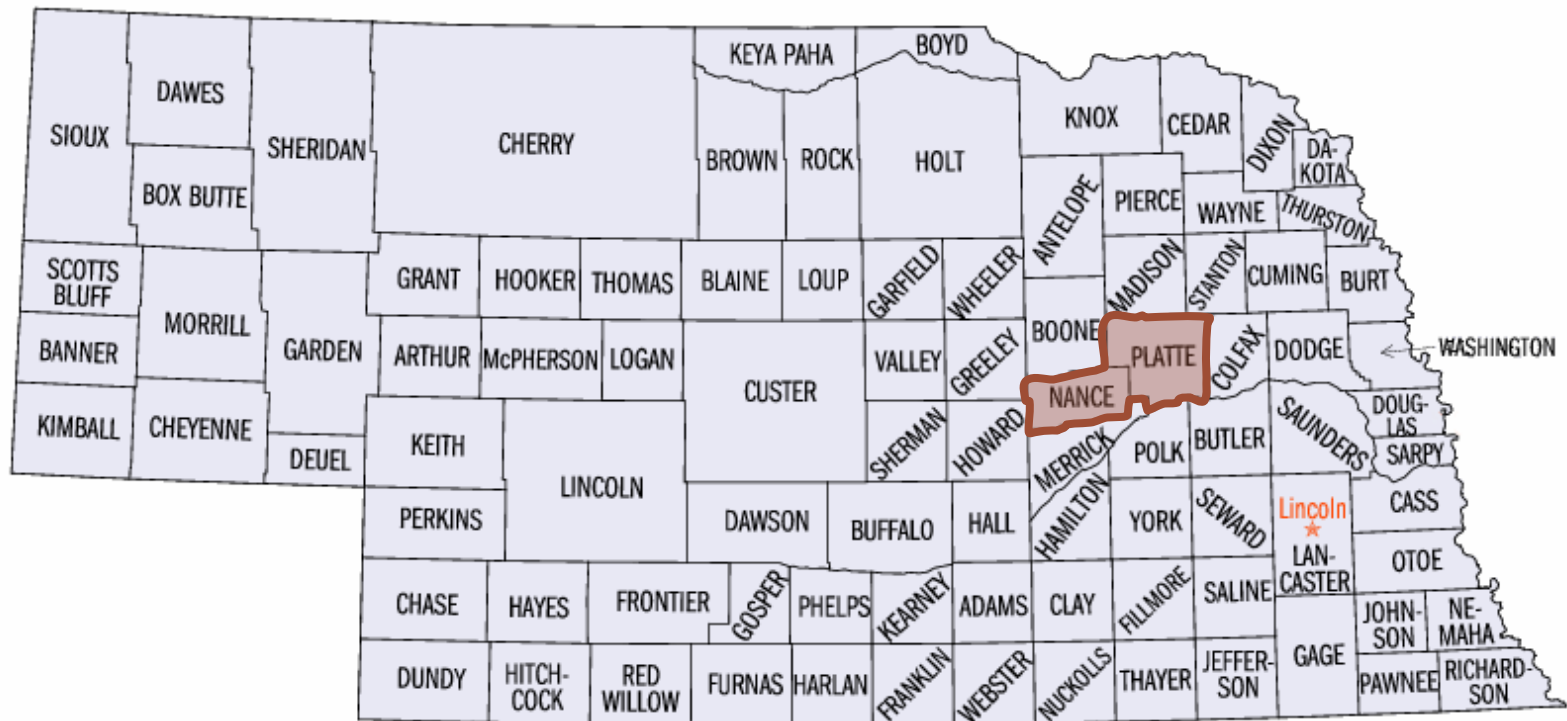
History of Loup Power District 1933-2008



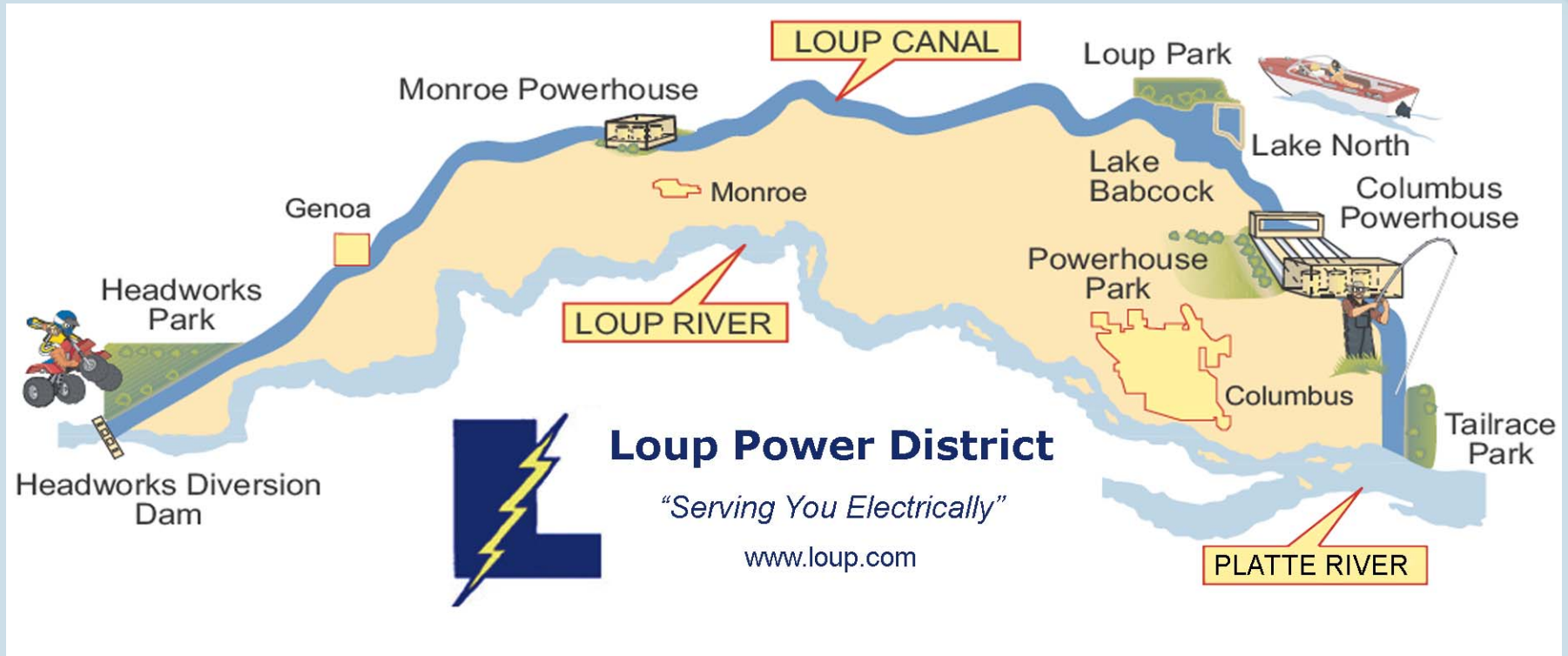
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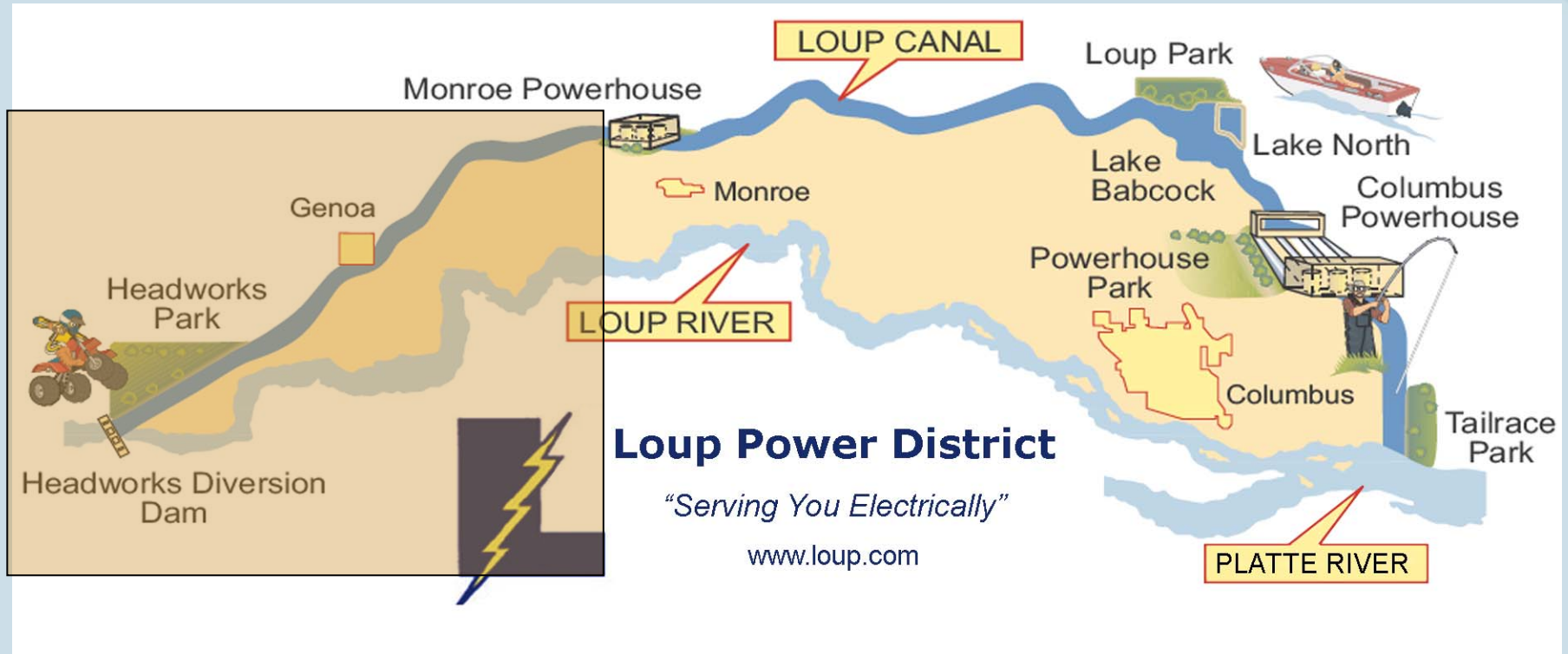
Loup Hydro Facilities



Loup Hydroelectric Project



Loup Hydroelectric Project



Genoa Headworks



Inlet Structure



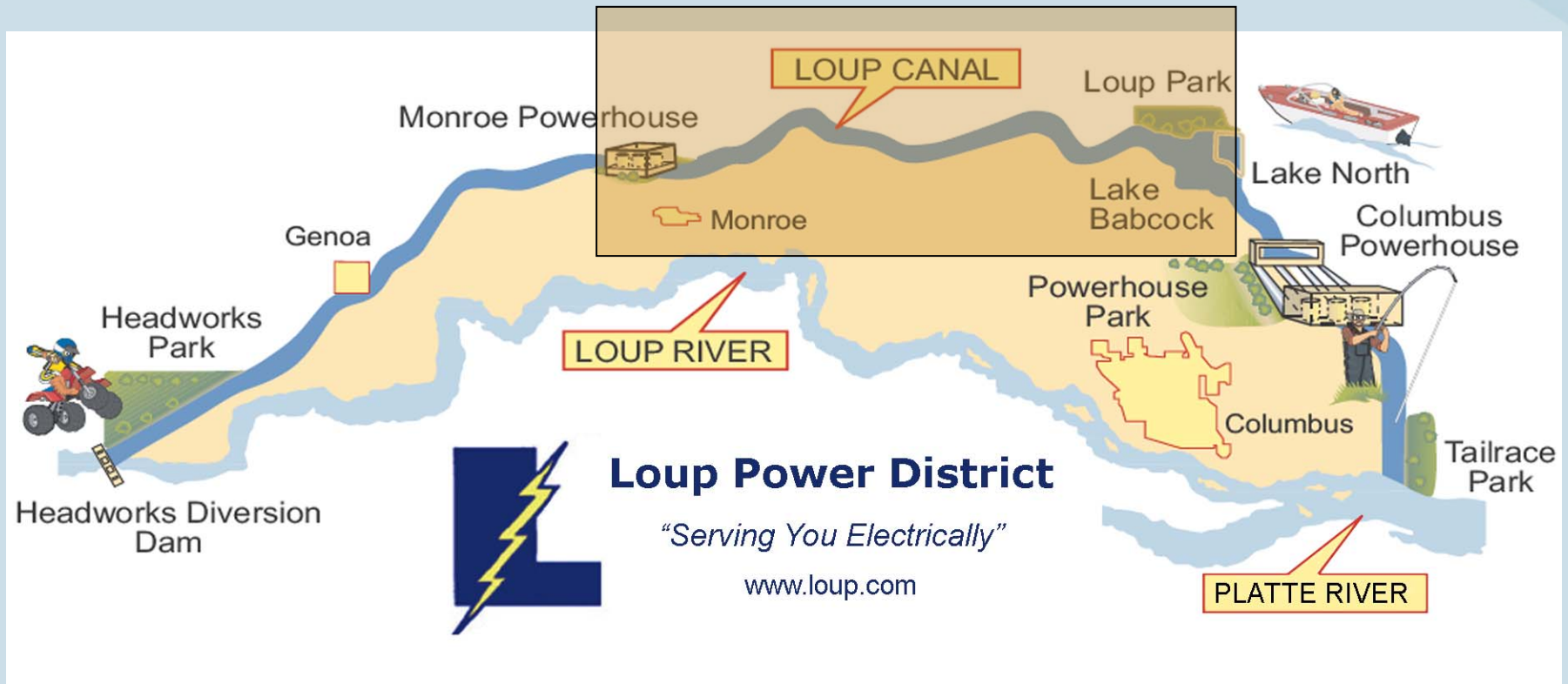
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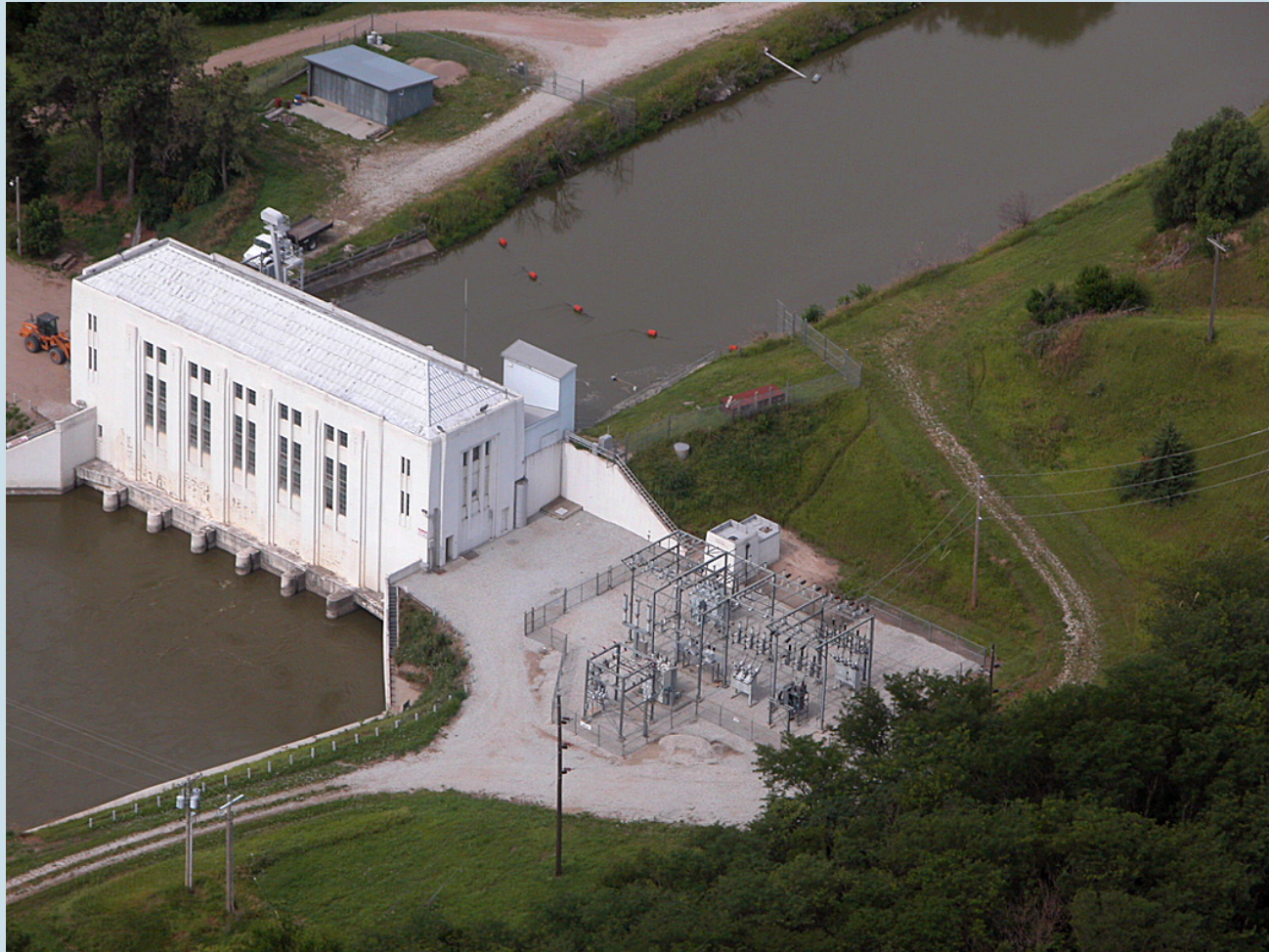
Dredge



Loup Hydroelectric Project



Monroe Power House



Loup Hydroelectric Project



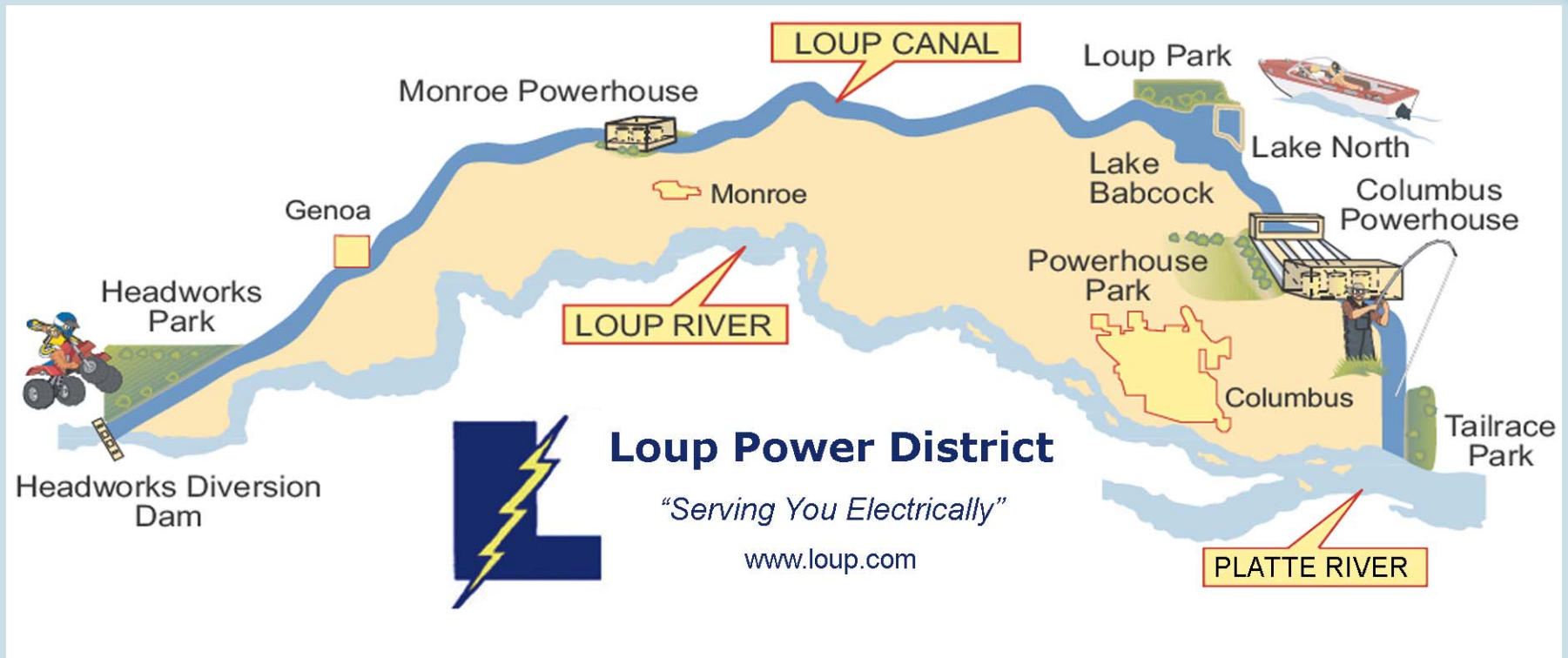
Columbus Power House



Outlet Weir at Platte River



Loup Hydroelectric Project



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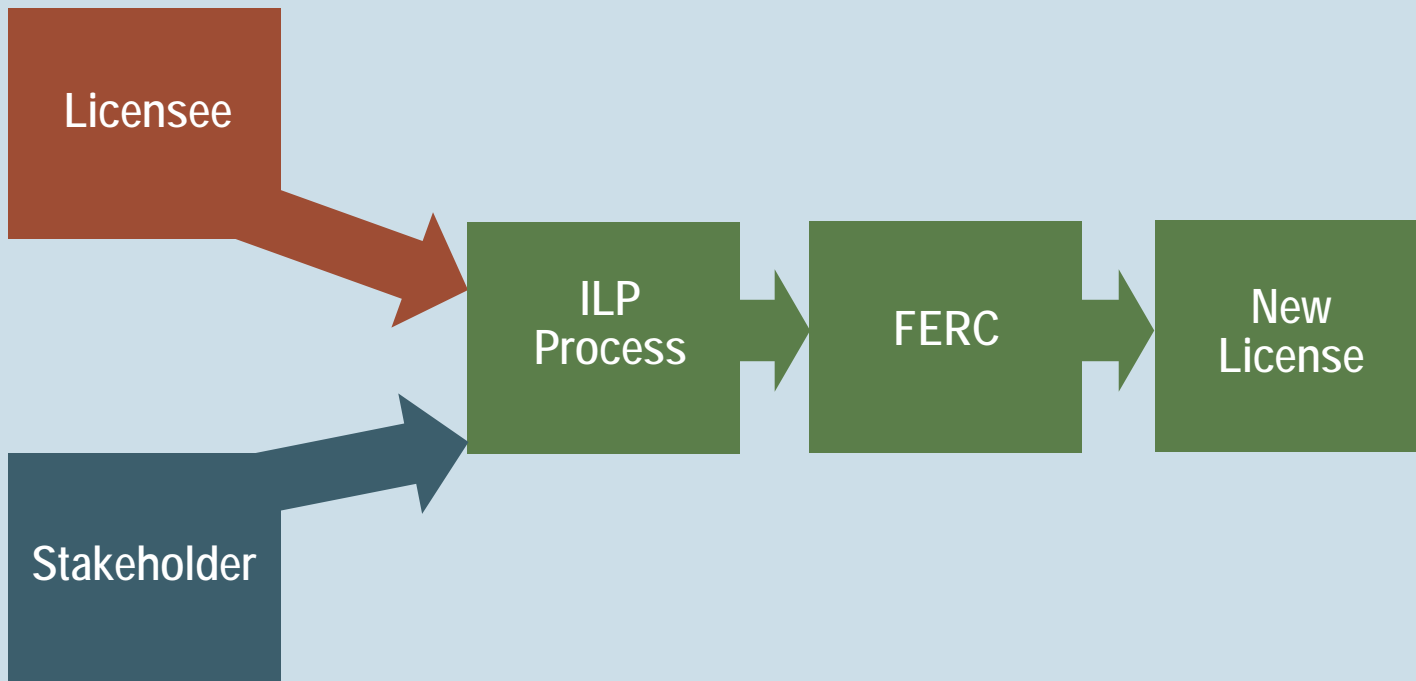
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FERC Licensing Process

- A precise regulatory process
- Provides a predictable, efficient, and timely license process
- Endeavors to balance project operations with appropriate resource protection



Integrated Licensee and Stakeholder Interests

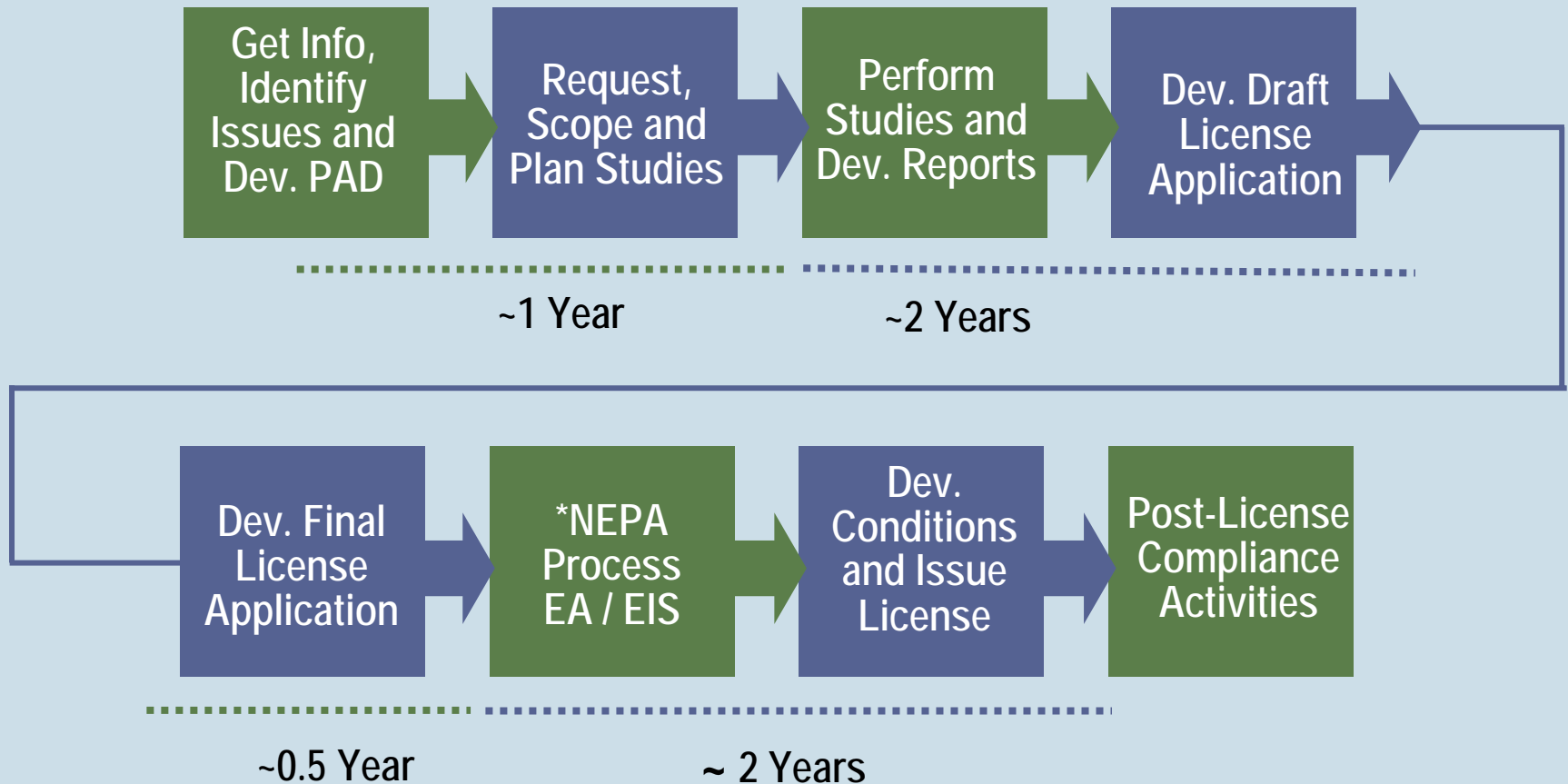


Key Elements of the ILP

- Pre-Application Document (PAD)
- Process Plan and schedule
- Early scoping and study plan (study criteria)
- Approved study plan
- Studies and feedback
- Settlement agreements
- Preliminary licensing proposal



Integrated Licensing Process (Simplified)



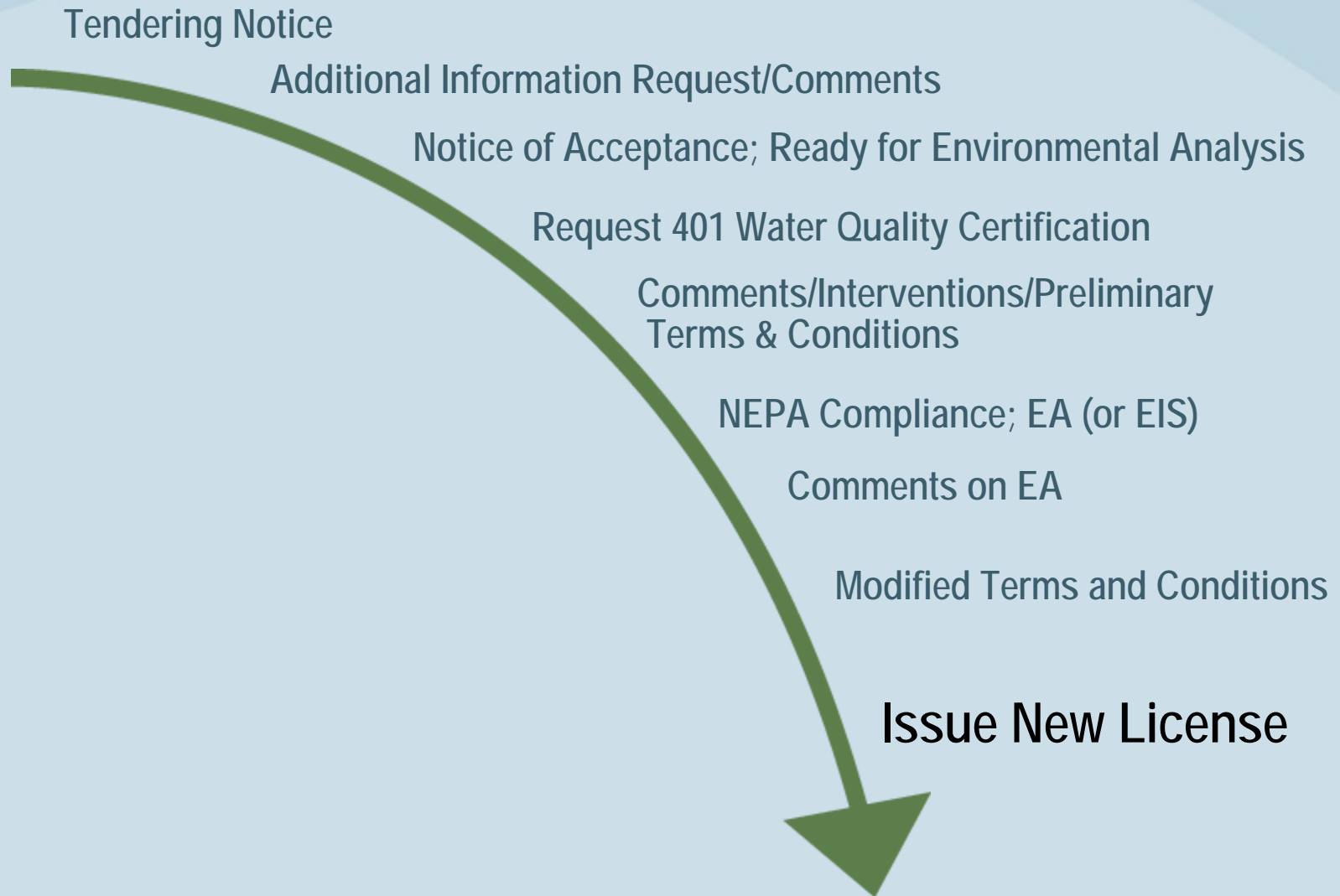
Preliminary Licensing Proposal

- Due 2 years, 150 days prior to license expiration date
- Draft license application optional
- Existing and proposed facilities, operation, and environmental measures
- Includes draft environmental analysis

Final License Application

- Application must be filed 2 years before expiration date of existing license
- Includes formal exhibits, study results, record of consultation, any settlements agreements, proposed environmental protection and mitigation measures

Post-Filing Activity (~2 Years)



Loup Power District's Relicensing Goal

To reach comprehensive agreement on relevant issues and incorporate into a timely license application

Objectives:

- Provide opportunities for meaningful stakeholder involvement.
- Address impacts related to Project operations with sustainable solutions.
- Retain economic viability, operating flexibility and public benefit of the Project.

Advance Preparation Activities

- Identify agencies and other potential stakeholders
- Contact agencies / stakeholders for relevant data
- Assemble available information
- Identify agencies / stakeholders concerns and process needs
- Establish collaborative working relationships
- Define study needs / requests
- Prepare the PAD



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The Role of the Agencies:

Why are we here today?

- Learn about the FERC license process
- Understand agency responsibilities / opportunities
- Consider your agency's role
- Identify key contacts and open lines of communication

Get Involved Early, Stay Involved and be Prepared

The Role of the Agencies:

Where are we headed?

- Assist Loup Power District in gathering relevant information
- Become involved in the ILP process
- Identify concerns and study needs
- Participate in study scoping process

The Role of the Agencies:

How will we accomplish this?

- Dedicate the necessary time and resources
- Work collaboratively and with diligence
- Establish focused working groups
- Follow the seven study criteria
- Cooperate to optimize study efforts
- Creatively seek win-win solutions

Advantages of Working Groups

- Subset of parties sharing common interests / concerns
- Represents a larger stakeholder group
- Expertise to focus on specific issues
- Logistics and coordination are simplified
- Improved opportunity to reach agreements
- Can efficiently interface with other work groups

Comment and Feedback Opportunities

- Collaboration prior to and following the PAD
- Formal comments:
 - at scoping meeting
 - on PAD and scoping documents
 - at study plan meeting
 - on study plan and revised study plan
- Informal comments during studies
- Formal comments:
 - on interim and final study reports
 - on preliminary / final license application
 - on Environmental Assessment / Environmental Impact Statement

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Next Steps

- Commit Appropriate Staff and Resources
- Assemble relevant information for PAD
- Assist Loup Power District with completing a list of potential stakeholders
- Upcoming Agency Meetings
 - Agency Follow-Up Meetings: Week of June 1
 - Follow-Up in One Week for Issues and RSVP
- Upcoming Public Meetings
 - Columbus, June 10
 - Genoa, June 11



Take Home Points

- Be aware of the license process and schedule
- Understand agency roles & responsibilities
- Commitment of necessary staff and resources
- Early indication of concerns and study needs
- Take advantage of input opportunities
 - Provide information for the PAD
 - On-going active participation throughout



Thank You!
Questions and Discussions

Integrated Licensing Process (Simplified)

