



LOUP POWER DISTRICT

"SERVING YOU ELECTRICALLY"

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Via Electronic Filing

June 3, 2010

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

Subject: Loup River Hydroelectric Project
FERC Project No. 1256
Docket P-1256-029

Dear Secretary Bose:

This letter is to notify the Commission of a delay in the data collection activities associated with the Hydrocycling and Flow Depletion/Flow Diversion studies being conducted as part of the District's relicensing effort for the Loup River Hydroelectric Project. Per the Commission's Study Plan Determination (SPD) issued August 26, 2009, the District is to collect river transects at five locations on the Loup and Platte rivers.

On May 24, 2010, the District's survey contractor's amphibious vehicle was swamped during survey activities resulting in loss of several days of survey data. Fortunately no one was injured in the accident. The survey contractor has obtained additional manpower and the survey is expected to be completed by mid June, June 30th at the latest.

The District believes that collection of the river transect data in June will not adversely affect study results. According to the SPD, "Cross-sectional measurements to calibrate the model should be done immediately prior to the nesting season (first week in May)." A review of the USGS stream gages near the Project, Loup River near Genoa, Loup River Power Canal near Genoa, and Platte River near Duncan, shows that flows have been consistently higher than the historic median flows indicating that the basin has experienced a wetter than normal spring. In addition, current (June 1 and 2) flows remain near or above the historic median flow for late April and early May. Therefore, it is anticipated that survey measurements in the next few weeks (June 1-15) will still represent the historic post-spring run off measurements envisioned in the SPD prior to the nesting season (first week in May).

In accordance with 18 CFR §5.15, the District will file its Initial Study Report on August 26, 2010 and conduct a meeting to discuss initial study results on September 9, 2010. Additionally, the District will file a second Initial Study Report in January 2011 for studies requiring data collection in fall 2010. The District will document this variance from the SPD in the Initial Study Reports and at the initial study results meetings.

If you have any questions regarding this letter, please contact me at (402) 564-3171 ext. 268.

Respectfully submitted,

Neal D. Suess
President/CEO
Loup Power District