



BOARD OF LIGHT AND POWER

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DAVID E. HICKEY
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

February 12, 2004

Mr. Constantine G. Tjoumas PJ-13
Director, Division of Dam Safety and Inspections
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
888 First St., N.E.
Washington, D.C. 20426

Dear Mr. Tjoumas:

Thank you for the opportunity to offer the Marquette Board of Light and Power's comments to both the draft Independent Consultant's Report and the FERC Staff Report on the Silver Lake fuse plug breach, May 14, 2003. These reports describe the May Dead River flood event and its consequences. The damage done at the Marquette Board of Light and Power's Tourist Park Dam is also a consequence of the flood. The dam performed as predicted during this flood event.

The Independent Consultant's Report, Section 3.6.5, states that debris from the Tourist Park dam carried downstream and damaged the Presque Isle Power Plant. The debris that washed into the power plant and Lake Superior came from both upstream and downstream of the Tourist Park Dam as well as the natural abutment adjacent to the dam and the portion of the dam's earthen embankment that was washed away.

The FERC Staff Report, Section IX, Page 84, states that waters from the Tourist Park Dam resulted in flooding and shutting down the Presque Isle Power Plant. The waters that shut down the power plant came from Silver Lake. During a flood of 5,000 CFS, the failure of the Tourist Park dam results in a projected water elevation of less than 606.8 NGVD at the Presque Isle Power Plant while the plant elevation has been reported at approximately 612 NGVD.

Again, thank you for the opportunity to offer comments to the FERC Independent Consultant's Report and the FERC staff report.

Very truly yours,

David E. Hickey,
Executive Director