



NEWS YOU CAN USE

August 18, 2020

SECORD LAKE ASSOCIATION

www.secdlakeassociation.org

There were 2 interesting additions to the FERC eLibrary yesterday pertaining to Secord Dam / Lake.

- 1) Boyce Hydro issued a letter to FERC that appears to seek a pre-approval in order to submit a formal plan. The letter reads in part, “Attached please find preliminary design drawings for the repair of erosion at the right (west) retaining wall for the Secord Dam. This is being submitted to FERC under CEII (Critical Energy Infrastructure Information). These drawings are submitted for FERC review and comment prior to finalizing formal submittal documents (Design Report, TCEAP, QCIP, etc.). **FERC pre-approval of the design is requested so limited financial resources (being administered by the Bankruptcy court) are not wasted.** Once the preliminary design comments from FERC are received, it is estimated that two weeks will be required to complete the formal submittal”.

In addition to this request, Boyce Hydro has **2 key deadlines** this week to respond to requirements from FERC. **This Thursday, the follow up to the 8-page Secord Dam Emergency Inspection Report from June 25, 2020 is due. This includes 21+ plus action items outlined in this report.**

This Friday Boyce Hydro needs to respond to the spillway capacity design prepared and paid by FLTF on behalf of Boyce Hydro submitted in April 2020. FERC writes: “As the licensee, you (Boyce Hydro) are responsible for the maintenance and safe operation of this project. While we have started review of this report, you must indicate your position on the design package and identify your intention with respect to the proposed spillway improvements. If you propose to employ GEI as the designer, you must include a statement from GEI saying they agree with this arrangement. You must also provide an updated plan and schedule to complete the design and perform the spillway improvements”.

- 2) The Michigan DNR issued a letter to the SLPA that includes the following clarification:

“The failure of Boyce Hydro Power, LLC (Boyce) to conduct safety inspections and complete necessary repairs is the reason that the lake remains drawn down”.

“Boyce filed a letter with FERC on July 8, 2020 that included an inspection report for the Secord Project. FERC found the inspection report **deficient** and required Boyce to provide additional information by August 20, 2020. In their letter, **FERC reiterates its position that the Secord impoundment cannot be returned to normal elevations until Boyce receives authorization from FERC.** The MDNR does not have the authority to change that directive”.

If you want to learn more, you can visit the FERC eLibrary (google search) and type Boyce Hydro into the Text Search box at the bottom of the General Search page.

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