



City of River Falls Hydroelectric Project

FERC No. P-10489

Presentation to Utility Advisory Board on March 17, 2014.

History of the River Falls Dams

- Kinnickinnic River
- Currently operates Junction Falls and Powell Falls Dams
- At one time, as many as 7 dams
- Purchased Junction Falls in 1900
- Rebuilt Powell Falls in 1966
- “Run of the River” mode
- Electricity added to power grid



Junction Falls - Upper Hydro



- Concrete Gravity Dam
- 140' Long
- Uncontrolled Overflow Spillway
- Crest Length of 115 feet

- Lake George is its reservoir
 - 16 acres
 - Normal pool elevation is 865.3 feet mean sea level

- Produced 1,118,000 kWh in 2012

Powell Falls - Lower Hydro

- Concrete Gravity Dam
- 110' Long, 22' high
- Uncontrolled Overflow Spillway
- Lake Louise is its reservoir
 - 15.4 acres
 - Normal pool elevation is 821.8 feet mean sea level
- Produced 530,000 kWh in 2012



Production/Operation Statistics

- For years 2008 – 2012 (from WPPI):
 - Total power generated from hydro: 7,031,488 kWhs
 - Average cost of purchased power: \$0.074972 per kWh
 - *Avoided cost due to hydro:* **\$527,162.79**

- For 2012 Utility Annual Report:
 - Total power needed for distribution: 119,050,000 kWhs
 - Total power purchased from WPPI: 117,402,000 kWhs
 - *Total power generated from hydro:* **1,648,000 kWhs**

 - Average cost of purchased power: \$0.081 per kWh
 - Avoided cost due to hydro: \$133,488
 - Total hydro production expenses: \$51,855
 - *Savings to Utility Customers in 2012:* **\$81,633**

Federal Relicensing Timeline

How did we get to where we are?

- November 27, 2013: Filed Notice of Intent, Pre-Application Document (PAD), and request to use Traditional Licensing Process (TLP).
- December 27, 2013: Comments by stakeholders due to FERC and City on TLP request.
- January 24, 2014: FERC approved use of TLP
- March 17, 2014: Public information session at UAB

Federal Relicensing Timeline

What happens next?

- March 24, 2014: Public Meeting and Site Visit.
- May 23, 2014: Comments by stakeholders on PAD and necessary studies for license application due to FERC and City. Comments can also include recommended study method, and studies should be forward looking.
- Early Summer 2014: Study plans finalized.

Federal Relicensing Timeline

What happens next?

- End of Summer 2015: Studies generally completed.
- January 2016: Draft License Application completed and sent to resource agencies, Indian tribes, and other interested parties for review and comment.
- April 2016: Written comments due from stakeholders.
- August 31, 2016: Final License Application due to FERC.

Federal Relicensing Timeline

What happens next?

- Once Final License Application is submitted, FERC conducts an adequacy review and accepts the application.
- FERC engages in an environmental review, seeking input from resource agencies, Indian tribes, and stakeholders. This review will determine the terms and conditions FERC will put on the new license.
- New license will be issued for September 1, 2018.

Federal Relicensing

- The City is relicensing the hydroelectric dams in response to federal regulations and our obligations as the license holder.
- Primary issues in licensing are dam safety and natural resource impacts.
- Purpose of stakeholder input in the process is to address those issues.
- www.rfcity.org/hydro
- Questions??