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](http://www.rfcity.org/hydro)

- Questions??