

BRIEF HISTORY OF BOARDMAN RIVER HYDRO PROJECT

Jan., 1978 -- Traverse City Commission and Grand Traverse County Board of Commissioners passed Joint Resolution entering into a Joint Venture for the preparation, submittal and execution of a proposal to the U.S. Department of Energy for funds for a Feasibility Assessment for renovating and/or rehabilitating one or more of five(5) existing dams on the Boardman River to provide additional hydroelectric generation capacity.

Aug., 1978 -- Entered into an Agreement with D.O.E. for funds up to \$81,896.45 for study.

Feb., 1979 -- Study completed.

Cost: D.O.E. ----- \$78,620.47
City & County ----- \$14,020.00
TOTAL \$92,640.47

The study recommended renovation of all dams for hydroelectric generation using a three-phase approach.

Phase 1: Brown Bridge - modernize switchgear and controls - no additional generation - cost, \$36,270.00

Boardman - install 970 KW of generation, switchgear, controls and line connection - cost without fish ladders, \$1,513,730.00

Sabin - install 490 KW of generation, switchgear, controls and line connection - cost without fish ladders, \$700,000.00

TOTALS for Phase 1 - new generation, 1,460 KW - cost, \$2,250,000.00

Phase 2: Union St. - install 220 KW generation, switchgear, controls and line connection - cost without fish ladders, \$1,200,000.00

Phase 3: Keystone - rebuild dam and powerhouse -
install 470 KW generation, switchgear,
controls and line connections - cost with-
out fish ladders, \$2,530,000.00

TOTALS FOR ALL PHASES: new generation, 2,150 KW -
cost without fish ladders, \$5,983,000.00 -
cost with fish ladders, \$8,773,000.00

1978 dollars

Sept., 1979 -- Applications submitted to the Federal Energy Regulating Commission for Preliminary Permits for the five(5) dams.

May, 1980 -- Preliminary Permits received.

June 1, 1980 - Traverse City Light and Power Board and the Grand Traverse County Board of Commissioners approved the agreements transferring Boardman and Sabin Dams to Light and Power for the purposes of generating electric power.

Aug., 1980 -- The environmental reports on the rehabilitation of Brown Bridge, Boardman and Sabin Dams were completed and copies submitted to State of Michigan Department of Natural Resources (DNR).

Dec., 1980 --- Applications submitted to DNR for state permits.

Feb. 18, 1981 - Traverse City Light and Power (TCLP) met with Howard Tanner, Director of DNR, in Traverse City, to discuss the fish passage issue as a preliminary step to developing a Fish Management Plan.

March, 1981 -- Discussions with DNR and other agencies and organizations regarding fish passage.

March 9, 1981- TCLP General Counsel, W. Peter Doren, met with DNR, in Lansing, to clarify fish passage issue.

March 18, 1981-TCLP Study Session was held to consider negotiating with the DNR on fish passage. A Public Comment section followed with attendance at approximately 50.

April 1, 1981--Traverse City Chamber of Commerce held a meeting of various organizations to attempt reaching some agreement on if, and how, all parties present should proceed as a whole.

Apr. 7, 1981 - TCLP Special Meeting to further consider possible negotiations with the DNR on fish passage. A Public Comment section followed with attendance at approx. 50.

Apr. 17, 1981- TCLP received the "DNR Draft Fisheries Management Plan".

- April 23, 1981 - TCLP met with DNR, in Lansing, for discussion of "Draft" copy of Fisheries Management Plan.
- Apr. 24, 1981 -- DNR Proposed Fisheries Management Plan released to public and press.
- May 5, 1981 ---- The Traverse City Light and Power Board, in conjunction with the DNR, conducted a Public Information Meeting on the DNR's Proposed Fisheries Management Plan for the Boardman River. A 75-page transcript of that meeting is available for details. Attendance was approximately 150.
- May 14, 1981 --- TCLP hired a fisheries and marine consultant to assist in evaluating some of the complex technical data being received.
- May 15, 1981 --- The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) application for exemption on Brown Bridge Dam was completed and copies mailed to DNR, FERC, and U. S. Fish and Wildlife.
- May 20, 1981 --- TCLP met with the DNR, in Lansing, to continue negotiations on fish passage, so that the DNR could prepare a "Revised Fisheries Management Plan". DNR also presented TCLP with the Boardman River Recreational Plan for Sabin, Boardman and Brown Bridge Dams. *
- May 26, 1981 --- TCLP held a Closed Session so that General Counsel could review a confidential-client communication on the legal rights to secure state and federal permits for the dams.
- May 28, 1981 --- TCLP received the "DNR Revised Fisheries Management Plan" limiting the passage of anadromous fish to the tail waters of Sabin Dam.
- June 8, 1981 --- Combined City, County, TCLP Meeting, with a DNR representative present, to discuss the DNR Recreational Plan.
- June 9, 1981 --- A Public Hearing on the DNR's Revised Fish Management Plan and their request for Light and Power construction of fish passage and recreation facilities. Attendance approximately 100.
- June 11, 1981 -- TCLP attended the Natural Resources Commission Meeting, at Higgins Lake, to formally request fish passage waivers for Sabin, Boardman, and Brown Bridge Dams.
- June 22, 1981 -- U. S. Army Corps of Engineers Safety Assessment Reports for the four (4) dams were received.
- July 8, 1981 --- TCLP Hydro Committee met to discuss the litigation and non-litigation options of the Board. Legal counsel will present a report on this later in July.

March, 1981

to

present: --- Many letters from individuals, and letters and resolutions from organizations, have been received expressing opinions (pro and con) on the DNR's Fisheries Management Plans and on the Hydroelectric Project.

Compiled by:
Light & Power Dept.
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