

State of Wisconsin
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
141 NW Barstow St.
Waukesha, WI, 53188

Tony Evers, Governor

Telephone 608-266-2621
Toll Free 1-888-936-7463
TTY Access via relay - 711



Steve Porter
Wisconsin DOT, Project Manager
[sent electronically]

08/29/2024

Dear Mr. Porter,

Thank you for working with me on your DNR permit application for a temporary change to the water level order in Jefferson County. Your application has reached its date of closure and is considered complete. Wisconsin law requires that the public be allowed an opportunity to comment on projects that are regulated under Ch. 30 and Ch 281, Wis Stats. This project does not fall under either statute, yet you have indicated that you would like to voluntarily public notice the project. This means that the next step in the permit review process is an optional Notice of Pending Application and public comment period.

The enclosed document is a "Notice of Pending Application" for your project. The Department will publish the notice on our Internet website. The 14-day period to submit written public comments will begin on the date on which the Department first publishes the notice on our Internet website.

Please call me at (262) 282-2029 or email me at Erin.Cox@wisconsin.gov if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Erin Cox
Water Management Specialist

Email CC:
Cheryl Laatsch, WDNR, FERC Coordinator
Shelley Nelson, WDNR, Transportation Liaison
Travis Schroeder, WDNR, Waterways Field Supervisor
Will Disser, WDNR, Water Management Engineer
Brian Taylor, WisDOT, Regional Environmental Coordinator

Notice of Pending Application for proposed temporary drawdown for bridge repairs

Steve Porter, Wisconsin DOT project manager has applied to the Department of Natural Resources for a permit to complete a temporary drawdown of the No. P-10117 Lower Watertown dam (FERC No. 10117). The project is on the Rock River, located at the NE ¼ of the NW ¼ of Section 04, Township 08 North, Range 15 East, City of Watertown, Jefferson County, Wisconsin.

According to the application documents and temporary drawdown plan, the need for a 4.5-foot drawdown is to complete necessary bridge repairs. Order 2-WP-81, issued December 7, 1932 by the Public Service Commission of Wisconsin, establishes the minimum level of the pond above the Lower Watertown Dam at elevation 94.06 ft., local datum, referred to Public Service Commission benchmark 267A (805.62 ft. MSL). The proposed temporary drawdown would draw water below the ordered minimum, to an elevation of 803.45 ft. MSL.

The Department will review the proposal provided by the applicant and any information from public comments. The Department will determine whether the proposal complies with ss. 1.11, and Ch 31, Wis. Stats.

The Department has made a tentative determination that it will issue the permit for the proposed activity.

If you would like to know more about this project or would like to see the application and plans, please contact Erin Cox at Erin.Cox@wisconsin.gov.

Reasonable accommodation, including the provision of informational material in an alternative format, will be provided for qualified individuals with disabilities upon request.

Any person may submit comments by emailing Erin.Cox@wisconsin.gov, over the phone at (262) 282-2029, or writing to Erin Cox, 141 NW Barstow St., Room 180, Waukesha, WI 53188 by U.S. mail. If you are submitting general comments on the proposal, they must be emailed, verbalized, or postmarked within 14 days after the date this notice is published on the Department's website.

The final decision may be appealed as indicated in the decision document.

STATE OF WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

For the Secretary

BY:

Erin Cox
Water Management Specialist

Date: 08/29/2024