

December 11, 2012

Upper Peninsula Power Company

(a subsidiary of Integrys Energy Group) 700 North Adams Street P.O. Box 19001 Green Bay, WI 54307-9001

Ms. Kimberly D. Bose, Secretary
The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
888 First Street NE
Washington, DC 20426

Dear Secretary Bose:

<u>Silver Lake Reservoir Rebuild - Temporary Nuisance Plant Control Plan</u>

Per the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) Amended and Approved Silver Lake Reservoir Rebuild – Temporary Nuisance Plant Control Plan dated November 22, 2011, the Upper Peninsula Power Company (UPPCO) is providing the final year of monitoring and control efforts report to your attention.

UPPCO conducted surveys and control of spotted knapweed for a total of 22 days: from June 25 through August 3, 2012. The location of the identified and treated spotted knapweed in 2012 is in very close proximity to the spotted knapweed locations identified in 2010 and 2011.

Although, spotted knapweed identified in 2012, was in slightly greater concentration than observed in 2011, it remains less than was observed in 2010. In addition, the plants observed were first year rosettes and did not include many mature plants as observed in the previous surveys. UPPCO attributes the increase in spotted knapweed plants to unseasonably high temperatures and lack of precipitation, both conditions more suitable to spotted knapweed than native species. Appendix A includes the 2012 spotted knapweed survey results

On August 29, 2012, UPPCO also completed surveys for purple loosestrife and garlic mustard. Neither species was identified. Purple loosestrife and garlic mustard have never been observed at the project.

The Silver Lake Reservoir Rebuild – Temporary Nuisance Plant Control Plan was created to offset invasive plant species that may have been established as a result of the construction activities in 2008. Since 2009, UPPCO has been surveying for and controlling spotted knapweed within the Silver Lake Rebuild Area. UPPCO has been successful in controlling the spread of spotted knapweed through these activities and believes overall control has been successful, as evident by the vast majority of emerging plants being first year plants.

UPPCO believes that all spotted knapweed that may have established as a result of the project has been successfully controlled by herbicide treatment.

UPPCO provided the Silver Lake Reservoir Rebuild - Temporary Nuisance Plant Control Plan Final Report to the Michigan Department of Natural Resources and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service on August 27, 2012. No comments were received. Documentation of Consultation is included in Appendix B.

Secretary Kimberly D. Bose December 11, 2012 Page 2 of 2

Should you have any questions relative to this material, please do not hesitate to call Jamie Nuthals at (920) 433-1460.

Sincerely,

Terry P. Jensky

Vice President - Generation Assets for Wisconsin Public Service

cc: Mr. Robert Meyers, UPPCO

Mr. Gil Snyder, WPS

Mr. Virgil Schlorke, UPPCO

Ms. Carlisa Linton, FERC

## APPENDIX A 2012 SURVEY RESULTS

## **APPENDIX B**

## **Documentation of Consultation**



August 27, 2012

Mr. Burr Fisher U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service East Lansing Field Office 2651 Coolidge Road East Lansing, MI 48823

Dear Mr. Fisher:

Silver Lake Reservoir Rebuild - Temporary Nuisance Plant Control Plan

Per the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) Amended and Approved Silver Lake Reservoir Rebuild – Temporary Nuisance Plant Control Plan dated November 22, 2011, the Upper Peninsula Power Company (UPPCO) is providing the final year of monitoring and control efforts report to your attention.

**Upper Peninsula Power Company** (a subsidiary of Integrys Energy Group)

700 North Adams Street P.O. Box 19001

Green Bay, WI 54307-9001

UPPCO conducted surveys and control of spotted knapweed for a total of 22 days: from June 25 through August 3, 2012. The location of the identified and treated spotted knapweed in 2012 is in very close proximity to the spotted knapweed locations identified in 2010 and 2011.

Although, spotted knapweed identified in 2012, was in slightly greater concentration than observed in 2011, it remains less than was observed in 2010. In addition, the plants observed were first year rosettes and did not include many mature plants as observed in the previous surveys. UPPCO attributes the increase in spotted knapweed plants to unseasonably high temperatures and lack of precipitation, both conditions more suitable to spotted knapweed than native species. Appendix A includes the 2012 spotted knapweed survey results

On August 29, 2012, UPPCO also completed surveys for purple loosestrife and garlic mustard. Neither species was identified. Purple loosestrife and garlic mustard have never been observed at the project.

The Silver Lake Reservoir Rebuild – Temporary Nuisance Plant Control Plan was created to offset invasive plant species that may have been established as a result of the construction activities in 2008. Since 2009, UPPCO has been surveying for and controlling spotted knapweed within the Silver Lake Rebuild Area. UPPCO has been successful in controlling the spread of spotted knapweed through these activities and believes overall control has been successful, as evident by the vast majority of emerging plants being first year plants.

UPPCO believes that all spotted knapweed that may have established as a result of the project has been successfully controlled by herbicide treatment.

If you have any questions or concerns, please provide comments within thirty (30) days of receiving this report.

Sincerely,

James D. Nuthals

Environmental Consultant Telephone: (920) 433-1460

Enc.



August 27, 2012

Mr. Kyle Kruger Michigan Department of Natural Resources Mio Field Office 191 S. Mt. Tom Rd Mio, MI 48647

Dear Mr. Kruger:

<u>Silver Lake Reservoir Rebuild - Temporary Nuisance Plant Control Plan</u>

Per the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) Amended and Approved Silver Lake Reservoir Rebuild – Temporary Nuisance Plant Control Plan dated November 22, 2011, the Upper Peninsula Power Company (UPPCO) is providing the final year of monitoring and control efforts report to your attention.

**Upper Peninsula Power Company** (a subsidiary of Integrys Energy Group)

700 North Adams Street P.O. Box 19001

Green Bay, WI 54307-9001

UPPCO conducted surveys and control of spotted knapweed for a total of 22 days: from June 25 through August 3, 2012. The location of the identified and treated spotted knapweed in 2012 is in very close proximity to the spotted knapweed locations identified in 2010 and 2011.

Although, spotted knapweed identified in 2012, was in slightly greater concentration than observed in 2011, it remains less than was observed in 2010. In addition, the plants observed were first year rosettes and did not include many mature plants as observed in the previous surveys. UPPCO attributes the increase in spotted knapweed plants to unseasonably high temperatures and lack of precipitation, both conditions more suitable to spotted knapweed than native species. Appendix A includes the 2012 spotted knapweed survey results

On August 29, 2012, UPPCO also completed surveys for purple loosestrife and garlic mustard. Neither species was identified. Purple loosestrife and garlic mustard have never been observed at the project.

The Silver Lake Reservoir Rebuild – Temporary Nuisance Plant Control Plan was created to offset invasive plant species that may have been established as a result of the construction activities in 2008. Since 2009, UPPCO has been surveying for and controlling spotted knapweed within the Silver Lake Rebuild Area. UPPCO has been successful in controlling the spread of spotted knapweed through these activities and believes overall control has been successful, as evident by the vast majority of emerging plants being first year plants.

UPPCO believes that all spotted knapweed that may have established as a result of the project has been successfully controlled by herbicide treatment.

If you have any questions or concerns, please provide comments within thirty (30) days of receiving this report.

Sincerely,

James D. Nuthals

Environmental Consultant Telephone: (920) 433-1460

Enc.

## APPENDIX A 2012 SURVEY RESULTS

20121211-5173 FERC PDF (Unofficial) 12/11/2012 4:44:29 PM
Document Content(s)
20121211 FERC Silver Lake Rebuild Survey.PDF1-9