



Pennsylvania Fish & Boat Commission

BUREAU OF FISHERIES
450 ROBINSON LANE
BELLEFONTE, PA 16823
814-359-5177 – 814-359-5153 (FAX)
E-MAIL: LEYOUNG@PA.GOV

April 25, 2014

Raystown Hydroelectric Project
13797 Point Rd., P.O. Box 395
Huntingdon, PA 16652

Re: Low Impact Hydropower Institute (LIHI) annual compliance update
Raystown Hydroelectric Project, Allegheny Electric Cooperative, Inc.
Raystown Dam, Huntingdon County, PA (FERC Project No. 2769-PA)
Low Impact Hydropower Institute Certificate No. 23

Dear Mr. Shearn,

I am writing in response to your March 10, 2014 letter requesting an update on the status of fishery restoration programs or initiatives that affect the Raystown Hydroelectric Project. We have reviewed our current and anticipated fishery management objectives for Lake Raystown, the Raystown Branch of the Juniata River, and the Juniata River in the vicinity of the Raystown project. We have no outstanding issues that we believe Allegheny Energy Cooperative should address at this time. We have provided some comments below based on LIHI's December 2013 on-line questionnaire to substantiate this position.

Flows

The Operating Agreement between the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and Allegheny Electric Cooperative, Inc. requires that Allegheny Electric pass flows required by the Corps at all times. It also specifies that recreational enhancement is one of the authorized purposes of the dam and that the Corps may make directives in response to an emergency situation. PFBC is not aware of any operation contrary to the Operating Agreement and flows that are released support habitat downstream of the dam.

Water Quality

Operation is consistent with Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Fishing and Boating Regulations, Title 58, Pennsylvania Code §57.24, which states that "Water quality must not be adversely affected by the hydrodevelopment."

Fish Passage and Protection

Anadromous and catadromous fish passage was not required in the hydropower licensing process at Raystown Dam and is not being considered currently.

Our Mission:

www.fishandboat.com

To protect, conserve and enhance the Commonwealth's aquatic resources and provide fishing and boating opportunities.

Threatened and Endangered Species Protection

PFBC is not aware of any actual or projected impacts to state or federally threatened or endangered aquatic species, reptiles and amphibians.

Recreation

At the direction of our Board of Commissioners, Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission staff are in the process of is evaluating the potential of waters across the state for their potential as a tailwater trout fishery. This evaluation has included the Raystown Branch of the Juniata River downstream of Raystown Dam due to the significant quantity of cold water available in Lake Raystown. As you know, on March 5, 2013 our staff met with you and representatives of the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers to discuss options that might make a tailwater trout fishery possible. As a result of that meeting we recognize that the development of such a fishery could require such things as major structural changes to the hydropower intake and an evaluation of the potential effects changes in operation on the existing fisheries of both the lake and the river downstream of the dam. While we may be interested in further discussions about this matter in the future, we recognize, as was expressed at the March 5 meeting, that the Corps of Engineers is not interested in considering changes in operation in the near term.

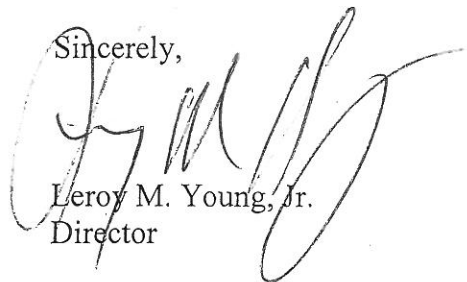
We currently manage Raystown Lake as a two story fishery with both coldwater and warmwater game fish at different depths. We recognize the presence and value of a warmwater fishery in the Raystown Branch and Juniata Rivers and we are currently managing the area downstream of the hydroelectric facility for this purpose.

Facilities Recommended for Removal

Our agency is not aware of any recommendation to remove this dam or associated facilities.

Thank you for considering our comments. If you have any questions, please contact Mark Hartle at (814) 359-5133 or mhartle@pa.gov.

Sincerely,



Leroy M. Young, Jr.
Director

c: William Shearn, Raystown Hydroelectric Project
PFBC – K. Kuhn, D. Miko, M. Hartle
USACOE – Nicholas Krupa