Brice Prairie Conservation Association

Onalaska, Wisconsin

RESOLUTION

Upper Mississippi River Lock and Dam Hydroelectric Projects



Whereas: Applications for hydroelectric projects have been submitted to the Federal Energy Regulatory Agency(FERC) by private companies to install low head hydroelectric turbines and transmission infrastructure on all 10 Mississippi River locks and dams in Wisconsin

Whereas: The US Congress has through legislative action has established the Upper Mississippi River as both a National Wildlife and Fish Refuge and National Commercial Navigation Corridor

Whereas: Public information meetings held by the applicants generated numerous questions and concerns by members of the public regarding environmental, economic, social, and aesthetic impacts from the proposed projects

Whereas: Many of the questions and concerns raised by the public indicated a need for research, study and analysis of issues such as water quality, flow, fish passage, recreation navigation, sedimentation, tourism, public use, economic impact

Whereas: Each application at each lock and dam is a separate FERC docket

Whereas: The US Fish and Wildlife Service and the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources have submitted detailed requests to FERC for studies, data and documentation regarding the impacts of the proposed projects on the River and surrounding communities

Whereas: Both agencies strongly recommend that the cumulative impacts of the spate proposals be evaluated to determine the overall impact of the proposals

Now therefore be it resolved: That the Wisconsin Wildlife Federation at its 2012 annual meeting strongly supports the request for studies, data and documentation to determine the impact of the proposed projects on the River and surrounding communities

Be it further resolved: That WWF urges FERC to consider in its decision making the cumulative environmental, economic social and aesthetic impacts of the many proposed hydroelectric projects for the locks and dams in Wisconsin on the Upper Mississippi River

Be it further resolved: that a copy of this resolution be distributed to FERC, WDNR, USFWS, USCOE and federal and state elected officials.