

FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION

Office of Energy Projects

Division of Dam Safety and Inspections - Chicago Regional Office

230 South Dearborn Street, Suite 3130

Chicago, Illinois 60604

312.596.4430 Office – 312.596.4460 Facsimile

In reply refer to: P-2056

February 28, 2023

Via Electronic Mail

Mr. Scott Crotty
Senior Operations Manager
Xcel Energy
Scott.a.Crotty@xcelenergy.com

Re: December 20, 2022 - Emergency Action Plan (EAP) Annual Status Report
December 22, 2022 - EAP Update
St. Anthony Falls Hydroelectric Project FERC No. P-2056

Dear Mr. Crotty:

The FERC received the referenced submittals regarding the EAP Annual Status Report and EAP Update for the St. Anthony Falls Project (Hennepin Dam), which was included in the referenced overall submittals for Xcel Energy. The EAP Update was filed as a full digital copy of the EAP manual and included Appendix F, the Temporary Overtopping Protection Plan, as requested in the FERC's March 15, 2022 letter reviewing last year's EAP submittals.

The EAP Update satisfactorily fulfills the reviewing and updating requirements of 18 C.F.R., Part 12, Subpart C, § 12.24 (a). Next year's EAP update due by **December 31, 2023**, should include the following in the FERC boxes of the Notification Flowcharts:

Marilyn Sabido
Office: 312-596-4456

Chapter 6 of the FERC Engineering Guidelines (Section 6-2.2.6 EAP Status Reports) includes nine elements to be addressed. Documented compliance with these elements is as follows:

1. Annual comprehensive review of the EAP – February 7, 2022 during annual training.
2. Distribution of annual updates to the EAP – December 22, 2022.

3. Last full reprint of the EAP – Filed on December 21, 2021 but dated October 2021.
4. Brief description of the annual seminar (orientation) – Face-to-face meetings were held in November 2022 with the Minneapolis Emergency Preparedness, St. Paul Emergency Management, Ramsey County Emergency Management, Hennepin County Emergency Preparedness, and the University of Minnesota’s Department of Emergency Management. Reprinted flowcharts were provided, the annual drill was discussed, and the correct version of the EAP manual was verified. Documentation of these meetings is included in Appendix B of the annual status report.
5. Last drill/training/call down test, including any lessons learned – September 8, 2022 call down test. The Army Corps of Engineers contact information was updated as a result. Operator training performed February 7, 2022 and Appendix A of the annual status report includes training documentation.
6. Emergency equipment testing – As noted in Appendix D of the annual status report, only radio and sirens are listed but due to their routine usage, testing is not needed.
7. Most current Sudden Failure Assessment – There are no residential structures located within the fair-weather inundation boundary. However, the University of Minnesota’s St. Anthony Falls Laboratory would be impacted almost immediately under a fair-weather failure. Appendix F of the annual status report includes this information and was last updated July 2010.
8. Public education – St. Anthony Falls Laboratory is provided with Xcel’s annual public education letter and dam safety education is incorporated into their annual student/staff training. May 4, 2022 News Release regarding safety near dams also provided in Appendix E of the annual status report. Xcel plans to issue another News Release to coincide with Dam Safety Awareness Week.
9. Table indicating all parties who: (1) received EAP revisions and/or annual updates, (2) participated in the annual seminar, and (3) participated in the annual drill and/or were contacted during the call down test. – Table included as Appendix C of the annual status report.

Based on our review, the 2021 annual status report complies with 18 C.F.R., Part 12, Subpart C, § 12.24, 12.25(b).

File the requested EAP Update using the Commission’s eFiling system at <https://www.ferc.gov/ferc-online/overview>. When eFiling, select Hydro: Dam Safety and Chicago Regional Office from the eFiling menu. The cover page of the filing must indicate that the material was eFiled. For assistance with eFiling, contact FERC Online Support at FERCOnlineSupport@ferc.gov, (866) 208-3676 (toll free), or (202) 502-8659 (TTY).

You may contact Mr. Scott Airato, P.E. at (312) 596-4431 (scott.airato@ferc.gov) or me at (312) 596-4430 if you have questions.

Sincerely,

KEVIN

GRIEBENOW

Digitally signed by
KEVIN GRIEBENOW

Date: 2023.02.28
14:50:26 -06'00'

Kevin C. Griebenow, P.E.
Regional Engineer