



Upper Peninsula Power Company

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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June 4, 2015
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UPPCO Schedules Draw Down of Silver Lake Basin

Ishpeming – Upper Peninsula Power Company (UPPCO) announced today it will be making a temporary drawdown of water levels in the Silver Lake Storage Basin located within the utility’s Dead River Hydroelectric Project.

UPPCO will draw down the basin approximately four to five feet below its normal summer level. The water level will be drawn down at a rate not to exceed six inches per day. Drawing down the basin is necessary in order to safely complete maintenance on the embankments along with the installation of a new filtering system and embankment armoring. Design and planning for the project was done in consultation with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC).

“We have been working with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission on a plan to improve our normal seepage collection and monitoring at the Silver Lake basin,” said Virgil Schlorke, Director of Energy Supply and Environmental Services. “UPPCO will conduct the work as quickly and safely as possible and start refilling this fall, returning the basin back to normal operation as soon as possible.”

The drawdown is scheduled to begin no earlier than June 15. Construction is anticipated to begin 30 days later and be completed by the end of summer. Refilling the storage basin will start immediately following completion of construction and occur while releasing established monthly minimum flows. How long it takes to bring the basin to normal water levels will depend on the amount of precipitation the area receives.

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