



Upper Peninsula Power Company

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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UPPCO Schedules Drawdown of Escanaba Dam Number 3 Basin

Marquette – Upper Peninsula Power Company (UPPCO) announced today that it will move forward with a planned drawdown of its Escanaba Hydroelectric Dam 3 Basin. The dam is located approximately eight miles north of Escanaba. This dam is one of three UPPCO owns and operates on the Escanaba River.

UPPCO will lower the basin approximately two feet below the normal operating level over a five-day period. The drawdown is scheduled for normal, routine maintenance work on wooden boards along the top of the spillway. UPPCO consulted with state and federal agencies, including the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) regarding the drawdown. Approval for the drawdown was granted last Friday by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC).

“Maintenance on the boards is a regular activity and does not pose a safety issue” said David Tripp, Chief Dam Safety-Generation Engineer for UPPCO. “The work requires the basin to be lowered below the spillway crest so that it is safe for workers to install new boards.”

The drawdown is scheduled to start November 24, 2015 and last until the work is finished in approximately two weeks. UPPCO expects that the basin will be back to normal elevations by the end of December as long as inflows from the Escanaba River are normal.