



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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April 17, 2026

UPPCO MONITORING HIGH WATER FLOWS AT DAM 1 ESCANABA

Marquette – Upper Peninsula Power Company is urging the public to stay away from Dam 1 on the Escanaba River near US 41 in Delta County and other hydroelectric facilities due to seasonally high water flows and to be alert for rapidly changing conditions.

Significant winter snowfall and high water content in the regional snowpack, combined with warming temperatures, are contributing to elevated flows on the Escanaba River. The National Weather Service is forecasting rain and potential thunderstorms this weekend, which could accelerate snowmelts and further increase river flows.

Key Safety Actions at Hydroelectric Facilities:

- Obey all posted signs and barriers and stay out of restricted areas.
- Keep a safe distance from dams, spillways, and powerhouses, where fast-moving water and strong currents can occur.
- Avoid swimming, boating, or wading near intake structures and discharge areas, as undertows and turbulence can be dangerous.
- Be alert for sudden changes in water levels, which may happen during routine operations or high-water events.

“While water flows at Dam 1 remain within an acceptable range for safe operation, UPPCO is actively evaluating the potential impact of additional rainfall on this segment of the river,” said Dan Freeborn, Manager of Communications and External Affairs. “UPPCO monitors the facility 24/7 and is in direct contact with local emergency management as the spring melt continues.”

UPPCO will continue to closely monitor river conditions and coordinate with local officials as needed. To help ensure your safety, residents and visitors are strongly encouraged to avoid the area around Dam 1 until water levels return to normal. If you encounter an emergency, dial 9-1-1.

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