

June 22, 2020

Dear Neighbor,

**I'm writing to let you know about a schedule change in our annual drawdown of the Hardy Dam pond.**

Typically, in January the water level is lowered as part of a routine winter operational drawdown and is returned to normal operating water levels by May 1.

This fall the process will look a little different as we prepare for a future project on the Auxiliary Spillway. We currently plan to accelerate the beginning of the drawdown start date to November 1, 2020 (from January) and push out the restoration of the normal operating water levels to May 28, 2021 (Friday prior to Memorial Day Weekend). Water levels will then remain at normal operating levels throughout the 2021 boating season.

This schedule change was selected to minimize the impact on recreational activities such as boating and fishing.

As you might know, Hardy Dam is operated under a license from the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, or the FERC. As part of that license, we will be requesting approval for the operational changes proposed above from the FERC and from state regulators. As a result, you will likely receive notice from the Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes and Energy (EGLE) that we have applied for the appropriate permit.

We are committed to operating as a good corporate neighbor and keeping you informed of the plans for Hardy Dam, which has served our customers with clean, renewable energy for nearly a century. You can find the latest news about the Hardy Dam or any of our 13 hydroelectric power plants or submit questions at [ConsumersEnergy.com/Hydro](http://ConsumersEnergy.com/Hydro).

The future Auxiliary spillway project at the facility is currently in the design and engineering phase. However, when the construction project is scheduled, dates and any required drawdown information of the Hardy pond, will be shared.

Don't hesitate to contact me at 231-779-5511 or email [brooke.mctaggart@cmsenergy.com](mailto:brooke.mctaggart@cmsenergy.com) if you have questions about this year's planned schedule change for the Hardy Dam.

Thank you for your patience and continued support of Hardy Dam.

Sincerely,

