

July 12, 2024

Dear Neighbor,

I'm writing to provide an update on future auxiliary spillway, splash wall/roadway replacement projects at Hardy Dam.

Independent of the process to determine the future of its river hydro strategy in Michigan, Consumers Energy plans to begin construction on its Hardy Dam projects in 2025, pending the receipt of regulatory, environmental, and federal approvals.

Since our 2023 update the project has:

1. Received Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) Order Approving Request for Temporary Variance and Amending License to Modify the Auxiliary Spillway, Outlet Channel, and Dam Crest regarding Consumers Energy Company's Hardy Hydroelectric Project FERC No. P-2452 (License Amendment) dated May 6, 2024,
2. Received Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE) Permit dated November 22, 2023,
3. Conducted additional coordination with the Newaygo County Road Commission,
4. Selected a General Contractor for the proposed construction, and
5. Continue to work with FERC Division of Dam Safety and Inspections to obtain final design and construction approval.

We are awaiting construction approval from FERC and project construction cost recovery approval from the Michigan Public Service Commission.

Our current reservoir drawdown schedule through Memorial Day 2025:

1. Drawdown to begin November 2024 (10 feet drawdown)
2. Return to normal level by Memorial Day 2025
3. Drawdown for construction (in late 2025) and duration to be approved by FERC. (Our EGLE Permit requires for drawdown after Labor Day and return to normal operating pond level prior to Memorial Day).

We plan to update you again in June 2025, unless new details emerge.

We remain committed to operating as a good 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 Hardy Dam or any of our 13 hydroelectric power plants at www.ConsumersEnergy.com/HydroHardy.

Don't hesitate to contact us at hydro@cmsenergy.com or (231)332-2800 if you have questions about Hardy Dam.

Thank you for your patience and support of Hardy Dam.

Sincerely,

Damien Wetzel, P.E.