



State of Wisconsin \ DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

Jim Doyle, Governor
Scott Hassett, Secretary
Gloria L. McCutcheon, Regional Director

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June 7, 2007

Mrs. Margaret Zerwekh
500 Mill Road
Delafield, WI 53018

Subject: Water Levels at the Nemahbin Roller Mill Dam, FF# 67.27

Dear Mrs. Zerwekh:

On May 31, 2007 The Department received a written complaint regarding low water at the Nemahbin Roller Mill Dam from Ms. Gayle Gaborsky. As follow-up to the complaint, I spoke with you on June 5th regarding how the dam has been operated over the past few weeks. You explained that you recently removed one stoplog from each of the two middle bays to facilitate some work on your property. You chose to keep them out following the recent rain and notification by the City of Delafield that they had opened the Fish Hatchery Dam. The Department completed a site visit and elevation survey on June 6th. During this visit the Department found that the top of the stop logs in the two middle bays were set lower than your minimum operating range. The specific elevations ranged between 97.08 and 97.17 ft (local datum), or approximately 4-5 inches below your ordered minimum. The surveyed water level was 98.46 ft on June 6.

Based on the dry conditions in early and mid-May it is reasonable to believe that the impoundment dropped below the established minimum, however it is unknown for how long and by how much. As you know, your operating range was established by a 1954 order that requires you to maintain a pool between 97.5 and 99.0 ft under normal conditions. You are also required to maintain a minimum flow through your dam in accordance with Ch 31.02 of the State Statutes at all times. This requirement or an approved drawdown permit is the only way you may drop the pool below the minimum elevation.

The Department understands that the City of Delafield is currently passing additional water and the forecast is calling for significant rain. You must actively monitor this situation and the water level and reinstall the 2 middle stoplogs immediately following notification that the upstream dam has been closed or when the water level in the pool begins to drop or approaches your minimum level. **You must not allow the pool elevation to drop below 97.5** without contacting the Department and receiving a written approval to do so.

Department staff will be monitoring the situation as availability allows. Please feel free to contact me with any additional questions or concerns.

Sincerely,
Brent A. Binder, PE Water
Management Engineer

CC: Ms. Gayle Gaborsky, 364 Bark River Court, Delafield, WI 53018