ORIGINAL GENERAL OFFICES : 40 EAST BROADWAY, BUTTE, MONTANA 59701 MONTANA POWER COMPANY

March 24, 1994

MPCo-THO-0855

Ms Lois D Cashell Secretary Federal Energy Regulatory Commission 425 N Capitol Street Room 9310 Washington, DC 20426

RE : The Montana Power Company Project No. 1869-012 019 Thompson Falls Project

Dear Ms. Cashell:

Submitted herewith are the original and eight copies of the Revised Report on Recreation Resources for the Montana Power Company's Thompson Falls Project, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission Project No. 1869-012. The revised plan is being submitted in accordance with Article 404 of the Order Approving Access Road Relocation Plan and Amending License, Issued May 21, 1993.

Sincerely.

Larfy D. Thompson Manager Power Generation

LDT/sv

1-10

Enclosures

TRO DOCKEREN MAR 2 8 1994



NE 406/723-5421 • FACSIMILE 406/496-5099

THOMPSON FALLS RECREATION RESOURCES

TABLE OF CONTENTS

																	1	PAC	<u>je</u>	NO.
1.0	INTRO	DUCTIO	N			- •	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	1
2.0	PROPO	SED RE	CREATI	DN DE	VELO	Phen	T	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	2
3.0	PROPOSED RECREATION FACILITIES												•	•	•	•	3			
	3.1	Island	Devel	opment	t.	• •	•	•	•	•	•		•			•	•	•	•	3
	3.2	High B	ridge		• •		•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•		•	•	•	•	3
	3.3	South S	Shore 1	Develo	орлен	nt.	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•		•	•	•	3
4.0	ODEDI	OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE OF THE PROPOSED																		
		ILITIE		• • •	• •	• •	•		•	•	•	•	-	•		•		•	•	5
5.0	PROJE	SCT BOU	NDARY 2	NND FI	CIL	ITIB	8	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	6
6.0	Coste						•	•		•	•	•		•	•	•	•	•	•	7
	6.1	Develo	pment				•	٠	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•		7
		6.1.1	Island	1 Deve	elop	nent	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	7
		6.1.2	High I	Bridge	è.	• •	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	7
		6.1.3	South	Shore	e Dev	velo	рте	ent		•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	7
	6.2	Operati	ion and	i Mair	ntena	ance	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	7
		6.2.1	Island	1 Deve	elopi	nent	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	٠	•	•	•	•	7
		6.2.2	High I	Bridge		• •		•	•	•	•	•	÷	•	•	٠	•	•	•	7
		6.2.3	South	Shore	e Dev	velo	рте	ent		•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	7
7.0	CONSI	RUCTIO	n schei	DULE	••	••	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	٠	•	•	8
FIGU	RES																			

,

•

LETTERS OF CONSULTATION

.

2.0 PROPOSED RECREATION DEVELOPMENT

The consensus during the meetings held on August 23, 1993, September 27, 1993 and February 17, 1994 in Thompson Falls was to develop the island for public recreation in a manner similar to that originally proposed for Island Park. The proposal, represented on the enclosed drawings, emphasizes the island's natural setting without the extensive restoration and developmental efforts that would have been required following the placement of spoils. Refer to Figure 1 for an overview of the proposal. The consensus was also to contribute funds toward rehabilitation of the abandoned High Bridge or toward limited development of the area along the south shore of the river (South Shore). The decision to contribute funds toward rehabilitation of the abandoned High Bridge or toward limited development of the South Shore is dependent upon whether or not the local government and agencies rehabilitate the High Bridge.

Measures will be taken as appropriate to protect elements of the island's cultural resource during project construction. For example, the alignment of the trail spurs leading from the primary access trails may vary slightly from those indicated in the drawings. These activities will occur during the initial "laying-out" of the project prior to construction.

3.0 PROPOSED RECREATION FACILITIES

3.1 Island Development

MPC proposes to develop a public recreation area on the island between its Main and Dry Channel dams. The primary focus will be on retaining the island's natural character, while at the same time providing the public with trail, historic and natural interpretive, picnic and rest room facilities, and park benches at the overlooks. The facilities will accommodate recreationists with disabilities. Spurs off the primary trail will lead to remote areas on the island and will not be accessible to disabled recreationists due to the island's rugged natural terrain. Refer to Figures 2 through 6 for details.

Pedestrian and bicycle access will be provided via the Gallatin Street Bridge on the north side of the island. Improvements on the bridge will include a six foot wide walkway to allow recreationists with disabilities access to the island.

General public parking will be identified and provided along Gallatin Street, at the museum and county parking lot, located approximately two blocks northeast of the Gallatin Street Bridge. From there, pedestrians will be directed with signs, past the museum to the island park. Parking will be provided for recreationists with disabilities at the north end of the Gallatin Street Bridge.

3.2 <u>High Bridge</u>

MPC proposes to contribute up to \$20,000 toward the rehabilitation of the High Bridge as a means of providing pedestrian and bicycle access to the south side of the Clark Fork River. The local governments would utilize the contribution as a private match in seeking state and federal dollars through grants to rehabilitate the bridge. Preliminary cost estimates to rehabilitate the bridge range from approximately \$100,000 to over \$200,000. If the community does not pursue the bridge rehabilitation by December 31, 1998, MPC's funding commitment will shift to the development on the south shore. MPC will remain in contact with Sanders County pertaining to the status of the High Bridge.

3.3 South Shore Development

The need for the South Shore development is dependent on whether or not the High Bridge is rehabilitated. That is, if the High Bridge is rehabilitated the public will have quick and easy pedestrian and bicycle access from Thompson Falls. This will allow the public use of the facilities on the island on their way to and from the South Shore. If the bridge is not rehabilitated access will remain as it is currently, which

157.54081701

is primarily by automobiles.

Therefore, MPC proposes to develop the South Shore in lieu of a financial contribution to the High Bridge if the local government and respective agencies do not pursue rehabilitation of the bridge by December 31, 1998. Facilities will include a designated parking area, picnic tables and a rest room if the area is developed. Refer to Figure 7 for details.

4.0 OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE OF THE PROPOSED FACILITIES

MPC will pursue a cooperative management agreement or contract with The City of Thompson Falls or Sanders County to operate and maintain the Island Development and South Shore Development, if it is constructed. However, MPC will remain responsible for the proper operation and maintenance of the developments.

5.0 PROJECT BOUNDARY AND PACILITIES

The island on which MPC proposes the development is located between the Thompson Falls Project's Main and Dry Channel dams.

6.0 <u>COSTS</u>

6.1 <u>Developmental</u>

The following developmental cost estimates are in 1994 dollars and were provided by Bob Fulton, Civil Engineer, Polson, MT in February, 1994.

6.1.1 Island Development

The cost for constructing the Island Development is estimated to be approximately \$80,000.

6.1.2 High Bridge

MPC's contribution to the rehabilitation of the High Bridge is \$20,000. This contribution is dependent on the future decision to rehabilitate the bridge for pedestrian and bicycle access. If the community does not to pursue the bridge rehabilitation by December 31, 1998, MPC's funding commitment will shift to the development on the south shore.

6.1.3 South Shore Development

The cost for constructing the South Shore is estimated to be approximately \$17,200.

6.2 Operation and Maintenance

The following operation and maintenance costs are in 1994 dollars and will be adjusted in the future to reflect the actual costs of properly operating and maintaining the developments.

6.2.1 Island Development

MPC estimates the annual operation and maintenance costs for the Island Development to be between \$3,500 and \$5,200. The \$5,200 estimate was provided by the USFS through consultation on this project.

6.2.2 High Bridge

MPC does not propose to contribute to the operation and maintenance of the High Bridge, which is owned by Sanders County.

6.2.3 South Shore Development

MPC estimates the annual operation and maintenance costs for the South Shore Development to be approximately \$2,000.

7.0 CONSTRUCTION SCHEDULE

The development on the island between the Main and Dry Channel dams will be completed within one year of completion of the expansion project, which is scheduled for 1996.

,

PIGURES

.

1

-

.

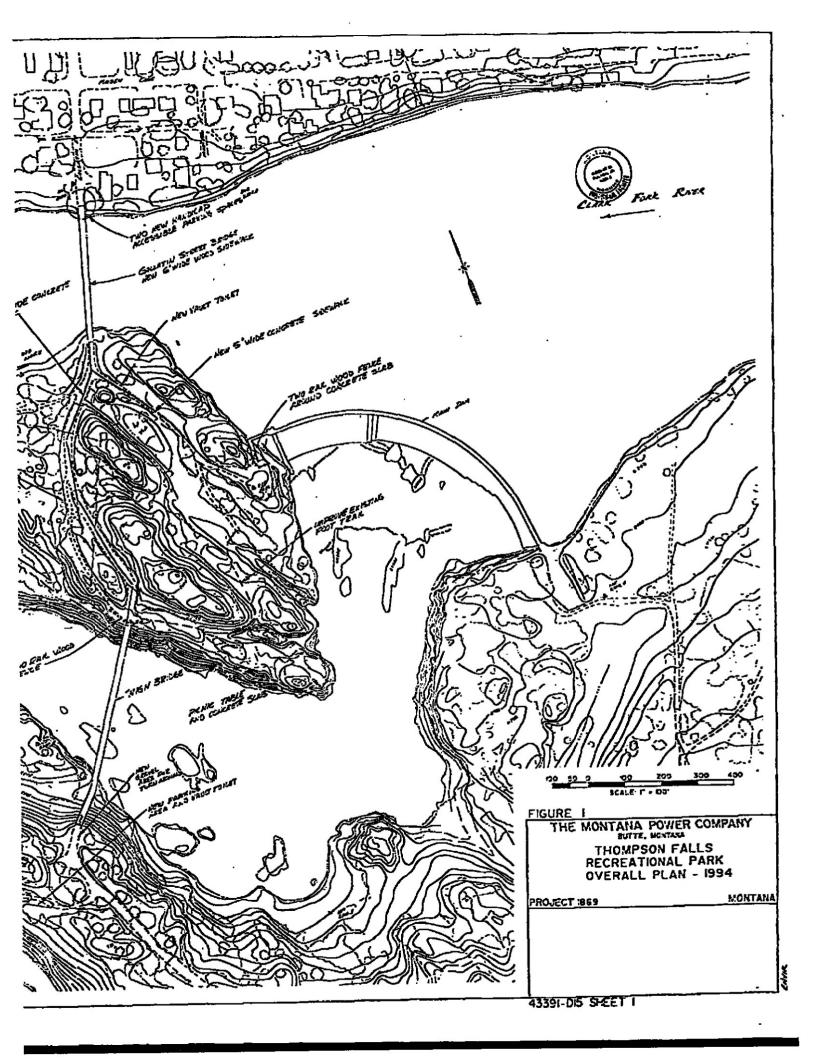


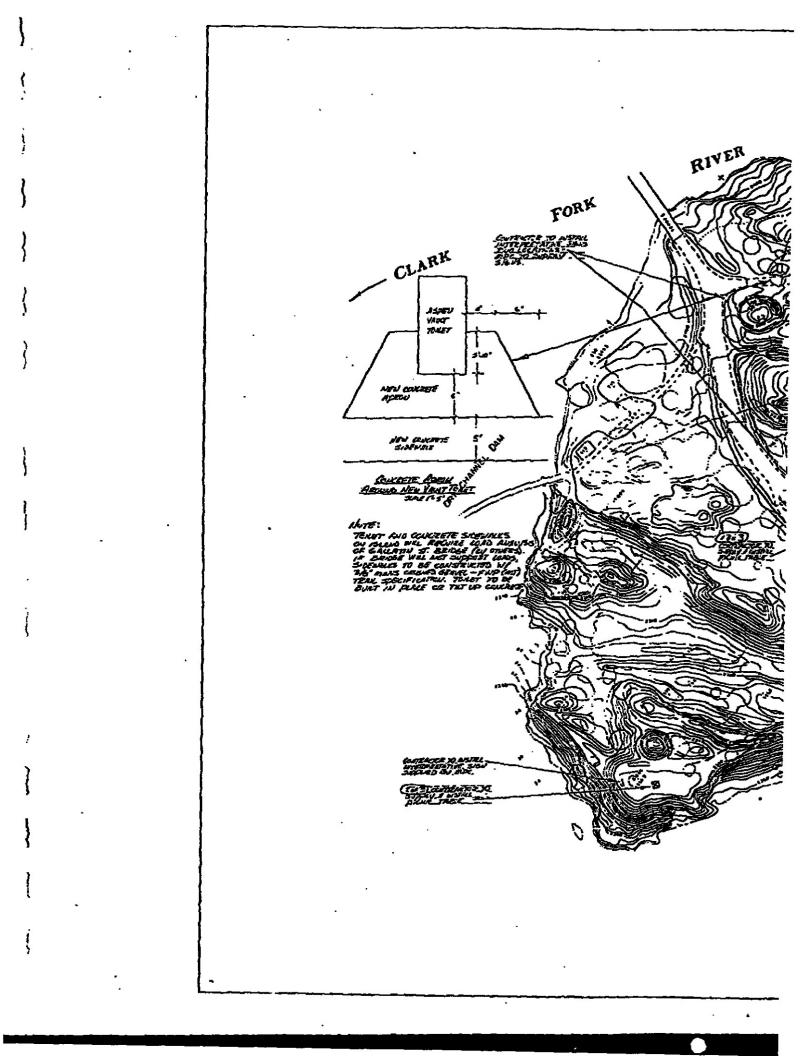
.)

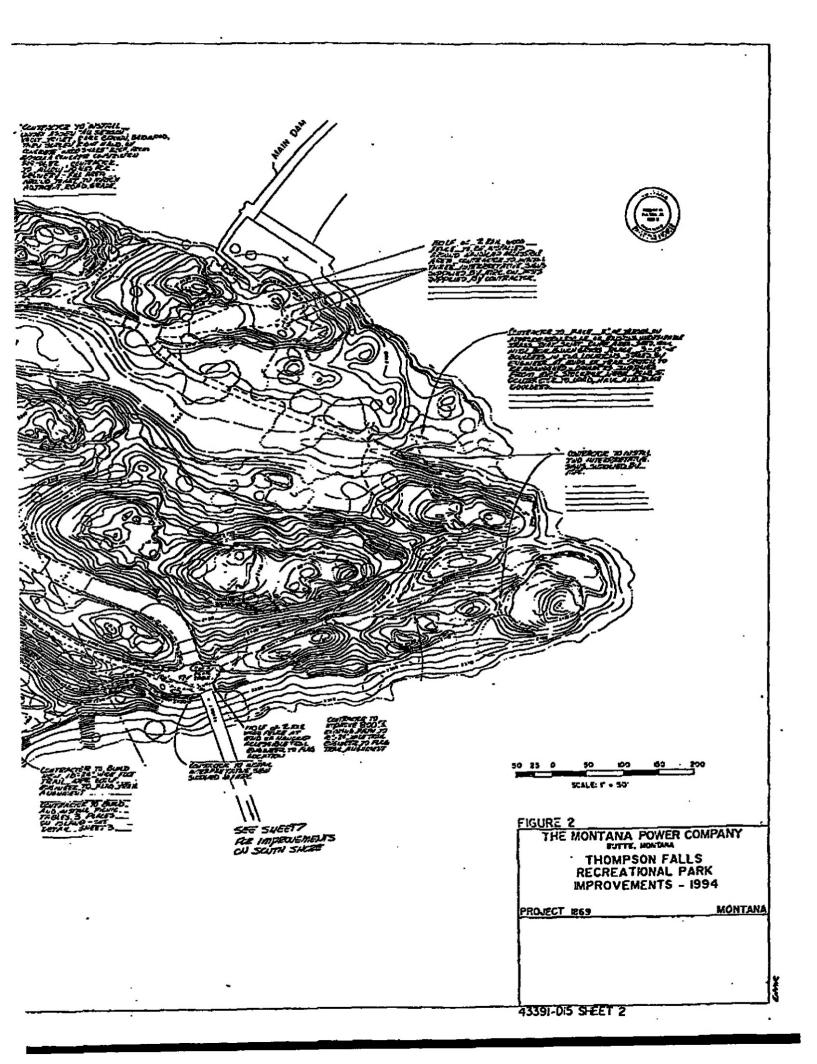
Į

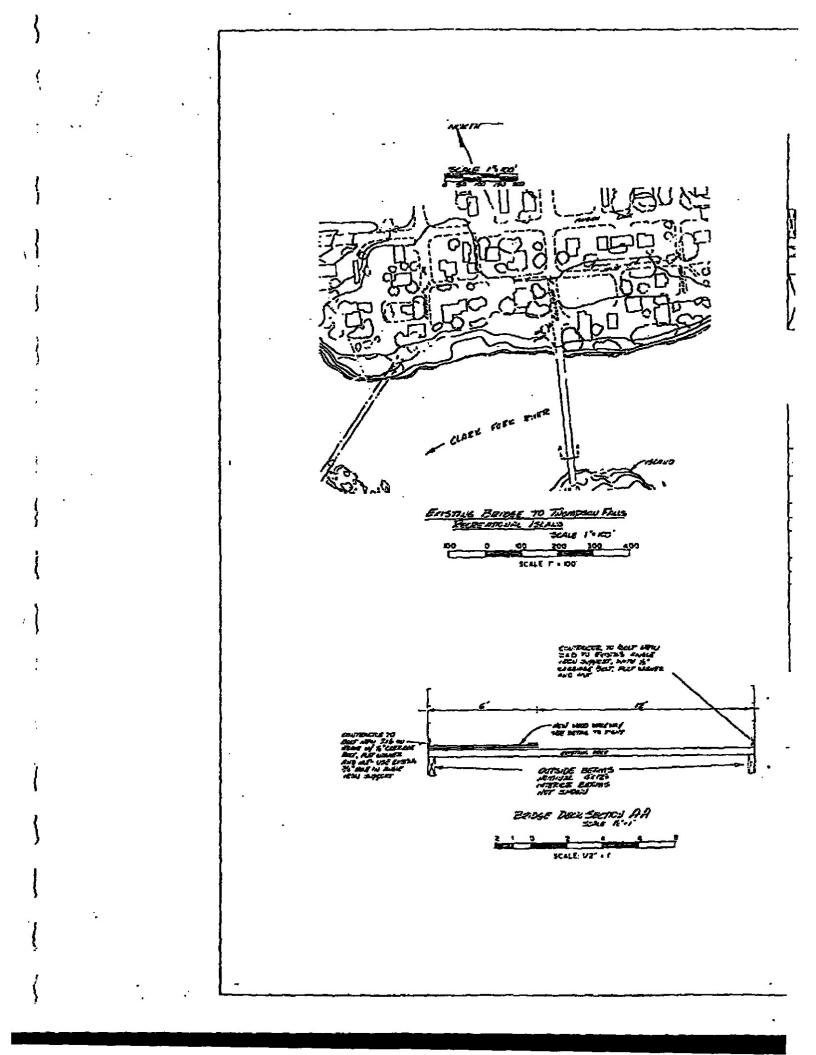
ĥ

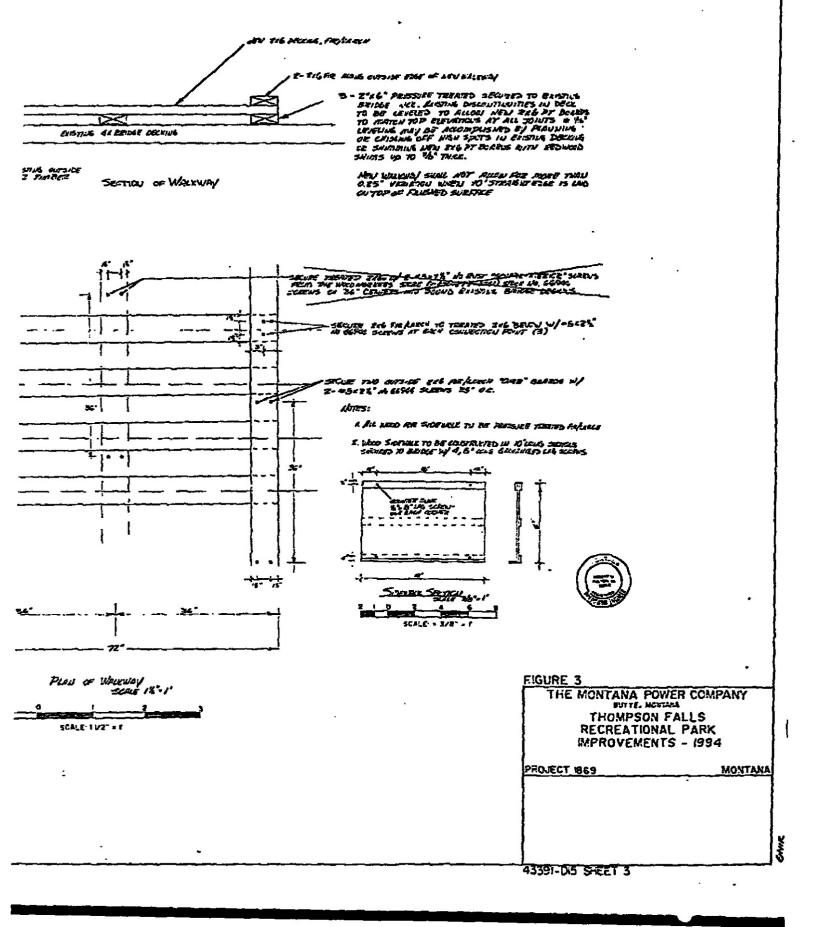
1

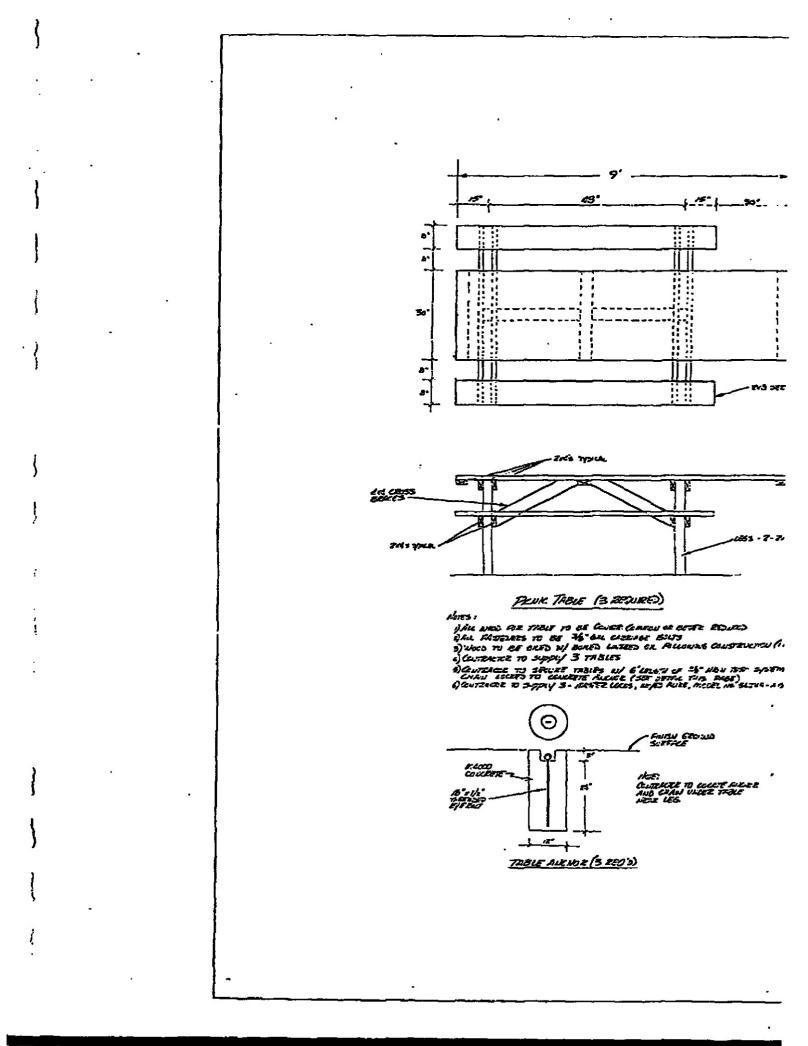


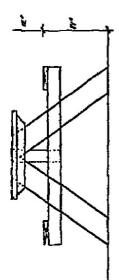


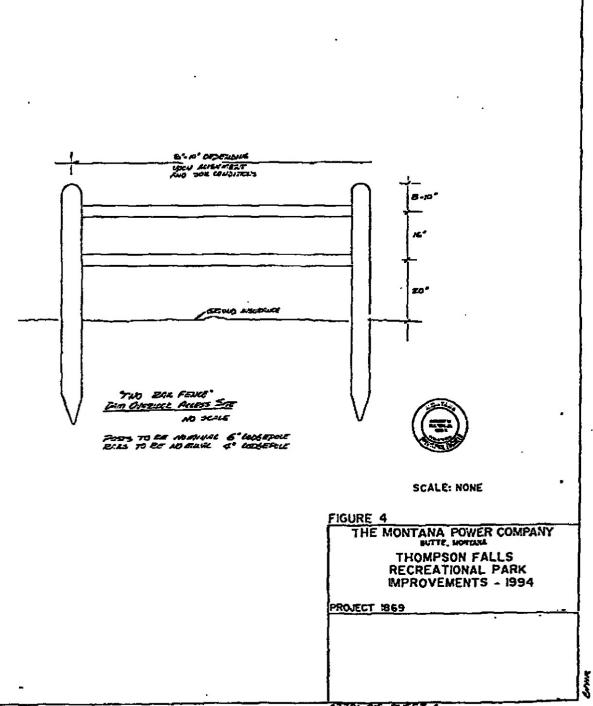






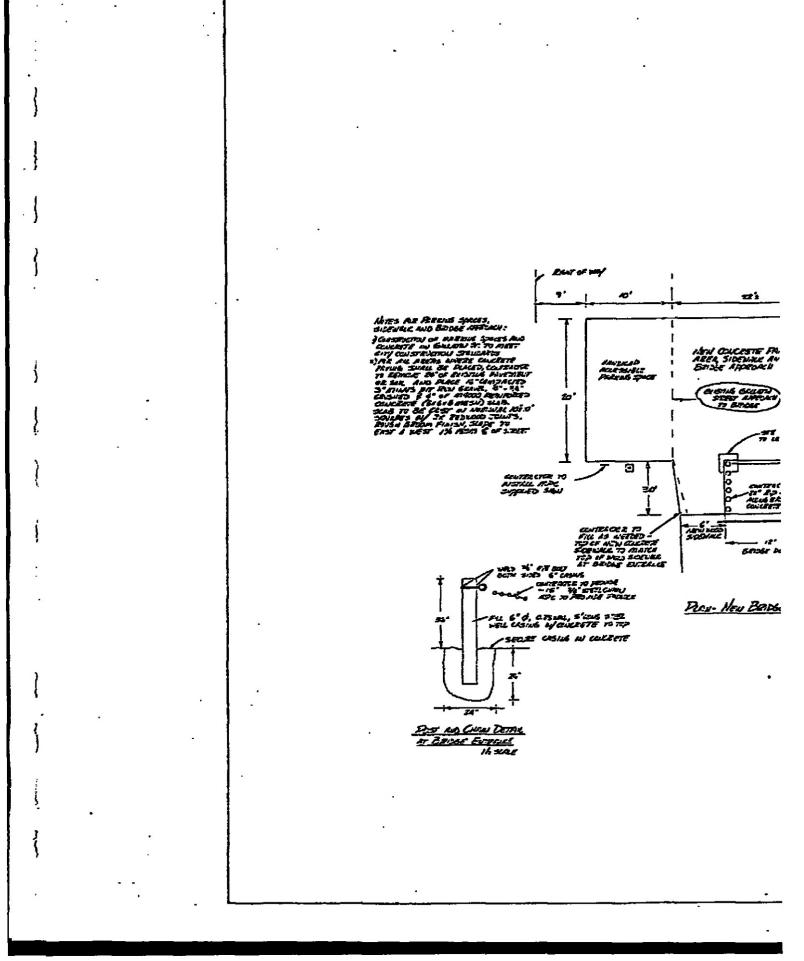




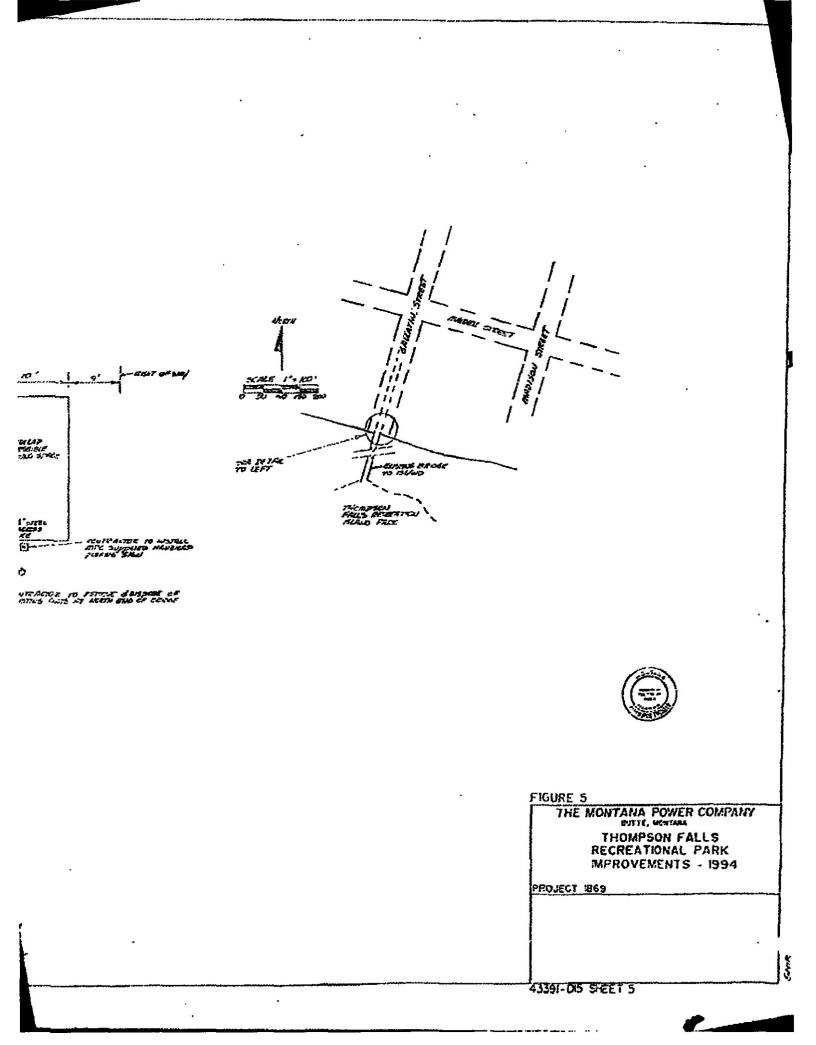


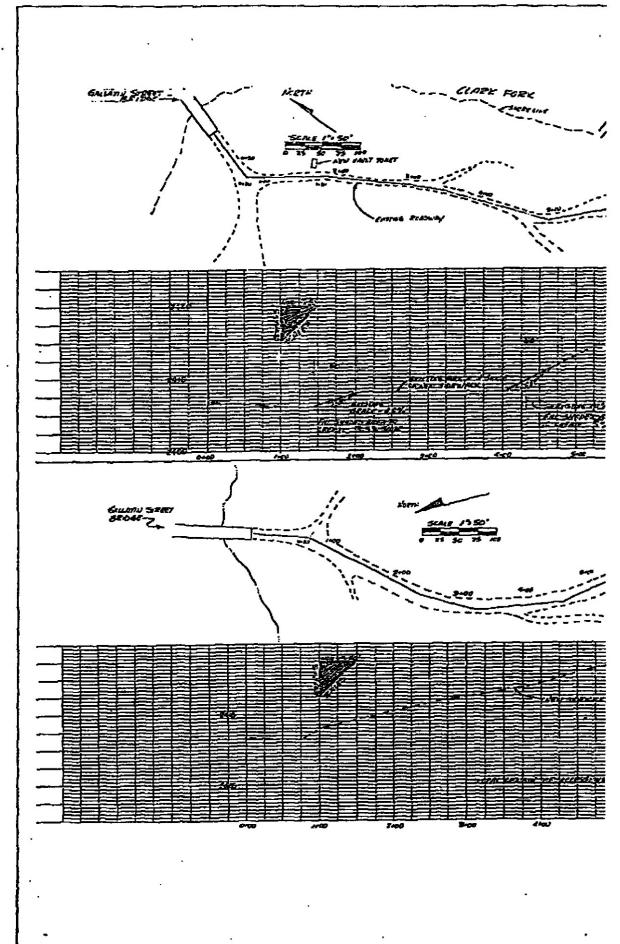
43391-015 SHEET 4

.



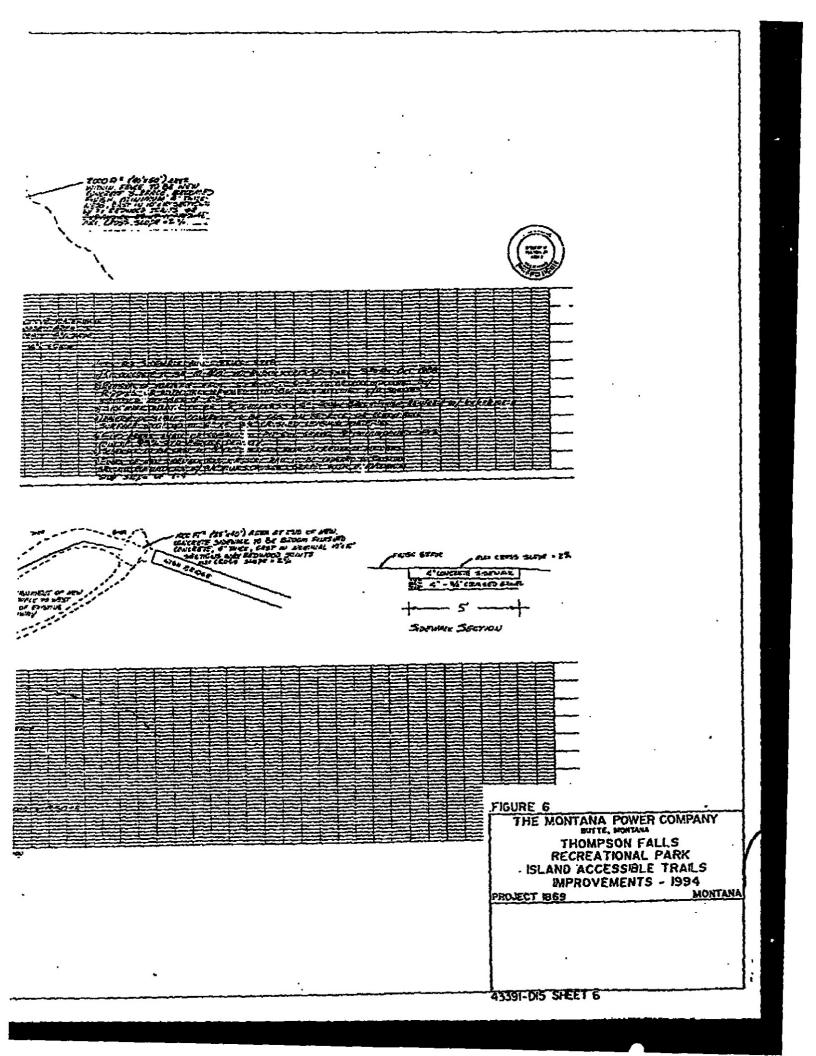
•

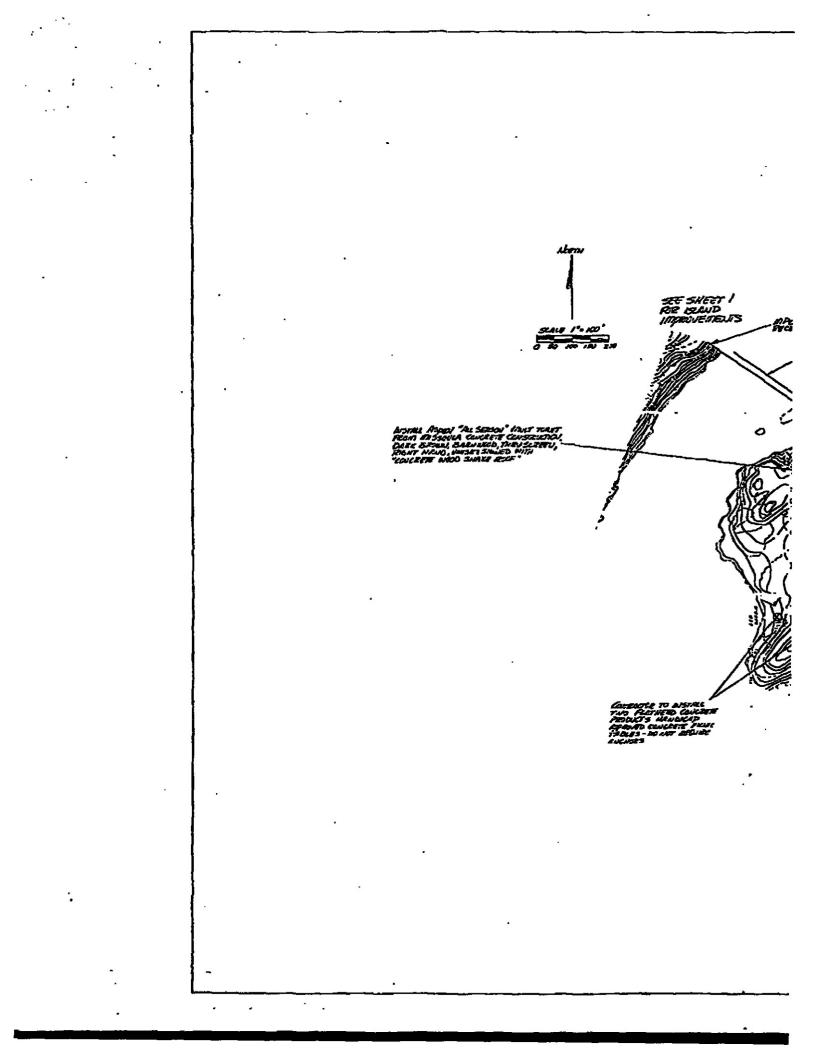




•

.





MARE: THIS SHEET DEDUCTES IMPERIESS TO THE "SUTH SUCES AFT". THES IMPEREMENTS ALL NOT CLEEDSTY SUNEDUCED TO BE IMPLEMENTED BY UNL BS ELEVISIONESS UNDER THE CLUG INTUR STRUCTS OF THE MON BEIDGE AS DESTRICT.

SOU FALLS

UKAU BZIDÓS^{*} BCDFILATICUS XEZ INIS CONTZINET

िल्यूहेस्ट्रेन्टर २४ अन्डरम् अग्रहरम्प्टरम्भाग्रह ५५५१ ०० म्य्डर्ड्ड उल्हू अंग्रहड ८० तप्रयोग, १८८४४, १९२८ १७ यथून्द्रभू ५७७ ΟΝΝΕΝΟΥΣ ΤΟ ΧΙΙΤΟΝ 30 (ΑΝΝΑΙΟΝ ΔΙΑΓΙΣΤΟΙ) ΣΙΑ ΒΑΘ ΑΕΞΤΑ ΒΑΔΙΚΗ - Ζ ΙΟΙΠΟΊΑ, ΧΟ ΖΙΑ ΤΟ ΕΧ ΤΙΔΟΙΝΕΌ ΡΈΟΝ ΞΤΟΚΕΡΠΕ ΝΕΤΖ ΡΟΙΟ Σ΄ ΗΙ ΤΑΠΑΓΔΟΝ ΡΕΙΔ. ΟΥΧΆΛΟΥΑ ΤΟ UND FEOM ΣΤΟΙΕΜΕ, ΜΕΙΔΟΕΤ ΑΝ ΡΑΙΚΕ ΧΟΡΑΘ - CUNTERTOR TO ROLLY GRADE 4000 FT FOR PORTAGE AND TIRU ALONIO ALDIN, SCHIRD 40 YD IA ANUTS CAUSATD GRAVEL FAR AZIA, COMPART TO 95% STAUMAD FROMT (CUTTREETS TO LINES 5.225 ~1800° of 10° 128 MEADER, 50° 30° MEDA (MATE TO LE STREED BY RECOTTE, 201322 60 M² - 3Ű MEAS (RESARD REPAR (MATE TO LESS REF) THERE TO ADDED ETISTUS GOLLED TOLE TO SECTOD BELOW FEL TO FAMILY STATE 56 Z'MANS PERIT te 1. Nou Lassiale Trais Same FIGURE 7 THE MONTANA POWER COMPANY THOMPSON FALLS RECREATIONAL PARK SOUTH SHORE SUPPLEMENTAL SHEET 1994 MONTANA PROJECT 1869 43391-DIS SHEET 7

LETTERS OF CONSULTATION

.

•

.

.

•

~

•

GENERAL OFFICES : 40 EAST BROADWAY, BUTTE, MONTANA 59701

July 21, 1993

•____

MONTANA POWER COMPANY

Dear :

Earlier this year I sought comments from you about the Montana Power Company's revised plans to modify the access route to the proposed powerhouse, to relocate the spoils deposition area and to redfraft the recreation plan at its Thompson Falls Hydroelectric Project, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) No. 1869-003 located in Thompson Falls, Montana. After reviewing the revised plans and all of the comments, including but not limited by yours, the FERC amended MPC's operating license and issued an order approving the access road relocation.

As part of the order, FERC specified MPC "shall file a revised report on recreation resources detailing its proposal for recreation development in lieu of development of Island Park by April 1, 1994, for Commission approval. The report shall include documentation of consultation with the United States Forest Service, the City of Thompson Falls, the Montana Department of Fish, wildlife and parks, Sanders County, the Sanders County Economic Development Corporation and the National Park Service. The Commission reserves the right to make changes to MPC's plan."

We have scheduled a meeting to begin the planning process for the new recreation development. The meeting will be held in the Sanders County Courthouse courtroom, located in Thompson Falls at 1:30 p.m. on Monday, August 23, 1993.

Your participation in the planning process is greatly appreciated by MPC and should help endsure the revised recreation plan will meet the community's and the public's needs. I have enclosed a copy of the mailing list for your information.

If you have any questions, please feel free to call me at (406) 723-5421.

Sincerely.

Elvin Fitzhugh Coordinator, Land Use and Recreation Resources

EFist

Enclosure

cc: Dan Hayes - FERC

2/93225103

TELEPHONE 406/723-5421 . FACSIMILE 406/496-5099

Thompson Iralls Hydroelectric Project, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission No. 1869-003 Mailing List

Mark Childress Flains Ranger District U.S. Forest Service 1.O. Box 429 Flains, MT 59859 arry Ward, Mayor tity of Thompson Falls 1.0. Box 263 hompson Falls, MT 59873 lan Vincent, Regional Supervisor legion 1 Iontana Department of Fish Wildlife and Parks 90 North Median Road alispell, MT 59901 herrie Hooten anders County Commission r anders County .O. Box 519 hompson Falls, MT 59873 lob Fletcher, Secretary anders County Economic D velopment Corp. First State Bank of Thomp on Falls 2.0. Box 638 Chompson Falls, MT 59873 fichael Duwe Division of Planning and compliance lational Park Service Rocky Mountain Regional Office 12795 West Alameda Parkway P.O. Box 25287 Denver, CO 80225-0287

140 93202002

T- Falls Theating 8/23/93 Name Representing Sensue County, Thaten Harry Hard lity of Stall

SCEDE

FWP

MPC

Mpe

USFS. Plainthoups

SANDARS ON

Bre Sterling

Fred Haas

Hat How Fully

NORM RESLER

BOB FLETCHER

Jady Wathins

Thene #

827- 4391 827- 3277 827 - 43 89

827-3565

Fill, RD 826-3821 752-5501 (home) 752-0007 723-5421 723-5421 824-3137

GENERAL OFFICES : 40 EAST BROADWAY, BUTTE, MONTANA 59701

MONTANA POWER COMPANY

September 21, 1993

Diar :

A: per our discussions on Jugust 23, 1993, we will lold our scond meeting in Thompson Falls on Monday, September, 27, 1993. The meeting will be held is the Sanders County Courthouse Courtroom at 1:30 p.m. Please review the draft drawing for the revised recreation plan so we can discuss it at the meeting.

I: you have any questions | lease feel free to call 1 e at (406) 713-5421, extension 3263

Sincerely

Elvin Fitzhugh Coordinator, Land U e and Recreation Re ources

1 :/st

i

nclosure

c: Dan Hays - FERC

3263T01-7

TELEPHONE 4 723-5421 . FACSIMILE 406/496-5099

Thompson Falls Hydroelectric Project, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission No. 1869-003 Mailing List

1

Mark Childress Plains Ranger District U.S. Forest Service P.O. Box 429 Plains, MT 59859 Larry Ward, Mayor City of Thompson Falls P.O. Box 263 Thompson Falls, MT 59873 Dan Vincent, Regional Supervisor Region 1 Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks 490 North Median Road Kalispell, MT 59901 Cherrie Hooten Sanders County Commissioner Sanders County P.O. Box 519 Thompson Falls, MT 59873 Bob Fletcher, Secretary Sanders County Economic Development Corp. First State Bank of Thompson Falls P.O. Box 638 Thompson Falls, MT 59873 Michael Duwe Division of Planning and Compliance National Park Service Rocky Mountain Regional Office 12795 West Alameda Parkway P.O. Box 25287

Denver, CO 80225-0287

123 93022002

Sanders County State of Montana



September 27, 1993

Mr. Fitzhugh Montana Power Company

Dear Mr. Fitzhugh:

I am sorry I will be unable to attend your meeting today. I will be acting as Sanders County Representative for a Three County Regional RC&D meeting at the Rimrock today. No information was forthcoming on the Highbridge that I am aware of.

Again I am sorry I will be unable to attend today. If you have any questions or information for me, please feel free to call me at 827-4391.

Sincerely,

Chine Huter)

Cherie Hooten, Chainman Board of County Commissioners Sanders County, Montana

P.O. Box 519, 1111 Main St., Thompson Falls, MT 59873 • (406) 827-4391 FAX: (406) 827-4388

7 GENERAL OFFICES : 40 EAST BROADWAY, BUTTE, MONTANA 59701 - - -• MONTANA POWER COMPANY . . :

February 10, 1994

Dear :

We have been in the process of developing the plans for the Thompson Falls Island Recreation Area and have scheduled a meeting to discuss them next week. The meeting will be held in the Sanders County Courthouse Courtroom, located in Thompson Falls at 1:30 p.m. on Thursday, February 17, 1994.

Your participation in the planning process is greatly appreciated and should help insure the recreation plan meets the community's and the public's needs. I have enclosed a copy of the participant mailing list for your information.

If you have any questions, please feel free to call me at (406) 723-5454, extension 73263.

Sincerely,

Elvin Fitzhugh Coordinator, Land Use and Recreation Resources

EF/st

Enclosures

cc: Dan Hays - FERC

Thompson Fall, Hydroelectric Project Federal Energy Regulatory COmmission No. 1869-003 Mailing List

Frei Haas Plains Ranger District U.S. Forest Service P.C. Forest Service . Box 429 Plains, MT 59859 Lar ry Ward, Mayor Cit y of Thompson Falls P.(Box 263 The Box 263 mpson Falls, MT 59873 Dai Vincent, Regional Supervisor Re ion 1 Mo tana Department of Fish, 49 ildlife and Parks North Median Road Ka ispell, MT 59901 Ch rrie Hooten, Commissione: Sa ders County P. . Box 519 Th mpson Falls, MT 59873 NC a Resler, Commissioner Sa lers County P. . Box 519 TI mpson Falls, MT 59873 Be Fletcher, Secretary ders County Economic Dev Sa opment Corp. F. st State Bank of Thompso Falls P . Box 638 T! ppson Falls, MT 59873 м nael Duwe D ision of Planning and Co liance N ional Park Service R cy Mountain Regional Of: :8 1 95 West Alameda Parkway P . Box 25287 D Jer, CO 80225-0287

12002-1

T-Falls

Metting

2/17/44

Tipeme

•

Representing

.

· · · ·

Phone #

Elvin Fitzhugh Joyly upens Tom Eggensperger Fred Hours BOB FLETCHER . Larry Ward Robut & Bridgen Boz FULTON

MPC 723-5471 PWP 752-5501 827-3542 City of the 3421 826-3821 USFS Plain Theorem FallsRD 827-3565

SAMOUTS CIT COC 827-3585 City of T Falls 827-3277 MPCO Hydro Plant 827 4735 CUISULTINE 8539217 GENERAL OFFICES : 40 EAST BROADWAY, BUTTE, MONTANA 59701

MONTANA POWER COMPANY

February 24, 1994

Dear :

As per our discussions during the February 17, 1994 meeting, I am enclosing a copy of the final plans for the Thompson Falls Recreation Development. Hopefully, all of the issues that have been discussed are addressed in the plans. If we have overlooked something you are concerned with, please let me know immediately. Otherwise, please provide me with your concurrence by March 9, 1994. This will allow us time to file the plans with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission by the April 1, 1994 deadline.

Again, thank you for your time and effort in helping us develop a plan that will meet the public's needs in the Thompson Falls area. If you have any questions, please feel free to call me at (406) 723-5454, extension 73263.

Sincerely,

Elvin Fitzhugh Coordinator, Land Use and Recreation Resources

EF/st

Enclosure

cc: Dan Hays, FERC Marty Watkins, MDFWP Fred Haas, USFS

bcc: Jack HaffeyArt NeillBill RhoadsDon SpragueLarry ThompsonBob BrickzinRick WalshBob CovingtonDave SatherJohn Van DaveerPat AsayMike Manion

294055791-1

TELEPHONE 406/723-5421 + FACSIMILE 406/496-5099

Thompson Falls Hydroelectric Project Federal Energy Regulatory Commission No. 1869-003 Mailing List

Dick Smith, District Ranger Plains Ranger District **U.S. Forest Service** P.O. Box 429 Plains, MT 59859 Larry Ward, Mayor City of Thompson Falls P.O. Box 263 Thompson Falls, MT 59873 Dan Vincent, Regional Supervisor Region 1 Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks 490 North Median Road Kalispell, MT 59901 Cherrie Hooten, Commissioner Sanders County P.O. Box 519 Thompson Falls, MT 59873 Norm Resler, Commissioner Sanders County P.O. Box 519 Thompson Falls, MT 59873 Bob Fletcher, Secretary Sanders County Economic Development Corp. First State Bank of Thompson Falls P.O. Box 638 Thompson Falls, MT 59873 Nathalie Powell Division of Environmental and Public Services National Park Service Rocky Mountain Regional Office 12795 West Alameda Parkway P.O. Box 25287 Denver, CO 80225-0287