

“Assessing the Hydro Dam at Lac Courte Oreilles”

Lac Courte Oreilles Band of Lake Superior Ojibwe

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About Lac Courte Oreilles (LCO)



- Located in upper Northwest Wisconsin
- Land base is about 76,000 acres
- 7,275 members
- Adopted Kyoto Protocol in 2005
- Land Use Comprehensive Plan adopted in 2006
- 2008 DOE First Steps Grant Awarded

LCO Tribal Mission

We, the Anishinaabeg, the people of Odaawaa Zaagaa'iganing, the Lac Courte Oreilles Tribe, will sustain our heritage by preserving our past, strengthening our present and embracing our future. We will defend our inherent sovereign rights and safeguard Mother Earth. We will provide for the educational, health, social welfare and economic stability of the present and future generations.



“Assessing the Hydro Dam of Lac Courte Oreilles”



Overall Goal: Provide the Tribal Governing Board with the necessary information needed to enter into the renegotiation process of the Power Sales Contract at the end of the Decade.

Hydro Dam Project

- Conduct engineering and financial feasibility study
- Conduct a legal review of the current Power Sales Contract
- Obtain management proposals



Current Issues



- Barely or non-functioning generator
- Management functions
- Fluctuating environmental conditions
- Reporting systems
- Under funded
- Power service contract with Xcel

The Chippewa Flowage

- Winter, Wisconsin in Sawyer County
- 1924 the Flowage was created
- 1970's the Dam was turned over to LCO
- 2000 the Joint Agency Management Plan for the Chippewa Flowage



The Team

- Leslie Isham
- Energy Task Force
- Engineering Firm
- Legal Consultant
- Hydro Dam Operator
- Tribal Governing Board



The Desired Outcome

- Hydro Dam prosper to fullest extent
- Possible re-routing of transmission to the Tribe
- Ownership of green credits
- Retirement of debt owed to Xcel Energy





Any questions?
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GIIGAWAABAMIN