

Traverse City Light & Power (L&P) is beginning the process of surrendering our license to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) for generating power at the Brown Bridge, Boardman and Sabin dams on the Boardman River. The following is a series of questions and answers relating to this action.

**Q: Who owns the dams?**

**A:** The City of Traverse City owns the Brown Bridge dam. Grand Traverse County owns the Boardman and Sabin dams.

**Q: Does this mean the dams will be removed?**

**A:** No. L&P does not own the dams and cannot make this decision. However, if L&P removes electric generation equipment from the dams, this will clear the way for the owners of the dams to decide whether or not they wish to maintain or remove them. To this end, the owners are committed to conducting a feasibility study to consider such issues as: land management; water quality; wildlife management; threatened, endangered and sensitive species management and other matters.

**Q: Why did L&P decide NOT to generate electric power using the dams?**

**A:** What was a good idea years ago for generating environmentally friendly energy is no longer economically feasible. Because of the age of the dams and the way FERC compels us to run them, L&P will never generate enough electricity to pay for the constantly changing regulatory-mandated repairs and studies. FERC mandated work among all three dams is currently projected at four to six million dollars over the next two to five years.

*More Q&A on other side*



Boardman Dam



Sabin Dam



TRAVERSE CITY  
LIGHT & POWER

Investing Our Energy In You

[www.tclp.org](http://www.tclp.org)

24-hour emergency service:  
922-4940

Billing/other questions:  
922-4431

**Q: If L&P is not generating electricity using the dams or using the bayfront plant anymore, where will L&P be generating electricity?**

**A:** Besides operating a wind turbine generator, L&P has majority ownership in a 50 megawatt natural gas-fired combustion turbine power plant in Kalkaska County. L&P also has partial ownership of several other electric generating plants downstate and is a member of the Michigan Public Power Agency (MPPA). This agency consists of 13 municipal utilities like Charlevoix, Harbor Springs, and Lansing Board of Power and Light, some of whom generate electricity to meet the needs of other members.

**Q: How soon will the electric generation equipment be removed from the dams?**

**A:** This is unknown. L&P will not begin to remove electric generation equipment until FERC grants our license surrender. Similar equipment removal projects have taken one to three years to complete after receiving license surrender.

**Q: Who will regulate the dams, once the electric generation equipment is removed?**

**A:** Regulation of the dams is expected to pass from FERC to the DEQ (Department of Environmental Quality), once the electric generation equipment is removed.

*Websites of agencies or businesses mentioned in the above answers include:*

City of Traverse City: [www.ci.traverse-city.mi.us/index.htm](http://www.ci.traverse-city.mi.us/index.htm) • DEQ: [www.michigan.gov/deq](http://www.michigan.gov/deq) • FERC: [www.ferc.gov](http://www.ferc.gov)  
Grand Traverse County: [www.grandtraverse.org](http://www.grandtraverse.org) • MPPA: [www.mppower.org](http://www.mppower.org) • Traverse City Light & Power: [www.tclp.org](http://www.tclp.org)

## PLANT SALE! *Attract Songbirds & Butterflies! Beautify Your Lawn & Garden!*

Buy...

**Wildflowers,  
Ground Covers,  
Ferns & More from  
Grand Traverse  
Conservation District!**



Grand Traverse  
Conservation District

**3 Days Only: May 20 – 22**

**At Traverse City Light & Power's facility:  
1131 Hastings Street**

Copyright 2005 Traverse City Light & Power Printed in USA

*Many native species including:*

**Wild Columbine  
Jack-in-the-Pulpit  
Butterfly Weed  
Cardinal Flower  
Wild Bergamot  
Little Bluestem  
Switch Grass  
Joe-Pye Weed  
Bearberry  
Wild Iris  
White Trillium  
Christmas Fern  
And many more!**

*Hours:*

Friday, May 20, 8 am-6 pm  
Saturday, May 21, 8 am-5 pm  
Sunday, May 22, 10 am-2 pm

*Sponsored by...*

Traverse City Light & Power

Proceeds  
support the...



Grand Traverse  
Conservation District



TRAVERSE CITY  
LIGHT & POWER

Investing Our Energy In You

[www.tclp.org](http://www.tclp.org)

24-hour emergency service:  
922-4940

Billing/other questions:  
922-4431