

**CONSUMERS ENERGY ANNOUNCES LAKE ALLEGAN DRAWDOWN COMPLETE AND WILL BE RETURNED TO NORMAL LEVEL AFTER APPROVAL BY STATE AND FEDERAL AGENCIES**

ALLEGAN, Mich., Aug. 4, 2010 – Consumers Energy announced today that it is completing the process of lowering Lake Allegan at the Calkins Bridge (Consumers Energy Lake Allegan) Dam as part of a contingency plan developed by State and Federal agencies dealing with the Kalamazoo River oil spill.

The Michigan Department of Natural Resources and Environment (MDNRE) and other State and Federal agencies directed Consumers Energy to lower the level of Lake Allegan in case the oil spill couldn't be contained upstream from the city of Allegan. According to authorities, a lower lake level and the slower-moving water downstream from Allegan would support efforts to capture the oil.

Consumers Energy plans to return Lake Allegan to its normal level as soon as possible after getting approval from the agencies directing cleanup efforts on the Kalamazoo River. Those agencies include the National Transportation Safety Board, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the MDNRE.

Lakefront property owners and recreational users of Lake Allegan are encouraged to consider how reduced lake levels could affect their activities, boat dockage conditions and safety. No timetable has been set at this time for returning the lake to its normal level.

The Calkins Bridge Dam, which creates Lake Allegan, was acquired by Consumers Energy in 1969 and produces more than 13 million kilowatt-hours of electricity a year, enough to meet the power needs of 1,550 residential customers.

Consumers Energy, the principal subsidiary of CMS Energy, provides natural gas and electricity to nearly 6.5 million of Michigan's 10 million residents in all 68 Lower Peninsula counties.

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For more information about Consumers Energy, visit our Website [www.consumersenergy.com](http://www.consumersenergy.com)

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