



**NEWS RELEASE**

For immediate release:  
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## **Heavy Rainfall Increases River Flows**

**Additional rainfall still in forecast for central and northern Wisconsin as well as U.P.**

**Green Bay, WI and Ishpeming, MI** – Heavy rainfall last night and today in central and northern Wisconsin (and expected in the U.P. today) has significantly increased river flows in the region. Wisconsin Public Service (WPS), Wisconsin River Power Company (WRPCO), and Upper Peninsula Power Company (UPPCO) have drawn down reservoirs created by dams in central and northern Wisconsin, as well as in the Upper Peninsula. These drawdowns are needed to create room in the reservoirs for the forecast increase in river flows by the National Weather Service. Information at this time from the NWS indicates that this rainfall event could be the most significant in several years. **The companies remind users of the reservoirs and residents downstream from dams that danger increases during high river flows.**

Reportedly, four inches of rain or more has fallen in central Wisconsin with several more inches expected there and in northern Wisconsin before the rainfall event ends. Currently, the WRPCO Petenwell and Castle Rock flowages on the Wisconsin River are lowering the reservoirs in preparation for receiving the influx of water passed through upstream dams. Lesser rainfall amounts have fallen thus far in the U.P.

“By releasing a larger amount water now, we hope to minimize the release of significantly greater amounts later.” explained Bruce Crocker, Superintendent of Generation – Wisconsin for WPS, which is part owner of WRPCO and operator of the two flowages. The Wisconsin River at the Petenwell and Castle Rock flowages is expected to crest late Saturday and early Sunday, respectively.

WPS, WRPCO, and UPPCO urge people to pay attention to weather and news reports about the rainfall and to be prepared to act in the event of flooding or fast-moving water.