INTERNATIONAL JOINT COMMISSION

IN THE MATTER OF EMERGENCY REGULATION OF THE LEVEL OF RAINY LAKE AND OTHER BOUNDARY WATERS IN THE RAINY LAKE WATERSHED.

SUPPLEMENTARY ORDER

7 May, 1980

to the Order Prescribing Method of Regulating the Levels of Boundary Waters, dated 8 June 1949, as amended by Supplementary Orders dated 1 October 1957 and 29 July 1970.

The Commission was informed on May 5, 1980, by the International Rainy Lake Board of Control that, based on present water supply trends, Rainy and Namakan Lakes are expected to be outside the rule curves and subject to a continuance of minimum outflows prescribed in the Commission's 1970 Supplementary Order. The Board further advised that it is likely it will be some months before lake levels would again be inside the operating band.

On the basis of the assessment, the Board recommended reducing the outflows to 2500 cfs from Rainy Lake and to 500 cfs from Namakan Lake from May 7 to August 15 in order to conserve water under prevalent critical drought conditions. It took note of the advice of the International Rainy River Water Pollution Board that a minimum of 2,500 cfs would be acceptable under present water supply conditions.

The Board also noted that the Canadian Lake of the Woods Control Board has reduced outflows from Lake of the Woods in order to retain as much water as possible within Lake of the Woods Basin.

THE COMMISSION THEREFORE ORDERS AND DIRECTS THAT, notwithstanding the terms of the Commission's Order dated 8 June 1949, as amended, the outflows from Rainy and Namakan Lakes shall be regulated so that the daily mean discharges shall be 2500 and 500 cfs respectively, provided that either or both discharges shall be increased temporarily if so directed by the International Rainy Lake Board of Control to prevent the dissolved oxygen level in the Rainy River from falling below 4 milligrams per liter or in response to improved supply conditions.

The Companies shall furnish the outflow information each day to the United States and Canadian members of the International Rainy Lake Board of Control and the Chairmen of the International Rainy River Water Pollution Board.

In the event that it comes to the attention of the International Rainy River Water Pollution Board or either Company that these flows are causing difficulties on Lake of the Woods or the Rainy River, they shall immediately advise the Commission and the International Rainy Lake Board of Control.
Unless otherwise ordered by the Commission, this Supplementary Order shall continue in force until August 15, 1980.

Signed this 7th Day of May 1980.

Robert J. Sugarman
Stuart M. Hodgson
Charles R. Ross

Bernard Beaupré
Jean R. Roy
Jean L. Hennessey