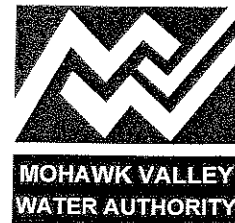


Mohawk Valley Water Authority
One Kennedy Plaza
Utica, NY 13502
Telephone (315) 792-0301
Fax (315) 792-4722
www.mvwa.us



September 26, 2007

Hon. Anthony J. Picente
Oneida County Executive
County Office Bldg.
800 Park Avenue, Utica, NY 13501

RE: Water Conservation Emergency

Dear Mr. Picente:

As you know, the MVWA has had extensive communication with the county and state health departments regarding the unusually low water levels in Hinckley Reservoir. The water level continues to drop and is now down to an elevation of 1188 feet, which is the lowest level on record for the reservoir at this time of year.

Barring any significant changes in precipitation or management of outflows through the dam, the reservoir level will continue to drop and the drinking water supply system may be seriously jeopardized.

Accordingly, all users of the reservoir need to implement conservation measures. Relative to the MVWA system, we are advising adoption of emergency measures as defined in our Emergency Response Plan (please see attached list).

Therefore it is requested that a state of emergency be declared at the county level, mandating specific water conservation measures for all areas in Oneida County served by the MVWA (see attached map).

In addition to these conservation measures, the MVWA is working cooperatively with all involved agencies in an effort to halt the draining of Hinckley Reservoir and allow it to recover. We are especially concerned about the NYS Canal Corporation's abnormally high volume of releases, which in recent months have been in excess of the amounts prescribed in the operating diagram and established protocol. It is equally disturbing that the Canal Corporation has disregarded public health concerns by denying repeated requests from the New York Power Authority to reduce the rate of water being released through the dam. We will keep you apprised of this situation.

We appreciate your attention to this important matter and your support in taking this necessary action. Should you have any questions, please call me at 792-0310.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Patrick J. Becher". The signature is written in a cursive, somewhat stylized font.

Patrick J. Becher
Executive Director