

**HIGHLIGHT OF CASCADE DAM  
JULY 16, 1991**

1926	Dam construction & electrified by Michigan Waterpower Co.
Depression	Consumers Power Company purchased dam. All flowage rights assigned to Consumers Power Co. Consumers supplied electricity for 32 years.
8-27-63	Inspected soil erosion from airport & surrounding areas into Popko Creek & then into Thornapple River.
10-20-69	Consumers Power wants to dismantile dam if ownership to dam is not accepted by a governmental unit. If sufficient signatures are gathered on a petition, Cascade would establish a special assessment district under Act 146 of 1961 & accept title to the dam. Affects 200 pieces of property. Need 2/3 approval.
8-26-69	Cascade Twsp asks Cascade-Thornapple Association to take title to dam
8-30-69	Association does not want title to dam
1970	Consumers sells dam to Cascade Twsp for \$1. Twsp owns all land below 666'. Maintenance & water level is responsibility of drain commissioner.
1971	Dam de-electrified.
11-6-73	Court ordered water level at 663.5' above mean sea level except twice each year – may drop to 659.5 for 3 days.
7-10-75	Kumar Malhotra, director sanitary engineering research and studies, Williams & Works, Engineers, Surveyors, Planners, Geologists, States it was certain that the major cause of water quality problems was silt & sediment in the water. The causes of this were run-off from land development areas, such as Kent County Airport & Forest Hills Condominiums, bank erosion, agricultural activity & rough fish (CARP) stirring up silt.
10-29-75	Cascade-Thornapple Association Incorporated.
12-17-80	Documentation of siltation problem of Thornapple River Basin & Cascade Bayou for 4 years.
1982	Association passed proposal to stop paying special assessment. Bittrick says lease between Cascade Twsp & Lessee will relieve Association of all financial responsibilities. If so, why doesn't Association retain fund? Expenses of operation should be paid by Lessee. Twsp doesn't need it.
10-19-82	Cascade Treasurer says dam profits won't become part of Twsp's general fund. The money would be put in trust to provide for any major repairs which might be required to dam.

- 8-1-83 Draft of lease between Twsp & Enegrid Investment LTD: Rent: \$50,000/YR + ½ of residual profit (revenue less debt service, additions & improvements & operating expenses, excluding depreciation). Twsp to pay for major repairs to dam.
- 8-4-83 Enegrid wants Twsp to use powers of condemnation to remedy defects in title to dam & flowage rights.
- 11-10-83 Twsp can't guarantee that Association, via drain commission, would be held harmless from repair & maintenance of dam.
- 1983 Association requested drain commission transfer over funds.
- 1984 By law, supposedly, funds remain with the drain commission for possible future usage.
- 1984 Association complains to Twsp of massive siltation from Sentinel Point Project.
- 1984 Barry Bittrick says Gabion Wiers, with proper maintenance, should alleviate sedimentation. Sediment should be removed & removal is responsibility of drain commissioner.
- 1984 Dam received federal exemption & became licensed by Federal Energy Regulatory Commission to produce saleable energy.
- 1984 Enegrid Investment LTD signed 17-YR contract with Twsp to engineer, construct & operate dam – construction to end by 1/86. Twsp guaranteed \$50,000/YR beginning in 1986 & will split further profits with Enegrid. When contract expires in 2001, Twsp can opt to be sole operator or draft another contract.
- 1985 Minutes of Chapter 20 Drainage Board on the Thornapple Hills Drain: Bittrick says District responsible to clean sediment in Four Wiers.
- 1985 STS & Enegrid agree on joint venture to retrofit & operate dam.
- Fall 1985 Sludge removed from toxic waste dump.