



January 07, 2010

For immediate release

Media contact: Mike Paul VP, BEPCO

715-457-6953 [vicepresident@bigeaupleine.org](mailto:vicepresident@bigeaupleine.org)

## **BEPCO announces reaching of fund raising goal and projected completion of the Big Eau Pleine aerator project**

The Big Eau Pleine Citizens Organization, BEPCO, is pleased to announce that we have successfully completed our fundraising efforts for the aerator upgrade project for the Big Eau Pleine Reservoir. Our \$27,000 goal was greatly exceeded, receiving over \$32,000 in support, allowing for upgrades not included in the initial project to be accomplished. We wish to thank all of those who made a contribution to this important project. “This shows the concern and involvement of the local community in beginning to address the issues on the Big Eau Pleine, and with the aerator upgrade, the first step is taken to help prevent future fish kills on the reservoir,” said Liz Zentner who led the fundraising effort.

BEPCO’s fundraising of the matching grant monies combined with the funds from the Marathon County American Transmission Company (ATC) fund (these funds are not from tax revenues) for environmental projects will allow for the completion of this project with an initial projected cost of \$54,000.

The project continues on time this winter with the purchase of new material for the replacement of the aeration lines and upgrades to the blower pumps and pump house. The original aerator was installed in 1981 and was showing its age. “These upgrades will bring new, up to date, technology and a real improvement to the efficiency of the system” said Tim Garrigan, BEPCO President.

During the weeks of January 11 and 18, we will need volunteers to assist as the lines and rebar are laid out on the ice, then the ice cut and dropping in the lines. Please sign up at the BEPCO meeting on Sunday, January 10 at the Green Valley Town Hall, 10:30 a.m., or contact Tim at 715-897-0342.

Please follow the progress on our web site: [www.bigeaupleine.org](http://www.bigeaupleine.org)

Thank you