# **MEETING NOTES**

# SOUTH CAROLINA ELECTRIC & GAS COMPANY Lake and Land Management TWC Meeting

April 22, 2015

Final KDM 06-08-15

ATTENDEES:

Bill Marshall (SCDNR) Byron Hamstead (USFWS) Dick Christie (SCDNR) Randy Mahan (SCE&G) Beth Trump (SCE&G) Steve Summer (SCANA) Greg Mixon (SCDNR) Lorianne Riggin (SCDNR) Bill Argentieri (SCE&G) Scott Collins (SCE&G) Tommy Boozer (SCE&G) Henry Mealing (Kleinschmidt) Alison Jakupca (Kleinschmidt) Kelly Miller (Kleinschmidt) Malcolm Leaphart (Congaree Riverkeeper)

These notes serve to be a summary of the major points presented during the meeting and are not intended to be a transcript or analysis of the meeting.

Alison opened the meeting with a review of the land use classifications and prescriptions that were determined at previous meetings. A summary of these classifications and prescriptions for Parr and Monticello are attached to the end of these notes.

Dick asked if the lands around Monticello Reservoir are open to the public for passive recreation, just like those lands located around the Recreation Lake. Tommy said that it isn't advertised, but yes, the shoreline of Monticello Reservoir is open to the public for passive recreation. Alison added that Project lands are available for passive recreation, except those classified as Project Operations or Nuclear Exclusion and are restricted for public safety and security purposes. She will clarify this in the Shoreline Management Plans (SMPs).

The group then examined the color-coded, land classification GIS map of Monticello Reservoir Byron said since forestry use is included in recreation areas, he wants more information on the forestry management practices in those areas. Dick said that the definition for the recreation classification does not include mention of forestry management. Alison said that he was correct, that forestry is not included in the recreation section yet, and this information will be added. She also said that there is a separate section on forestry management already included in the SMP.

Randy said that SCE&G uses accepted forestry practices. Byron said he doesn't want to see clear cutting, since it can exacerbate erosion. He said that the Recreation Lake is especially important because it includes a large area where the forest is managed. Malcolm asked if prescribed burns are used as a part of forestry management. Scott said that understory prescribed burns have been done in some areas around the Recreation Lake, approximately every 5 to 10 years, and on the islands more frequently. He added that an area near Monticello Reservoir was clear cut several years back



due to an outbreak of the Southern Pine beetle. Byron asked how SCE&G manages the land around the lake, while maintaining the integrity of the strip of land directly adjacent to the shoreline and preventing an outbreak of beetles. Scott said that if there is an outbreak, they would probably need to thin the area adjacent to the shoreline. Outside of the shoreline buffer area, SCE&G thins to keep the pine forest healthy, but they generally don't clear cut. Dick said that the methods and goals of the management practices should be identified.

Byron asked if there is a written prescription for Project lands. SCE&G follows the State of South Carolina Forestry Best Management Practices. Any stricter forestry management practices are on a case-by-case basis at the discretion of SCE&G.

The group continued to look at land use classifications around Monticello Reservoir, clarifying areas and classifications as necessary. One area on the east side of the Reservoir in particular is classified as future recreation; however the current map identifies a portion of future recreation outside the PBL. This will be clarified on future maps and discussions on the need to develop this property will continue through the relicensing.

A tract of land located close to the Fairfield Development, which was originally identified for future recreation, is proposed to be reclassified as Project Operations. This was changed because there is no or limited access, and the parcel is located close to the Fairfield dams and tailrace channel. Scott said that this land has also been set aside for safety reasons due to the nuclear plant expansion.

The group reviewed that back property owners must own 200 ft along the PBL to qualify for a dock, and the back property must be close enough to the shoreline as to allow for a meandering path not longer than 200 ft. Byron said he wants the guidelines to say that all docks will be ground truthed by SCE&G staff. The color-coded GIS map should not be interpreted as permission to have a dock, since there are some areas that may not be distinguished accurately as a dock exclusion zone.

The group then focused on the shoreline around Parr Reservoir. The waters of Monticello Reservoir and portions of Parr Reservoir are within the SCDNR Wildlife Management Area classification for duck hunting and are therefore open to the public for hunting with a WMA permit. WMA guidelines are further discussed in the SMP and Permitting Handbook. As on Monticello, passive recreation is allowed on the lands around Parr Reservoir that are classified as "Non-development". WMA lands are included in the recreation numbers in the SMP classification table.

Steve said that an area on the shoreline of Parr Reservoir is going to be the site for the discharge of the new nuclear units. He asked if this area needs to be reclassified as Project operations, instead of a non-development, dock exclusion area. The group agrees to keep the classification as non-development, since the shoreline will return to normal once construction is finished, the discharge will be located underwater and this activity is not related to Parr Hydro operations.

Docks are not a permitted structure along the Parr Reservoir shoreline, however there may be meandering paths and water withdrawals permitted.

Dick asked if more of the shoreline around Monticello could be classified as dock exclusion areas, to protect the shoreline from more development. He said he knows that it would be difficult to change many of the areas, but that it is worth a look. Tommy said that many people have purchased



property with the intent to install a dock or an access path to the lake, based on the existing SMP. It would be hard to take this away.

Byron said he wants to see more specific language around natural areas, including how SCE&G plans to protect the natural areas, to keep the integrity and value of certain ecological features and cove habitats for the next 40 or 50 years.

Bill M said that when he worked on the Keowee-Toxaway Project for Duke Energy, they developed a habitat inventory, which included a classification system for various levels of habitat. This provided a tool to use for future evaluation of shoreline habitat, by giving you something to reevaluate. It helped to set goals or create incentives for maintaining habitat. Bill M said he would send this information out to the TWC. Tommy said they have something like this in place at Lake Murray, but nothing has been developed for Monticello Reservoir yet.

After this discussion, the meeting closed. Listed below are action items stemming from this meeting.

# ACTION ITEMS:

- Alison and Byron will talk separately to discuss "natural areas" language.
- Alison will continue to work with Corbin and the SCE&G forestry management group to include information in the SMP about the forestry management practices at Monticello and Parr reservoirs.
- Scott will clean up the GIS map.
- Alison will include language in the introduction of the SMP to discuss how all Projectowned property except that designated as Nuclear Exclusion Zone and Project Operations is open to the public for passive recreation activities.
- Bill M will distribute Keowee-Toxaway habitat inventory.
- Alison will include forestry management in the definition of "Recreation" for both the Parr and Monticello SMPs.



# Parr Hydroelectric Project (FERC No. 1894) Proposed Land Use Classifications and Prescriptions

Monticello Reservoir

## **PROJECT OPERATIONS**

<u>Classification</u>: This classification includes SCE&G-owned and managed lands required for operation of the Fairfield Development.

<u>Prescription</u>: Public access to, and activities upon, these lands is restricted to ensure public safety and security.

## NUCLEAR EXCLUSION ZONE

<u>Classification</u>: The Nuclear Exclusion Zone consists of the area surrounding the V.C. Summer Nuclear Station between the Project boundary line and shoreline and a specified area within Monticello Reservoir where SCE&G as the reactor licensee has the authority to determine all activities, including exclusion or removal of personnel and property. This area is designated by warning signs on the landward side and by buoys on the lakeward side.

<u>Prescription:</u> Public access to, and activities upon, these lands is restricted to ensure public safety and security.

## SHORELINE PERMITTING (PREVIOUSLY DOCK APPROVAL PROPERTY)

<u>Classification</u>: Areas within the Shoreline Permitting Classification may be eligible for certain private residential uses upon approval by SCE&G. These uses include a single, meandering path and a dock, shoreline stabilization, and water withdrawal for residential irrigation purposes. This classification does not allow for commercial activities.

<u>Prescription:</u> Residential landowners whose property adjoins lands within the Shoreline Permitting classification may be eligible for certain permitted structures only upon written consent from SCE&G's Lake Management Department. SCE&G strictly regulates the placement and construction of permitted structures. Specific information relating to permitted structures is included within this Permitting Handbook.

#### **PUBLIC RECREATION**

<u>Classification</u>: Lands under this classification serve as recreational resources for the public and include areas managed expressly for recreation as well as those with recreation as a secondary usage. Project lands devoted to public recreation include developed park sites, public boat launches, the Recreation Lake, properties set aside for future recreational development, and islands on Monticello Reservoir owned by SCE&G.

<u>Prescription:</u> With the exception of the islands, which are maintained in their natural condition, SCE&G manages the areas based on the specific, designated recreational activities for each, including swimming, fishing, picnicking, and boat launching.

#### Islands

SCE&G owns all of the islands on Monticello Reservoir and they are available for passive public recreational use, as described within the prescription below.

<u>Prescription:</u> The islands on Monticello Reservoir are available for passive public recreational use, such as fishing, walking and bird watching. Hunting is prohibited on the islands.

## **Recreation Lake**

The Recreation Lake is located at the north end of Monticello Reservoir and is approximately 300 acres and 10 miles of shoreline. The Recreation Lake was constructed to provide stable water fisheries and recreation opportunities.

<u>Prescription:</u> The park area at the Recreation Lake offers fishing, swimming and picnic facilities. Regulations for its use are posted at the park site. The swimming/beach area is closed October through March. The boat launch area is open every day, all year long. No private docks or boat ramps will be permitted on the shoreline of the Recreation Lake. Meandering paths and water withdrawals for residential irrigation only may be considered on a case-by-case basis.

# NON-DEVELOPMENT AREAS (PREVIOUSLY UNDEV AREAS/DOCK EXCLUSION)

<u>Classification</u>: Lands under this classification warrant special protection because they may provide important habitat, aesthetic values, or other significant Project characteristics.

<u>Prescription:</u> SCE&G will not permit private shoreline development for Project lands under this classification.

## Parr Reservoir

#### **PROJECT OPERATIONS**

<u>Classification</u>: This classification includes SCE&G-owned and managed lands required for operation of the Parr Shoals Development.

<u>Prescription:</u> Public access to, and activities upon, these lands is restricted to ensure public safety and security.

#### **PUBLIC RECREATION**

<u>Classification</u>: Lands under this classification serve as recreational resources for the public and include areas managed expressly for recreation as well as those with recreation as a secondary usage. Project lands devoted to public recreation include developed park sites, public boat launches, hunting areas, properties set aside for future recreational development, Pearson's Island, and shoals on Parr Reservoir owned by SCE&G.

<u>Prescription:</u> With the exception of Pearson's Island, which is maintained in its natural condition, SCE&G manages the areas based on the specific, designated recreational activities for each, including hunting, swimming, fishing, picnicking, primitive camping and boat launching. Private permitted activities are excluded.

## Pearson's Island and Shoals

<u>Prescription:</u> Pearson's Island is located on Parr Reservoir and is open for passive public recreational use, such as fishing, walking, and bird watching. Hunting is prohibited on SCE&G owned islands. Due to the fluctuation of Parr Reservoir resulting from the Fairfield Development's pumped storage operations, shoals (areas of exposed or nearly exposed, shallow lake bottom) in Parr Reservoir may be dewatered and are open for passive recreational activities.

## Wildlife Management Areas

Portions of Project lands are included in the South Carolina Department of Natural Resources ("SCDNR") statewide Wildlife Management Areas (WMA) Program. These areas are open to the public for hunting and other recreational activities (visit http://dnr.sc.gov/wma/index.html for

additional information). The Broad River and Enoree River WMA's are open to public hunting only on specified days. Hunting is not allowed on SCE&G property unless designated under SCDNR's Wildlife Management Areas (WMA) Program. For additional information on these areas, please visit the SCDNR website at http://dnr.sc.gov/wma/index.html.

<u>Prescription:</u> Hunting is not allowed on SCE&G property unless designated under SCDNR's WMA Program. WMA Program areas may be available for hunting of waterfowl, small game and/or deer. Other recreational activities are allowed as well. See SCDNR website for regulations and WMA maps. Portions of Parr Reservoir are designated as a waterfowl management area under the WMA program.

#### NON-DEVELOPMENT AREAS (PREVIOUSLY UNDEV AREAS/DOCK EXCLUSION)

<u>Classification:</u> Project lands under this classification are protected from private development. This is done for the protection of the environmental and aesthetic integrity of the shoreline.

<u>Prescription:</u> SCE&G will generally not permit private shoreline development for Project lands under this classification. An exception to this may be made for meandering paths and water withdrawals on a case-by-case basis upon written approval of SCE&G.