

MEETING NOTES

SOUTH CAROLINA ELECTRIC & GAS COMPANY Recreation TWC Meeting

May 14, 2013

Final KDM 06-17-13

ATTENDEES:

Bill Marshall (SCDNR)	Bill Argentieri (SCE&G)
David Haddon (SCE&G)	Milton Quattlebaum (SCANA)
David Hancock (SCE&G)	Randy Mahan (SCANA)
Alan Stuart (Kleinschmidt)	Kelly Miller (Kleinschmidt)
Alison Jakupca (Kleinschmidt)	Bill Stangler (Congaree Riverkeeper)
Jeff Carter	Billy Hendrix
Dick Christie (SCDNR)	Elly Jones (SCPRT)
Tommy Boozer (SCE&G)	Vivianne Vejdani (SCDNR)
Prescott Brownell (NOAA) via conference call	

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.

After introductions, Bill A. gave the group a presentation on the property owned by SCE&G located below the Parr Dam. Bill emphasizes that this land is located outside of the Project Boundary Line. A map of the properties is located at the end of these notes. The Frost Mill parcel is approximately 62 acres of land where wood chips and other wood by-products are dumped. The Summer Shoals area has a public road (Fulmer Bottom Road) which leads down to the property however there are several other parcels of land that have no public access. Bill S. asks if SCE&G owns the islands below Haltiwanger Island, known as Chapel Shoals Island and Huffman Island. Bill A. says he is not sure, but he will find out and report back to the group through email.

Alan then focuses the group's attention toward reviewing the current Recreation Management Plan (RMP) for the Project. Bill M. asks if Tommy and David Hancock can go through each site again and explain what amenities are at each site. This information is as follows:

Lake Monticello

- Scenic Overlook – Includes ball field, tennis courts, restrooms, fishing pier, picnic tables, paved walking trail and a playground. It is to be noted that SCE&G only maintains the tip of the overlook. Fairfield County maintains the remainder, as they lease that land from SCE&G.
- Hwy 215 Boat Ramp – Includes a paved parking area, boat ramp with a floating dock, picnic table and shelter. No restrooms.
- Hwy 99 Boat Ramp – Includes a paved parking area, boat ramp and dock, restrooms, picnic tables and shelters. Primitive camping is allowed.

- Future park site – Includes a parcel of land with no public access to it. This area is set aside as a possible future recreation site.
- 7 islands – There are 7 islands on Lake Monticello, and all are used for recreation.
- Recreation Lake Impoundment – A 300 acre lake set aside completely for recreation. Includes a beach area, parking area, boat ramp, shelters, picnic tables, and restrooms. There are no docks on the recreation lake. The lake is surrounded by recreation-designated land, accessible only by boat, which can be used for camping. The beach area is open for use from April 1st until October 1st.

Parr Reservoir:

- Cannons Creek Boat Ramp – Includes shelters, restrooms and a boat ramp.
- Hellers Creek Boat Ramp – Includes picnic tables, shelters, and a boat ramp. No hunting is allowed in this area.
- Terrible Creek Waterfowl Area – Includes 638 acres available for hunting. This is a draw hunt, open one day a week, and has seven blinds, allowing up to 14 people.
- Hwy 34 Boat Ramp – This is a primitive unpaved boat ramp area, with no amenities.
- Enoree River Waterfowl Area – Includes 191 acres for first come, first serve hunting.

While Tommy is reviewing the various recreation sites at the Project, several comments and questions come up. Billy mentions that there are no trespassing signs located on the recreation-designated area surrounding the lake. Tommy clarifies that this area can be used for recreation however the signs are referring to an area leased from SCE&G by SCDNR. No trespassing is allowed on this property, as SCDNR uses it for various projects. Dick says this area may need to be identified with a name for clarification purposes. Also, regarding the Hwy 34 boat ramp, Jeff mentions that this area may need to be improved, if only for safety reasons. He points out that this would be helpful to SCDNR by providing easy access to that stretch of the river, in case of a drowning.

Tommy also mentions a parcel of land currently designated for recreation, known as the Lyne Tract, located very close to the Fairfield Pumped Storage Development. Although it is currently set aside for future recreation, this area is used for project operations, and may not even be safe for recreation, since it is located so close to pumped storage facility. David Hancock and Bill A. agree that this area, including the land located on both sides of the tailrace area, needs to be reclassified.

Billy inquires about a landing located at the top of the Enoree River, which he says is located within the PBL. He would like for this access area to be improved. The group discusses the exact location of this landing and decides it is near Maybinton Road in Newberry County. No one is sure if it is actually within the PBL, but Bill A. and Tommy say they will look into this further.

Alan then focuses the group toward discussion of the Recreation Use Needs Study (RUNS). The group brainstorms what needs to be included in the study, along with methods for data collection. Dick mentions that he would like to see duck and turkey hunting seasons to be included in the study, since there are two locations within the PBL designated solely for waterfowl hunting. Dick says that SCDNR's main issue with regards to recreation is capacity. He says they want to come away from the study with a greater understanding of current and future recreation use at the Project.

Bill M. brings up the idea of targeting specific groups through the RUNS, such as waterfowl hunters. Alan agrees and mentions contacting John Durham of the Tyger-Enoree River Alliance,

who attended one of the public meetings in January. Bill S. adds that the Flyaway Foundation and Delta Waterfowl are two local groups who participate in recreation at the Project. These are all good groups to focus on interviewing for the study.

After everyone has submitted their ideas for the study, Alan has the group review the mission statement for the Recreation RCG to make sure the Recreation Plan study complies with the mission statement. Alan says the next step will be to draw up a draft study plan for the group to review. Brainstorming ideas for the draft study plan were collected by Bill A. and are attached to the end of these meeting notes.

The group then moves to the last item on the agenda, regarding downstream recreational and navigational flows. Dick says that there is a method identified in SC Water Plan for determining the flows needed to maintain navigation. These specifics are found in a 1988 report entitled Instream Flow Study, Phase II: Determination of Minimum Flow Standards to Protect Instream Uses in Priority Stream Segments. Basically it states that a minimum continuous flow for navigation should be at minimum, a depth of one foot across a channel 10 feet wide, or across 10% of a total stream width, whichever is greater. The minimum depth of one foot does not have to occur across a continuous 10% of the stream width however, each point of passage must be at least 10 feet wide.

The group discusses how they believe the shallow spot of the river is located around the second shoal below the dam, above Haltiwanger Island. Bill S. says that some of the areas between the islands should also be examined for constriction. All of these areas should be scouted during the IFIM study, to determine where the most shallow spot is located. Bill S. and David Haddon agree to speak to some people they know who are very familiar with the river and who may be aware of more restrictive areas of the river. Dick notes that the flow needs to be high enough to allow for fish and wildlife health, water quality, and recreational navigation. Although recreational flows included as part of this issue, the group agrees that the greater issue of navigational flows needs to be addressed within the Instream Flows TWC. Bill S. agrees, and states that in his opinion, although navigational and recreational flows are different, if navigational flows are addressed, by default recreational flows should also be sufficient, generally speaking.

Bill M. notes that there are some people who would like to paddle the entire Broad River, and in order to do this would need access to travel around the Parr Dam. He says that possibly a portage trail should be developed and, although he is unsure of what the demand would be, would like this or other ideas for portage around the dam to be considered.

As the meeting is wrapping up, Alan reviews the schedule for the remainder of the relicensing process. Dick expresses concern at the seeming halt in the process, between now and the submitting of the PAD. Alan says that during this time, SCE&G and Kleinschmidt will be writing study plans which will be returned to the TWCs for review. Alan also mentions that we can send out a draft copy of the PAD prior to submittal to FERC, for stakeholder review. He says we can revise the schedule to include a few extra meetings for reviewing the draft study plans and PAD, so everyone is still actively involved in the process.

Alan reminds everyone that the next Operations RCG meeting has been rescheduled for June 27th. With this, the meeting is adjourned. Any action items stemming from this meeting are included below.

ACTION ITEMS:

- Bill Stangler and David Haddon will talk to some people they know who may be more familiar with the shallow spots in the downstream area of Broad River, concerning navigational flows.
- Dick Christie will gather any information SCDNR may have on the duck hunting seasons in the area of the Project.
- Bill A will investigate ideas for canoe/kayak portage around Parr Dam.

Recreation Use Needs Study

- Current use – Monticello Reservoir – February to Labor Day, Broad River Reservoir – Memorial Day to Labor Day
- Projected use
- Lake Park sites – interview
- Broad River Park Sites - interview
- Duck Season – Broad River Reservoir - Saturday after Thanksgiving to January 20??
- Goose Season – Monticello Reservoir – Fall - January
- Turkey Season – Broad River Reservoir - April
- Fishing Tournaments
- Hunting Capacity – are facilities enough to handle level of hunting
- Study period – one year
- Survey Interview Questionnaire – activity (fishing [bank/ pier / boat], pleasure boating, and hunting), park site condition assessment, crowding, what would be useful in future (amenity recommendations), camping, picnicking, wildlife viewing and photography, hiking, island use
- Demographic – zip code, county, birth year, number of people in party
- Time spent on lake
- Reason for choosing this area
- What other lakes to you recreate at?
- Destination
- Time of day – 8am – 12 noon, 12noon – 4pm, 4pm – 8pm
- Days of week – combination of week days and weekends, Memorial Day and Labor Day – random schedule
- Monticello Reservoir – interview locations Rt 215 Park Site, Rt 99 Park Site, impromptu fishing area east side of Rt 99, Recreation Lake (boat ramp and beach area), and Ball Park (Fairfield Overlook)
- Parr Reservoir (Broad River) - interview locations – Cannon’s Creek Park Site, Heller’s Creek Park Site, 34 Bridge Park Site, Enoree River Bridge (counter only/interview?)
- Target focus groups with questionnaire – waterfowl hunters, Flyway Foundation and Delta Waterfowl
- SCDNR provide waterfowl use data at DNR waterfowl hunting areas.

Recreational and Navigation Flows

One way downstream navigation - establish minimum continuous flow for navigation, – should be covered by IFIM study results. Description from SCDNR policy – “A minimum depth of one foot across a channel 10 feet wide or across 10 percent of total stream width, whichever is greater. Minimum depth does not need to occur across a continuous 10 percent of stream width, but each point of passage must be at least 10 feet wide.”

Evaluate channels around islands. If one channel meets the criteria but the other side doesn’t, DNR considers this as meeting the policy. Scout areas during IFIM study

Once navigation is addressed, the group believes recreation concerns on the Broad River have been addressed.

Evaluate portage around Parr Dam (west end)