

**FINAL
PROGRESS ENERGY
YADKIN-PEE DEE RIVER PROJECT RELICENSING
MEETING NOTES SUMMARY
RECREATION AND LAND USE WORKING GROUP
MEETING No. 3
August 13, 2003**

The following is a summary of the items and issues that were discussed during the second meeting of the Recreation and Land Use Working Group held on August 13, 2003, in Pinehurst, NC. The meeting agenda and sign-up sheet are provided as Attachment A.

- 1) Michael Murphy of Devine Tarbell and Associates Inc. (DTA) introduced himself as a consultant for Progress Energy and as serving in the capacity of Meeting Leader. All attendees introduced themselves and their affiliation. Mike reviewed the agenda for the meeting a copy of which had been provided to all attendees.

Meeting Purpose: The first and second Resource Working Group (RWG) Meetings resulted in the preparation of a list of issues. Progress Energy had grouped the issues in the second RWG. Since the second RWG meeting, held June 11th, Progress Energy had prepared Issue Evaluation Templates for each of the 13 identified and agreed upon issues. The use of the Issues Evaluation Templates provides a consistent approach for the evaluation of each identified issue. The evaluation process results in one of the following conclusions:

- 1) There is sufficient existing information to address some or all of the identified issue,
- 2) A study is needed to provide the information needed to address the issue;
- 3) There is no Project effect or the issue is not related to the Project and therefore, no study is needed.

On August 5, 2003, Progress Energy distributed the completed Issues Evaluation Templates to the RWG members for review and comment. The purpose of this meeting was to review each of the Issue Evaluation Templates and listen to and discuss comments from the RWG. Mike explained that we were not necessarily trying to resolve issues today, but identify those that are agreed to need further studies.

- 2) Review of RWG Meeting No. 2 Meeting Summary

Mike referred to the meeting summary that had been forwarded to the members of the RWG and asked if there were any comments. There were no comments on the meeting summary. There was a question on when the meeting notes become final. It was agreed that if there were no comments than the meeting notes would be considered final.

3) Issue Evaluation Template Review

Mike Murphy explained that Larry Mann, Progress Energy and he would be going through the Issue Evaluation Templates. A copy of each Issue Evaluation Template is included as Attachment B. A brief description of the discussion that occurred on each template is provided below. Mike also explained that for those issues where the RWG could not agree or would like to have additional time to review, a “parking lot” would be created to place the issue into. However, one rule for going into the “parking lot” was that the disagreeing parties would reconvene in an effort to resolve their differences, but each would bring a proposed resolution, and not just espouse the same position than those expressed in today’s meeting. The goal was not to have just a replay of the same discussions. It is only worthwhile to revisit if both sides had given additional thought and could work to resolve the issue.

1). Wildlife Corridors. There is no study proposed by Progress Energy. The Project has little or no effect on wildlife corridors that were referred to in this comment in the RWG meeting. Also, the Project does not have control on land use or development upstream, downstream or outside the Project boundary. The Tillery SMP is currently being reviewed by FERC, and the Blewett Falls SMP will be developed by Progress Energy. The SMPs consider aquatic and terrestrial habitats present and the use of these habitats within the Project boundaries. There were no comments on this Issue Evaluation Template.

2). Scenic Vista Opportunities in Project. Progress Energy is proposing to prepare a study plan for assessing scenic and aesthetic resources in the Project. It was requested that the Appalachian State University (ASU) study (North Carolina’s Central Park, Assessing Tourism and Outdoor Recreation in the Uwharrie Lakes Region, September 1999) be included in the study plan as existing information and that the assessment include the conditions under existing Project operations and any proposals for future Project operations.

3). Effects of Project Operation on Recreation. The discussion included the following comments; Gerrit Jobsis requested that Progress Energy look at relationship between dissolved oxygen levels and fishing success, explain better the geographical scope related to downstream areas, and include a component on the varying lake level elevations and operations. John Crutchfield said that data from the existing database and proposed studies (water quality and recreation) would be able to address this relationship. Also, during the discussion it was suggested that consideration should be given to a state park on the lake with boat launches. This could be a solution to a lot of recreation needs. Brian Strong commented that the state is looking at putting a recreation area on the lower Pee Dee river below Blewett Falls Lake. Brian Strong also stated that he would look into getting the state report on this. Tim Bevacqua, Progress Energy, commented that Progress Energy is interested in talking with anyone that has any ideas. Progress Energy commented that the actual assessments would be performed under Issue No. 4 - Recreation Use Study.

4). Recreation Use Study. Progress Energy is proposing to prepare a study plan for performing a recreation use study. In addition to the scope mentioned in the template additional requests by the RWG included making sure private access is in the assessment and to include swimming in relation to the Project. Assessments identified in Issue No. 3 that will be included in the recreation use study plan are operation effects on boat access, fishing success and navigation.

5). Shoreline Management Plan at Blewett Falls Lake. Progress Energy is proposing to prepare a study plan for the preparation of a Shoreline Management Plan for Blewett Falls Lake. Progress Energy was requested to include the ASU study (North Carolina's Central Park, Assessing Tourism and Outdoor Recreation in the Uwharrie Lakes Region, September 1999) as existing information, and Bill Medlin of the Yadkin Pee Dee Lakes Program offered to provide more information to Progress Energy on development of tourism. The schedule for completing the SMP was discussed. Progress Energy indicated that the timeline for submitting the SMP to FERC was the same as the new license application which would be April 2006. A final SMP for the Project may not be issued by FERC until 2008, after review, public comment, and issuance of final SMP Order by FERC.

6). Tributary Enhancements. There is no study proposed for this issue. However, as stated in the template, if Project effects are identified that require mitigation, then Progress Energy may consider a PME measure that may include removal of small dams on tributaries. There were no additional comments.

7). Public Education/Outreach. There is no study proposed for this issue. However, as stated in the template, Progress Energy proposes to update educational and public outreach materials. Tim Bevacqua (Progress Energy) also agreed to check on the Lake Tillery newsletter and possibly putting it on the Progress Energy web site.

8). Sedimentation at Blewett Falls Lake and Effects on Navigation. Progress Energy did not propose to prepare a study plan to address this issue. The NCWRC questioned the fact that there was no study proposed commenting that if sediment was accumulating in the upper reaches of Blewett Falls Lake then how would Progress Energy deal with boat access? It was agreed to place this issue in the "parking lot" and Progress Energy will review further.

9). Yadkin Pee Dee Lakes Project. The Yadkin Pee Dee Lakes Project has collected information regarding land use and recreation associated with the Project area. It was commented that Progress Energy should review any relevant existing information that is available through this organization. Progress Energy proposes no studies related to this issue. However, Progress Energy will review pertinent information that is provided by the Yadkin Pee Dee Lakes Project. There were no comments.

10). Existing FERC Boundary Sufficient for Recreational Resources and Public Access. Progress Energy proposes no specific studies to address this issue. Recreational resources and public access will be assessed as part of the recreation use study. Any modifications to the Project boundary will be determined through the relicensing process and will be consistent with Project needs. There were no additional comments.

11). Land Management Relationship with Morrow Mountain State Park. This issue is focused mainly on shoreline stabilization relative to existing manmade structures and the park shoreline and debris accumulation along the park shoreline. The Tillery Development has no operational effects regarding localized shoreline erosion or debris accumulation in this area. Progress Energy proposes no studies to address this issue. Brian Strong (North Carolina State Parks) agreed that nothing could be done to stabilize the footpath area. There were no additional comments on this issue.

12). Dam Removal at Blewett Falls Lake. Progress Energy proposes no studies to address this issue. It was agreed to make the template consistent with Water Resources Issue No. 14, otherwise there were no comments

13). Whitewater Feasibility. There were no studies proposed by Progress Energy. Bill Medlin (YPDLP) agreed that this could be handled outside of the FERC process. However, requested that if fish passage is considered then the fishway should be considered for multiple uses. Steve Reed requested that recreational boating be part of the instream flow study downstream.

4). Action Items – The following list of action items were identified at this meeting:

Progress Energy mentioned that it was agreed in the previous RWG meetings that it might be more convenient to schedule the meetings differently; with the Land Use and Recreation and Terrestrial RWGs on the first day and the Water Resources RWG on the second day, followed by Instream Flow subgroup on the third day. The RWG agreed to schedule future RWG meetings on the first day, before the Water Resources RWG meeting.

It was also agreed by the RWG that the comment period for the Issues Evaluation Templates would be open until August 29, 2003. Comments could be sent to Barry Arney (Progress Energy) and/or Michael Murphy (DTA).

ATTACHMENT A
MEETING AGENDA
MEETING PARTICIPANT SIGNUP SHEET

**AGENDA
PROGRESS ENERGY
YADKIN-PEE DEE RIVER PROJECT
LAND USE AND RECREATION RESOURCES WORKING GROUP
MEETING NO. 3
AUGUST 13, 2003
8:30 – 12:00**

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|---------------------------------------|---------------|
| 1. Meeting Purpose and Introductions | 8:30 – 8:45 |
| 2. RWG #2 Meeting Minutes | 8:45 – 9:00 |
| 3. Review Issues Evaluation Templates | 9:00 – 11:45 |
| 4. Agenda for RWG Meeting #4 | 11:45 – 12:00 |

**PROGRESS ENERGY
YADKIN-PEE DEE RIVER PROJECT
LAND USE AND RECREATION RESOURCES WORKING GROUP
MEETING NO. 3 - AUGUST 13, 2003**

SIGN IN SHEET

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ATTACHMENT B
MEETING HANDOUTS:
Issues Evaluation Templates