

**PROGRESS ENERGY
YADKIN-PEE DEE RIVER PROJECT
LAND USE AND RECREATION RESOURCES WORKING GROUP
ISSUES EVALUATION TEMPLATE**

**Issue 12: Dam Removal at Blewett Falls
January 2004**

1. Description of Issue

The issue of the potential removal of the Blewett Falls Dam has been raised. The issue was raised as either an actual alternative future scenario to be considered by Progress Energy or as the “baseline” to compare against other alternatives. This issue was also raised in the Water Resources RWG.

2. Project Effects

Progress Energy believes that an adequate range of alternative future operating scenarios can be developed to evaluate and compare alternatives in order to arrive at a best adapted plan that adequately balances power and non-power values. Progress Energy has indicated in its ICD that the Tillery and Blewett developments are important and serve many public uses. Dam removal, by definition, prohibits a balancing of power and non-power resources.

3. Applicable Existing Information

A substantial amount of information exists to describe existing conditions and sufficient studies will be undertaken to evaluate numerous future operating scenarios.

4. Study Needs

Progress Energy plans to undertake studies to fully describe existing conditions, and to examine an adequate range of alternatives to support the development of its FERC license application. FERC will assess all reasonable alternatives as a part of its review of the license application and during its subsequent NEPA review. If FERC believes that dam removal is a reasonable alternative needing detailed consideration, then FERC would do so at this time. No studies of dam removal are proposed.

Resource Working Group Overlap (check if applicable)

X **Water Resources Issue # 14**
___ **Land Use and Recreation Issue # ___**
___ **Terrestrial Resources Issue # ___**