

MEETING NOTES

**SOUTH CAROLINA ELECTRIC & GAS COMPANY
SALUDA HYDRO PROJECT RELICENSING
SAFETY RESOURCE GROUP**

**SCE&G Training Center
November 16, 2005**

final acg 1-25-06

ATTENDEES:

Bill Argentieri, SCE&G	Alan Stuart, Kleinschmidt Associates
Alison Guth, Kleinschmidt Associates	Steve Bell, Lake Watch
Dave Anderson, Kleinschmidt Associates	Bret Hoffman, Kleinschmidt Associates
Randy Mahan, SCANA Services	Ken Uschelbec, U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary
Gerrit Jobsis, SCCCL & Am. Rivers	Aaron Small, U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary
Dick Christie, SCDNR	Jerry Wise, Lake Murray Power Squadron
David Price, Lake Murray Power Squadron	Bill Mathias, LMA & LMPS
Kenneth Fox, LMA	David Hancock, SCE&G
George Duke, LMHOC	Lee Barber, LMA
Karen Kustafik, City of Cola. Parks & Rec.	Charlene Coleman, American Whitewater
Norman Ferris, Saluda Trout Unlimited	Tommy Boozer, SCE&G
Bill Marshall, SCDNR & LSSRAC	

HOMEWORK ITEMS:

- Each organization is to come up with a description of its organization and background information on its organization to present to the group – forward to Dave Anderson
- Each entity will list the issues and goals they feel are valuable and important – forward to Dave Anderson
- Review the ICD

PARKING LOT ITEMS:

- Cover operational procedures

DATE OF NEXT MEETING:

**January 10, 2006 at 9:30 a.m.
Located at the Lake Murray Training Center**

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MEETING NOTES:

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.

Alan Stuart opened the meeting and noted that this group was formed as an ad-hoc group at the request of many individuals. There was brief discussion on the possibility of the Safety group continuing to meet after Relicensing. SCE&G explained that there was a committee in the late 80's that met to discuss safety issues around the lake. Alan explained that he expected that the role of this group would be to discuss project related safety issues.

The group then began to discuss the operating procedures and Alan was asked to discuss the format of the TWC. He noted that once an issue comes up, and a study is required, a technical working committee is formed out of those individuals that are knowledgeable of those particular subjects.

In a discussion on some of the particular safety issues associated with the reservoir, Randy noted that SCE&G was working to develop a system to provide as much information to individuals as was reasonably possible. However, he explained that because the Project is used as reserve there was going to be the need to release at a moments notice which could change what they may have originally projected. Randy pointed out that it was important that people did not function completely on the assumption that any projected flows that may be given do not have the possibility of changing. He further noted that if any projected flows were given, it did not take away the need for personal responsibility.

A stakeholder noted that he believed that during Relicensing the group would look at a wide range of operations not excluding run of the river. SCE&G replied that safety was a major concern for them but it would not be possible to operate the project run of river due to the huge reservoir. SCE&G explained that a run of river project generally has little to no storage and is more like Columbia Canal or Neal Shoals.

Operations Presentation

Lee began his presentation on the operation of Saluda Hydro. The group discussed several questions that came up during the course of the presentation.

One discussion centered around the role that weather events have on lake levels. The group considered that SCE&G does not control inflow to the lake. It was pointed out that through operation they could decrease the lake a couple feet in a few days, however they could not let the lake fill up in a few days without a rainfall event. Lee Xanthakos pointed out that because the

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project was operated for reserve, if a plant trips and Saluda is needed for 90 minutes, the impact on the Lake is miniscule. Lee further pointed out that sometimes more than one plant trips and, hypothetically, if Saluda is fully loaded for a 24 hour period of time the Lake would only drop about 6 inches.

Discussions turned to the external factors that cause lake levels to drop other than generation. It was noted that certain times of year necessitate an intentional lake level drop to accommodate a potential storm. It was also noted that evaporation takes large quantities of water out of the lake on a hot summer afternoon. Lee noted that in the summer they typically lose about 6 inches a week in evaporation

In a discussion on hurricanes and the release of water from the lake, questions arose as to why a drawdown is necessary if you could open the spillway gates in an emergency. SCE&G noted that they are required to use the resource in a prudent manner according to the Public Service Commission and FERC; and discharging water through the spillway is not a prudent use of the resource.

Mission Statement & Other Discussions

Alan Stuart noted that the group would now begin to discuss the mission statement and come up with issues. He added that they have put together a draft mission statement for consideration and they have listed goals and issues as a group. He noted that he would like everyone to read the draft and note any changes that need to be made. As the group considered the mission statement there were several topics brought up for discussion. Randy Mahan noted that the scope of this group has the potential to be very broad, however it may be important to focus on what would be involved in Relicensing and what will be addressed in the application. Eventually, the group could focus on broader issues as it continues on after Relicensing. Tommy Boozer noted that he believed that the safety issues on the lake will mainly focus on the public use of the Lake and recreational facilities. Gerrit Jobsis reiterated that he believed that the group needs to let SCE&G coordinate and discuss with safety agencies on those non-relicensing situations but focus on relicensing issues for now.

The group began to briefly discuss the Emergency Action Plan and discussions turned to the option of merging the safety and recreation groups. The group also discussed the option of combining the recreation and safety groups but separating the Lake and River issues into two separate groups. It was concluded that a decision regarding this issue would be made at a later date; however, the group did note that it may be beneficial to split up the agenda and discuss River related safety issues in the morning and Lake safety issues in the afternoon.

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The group began to discuss the mission statement in more detail and some word changes were made. Lee Barber noted that he understood that there was a degree at which people had exercise personal responsibility and judgment, although added education may be helpful or necessary, which in turn might be mentioned in the mission statement. The group did note however that there could be numerous more sirens put in place and it still may not effect how some individuals choose to act. It was also asked as to where the project boundary extended to on the LSR. It was noted that it extends to the transmission lines at the rapids just upstream from the Zoo.

Steve Bell asked what would happen to a safety plan once the group came to a consensus on it. The group replied that it would go in as an element of the comprehensive PM&E agreement. If agreement was not reached on it then SCE&G would have to state their reasons for not including it in the application and individuals could submit letters to the FERC separately. Dick Christie pointed out that by his definition, the only way you could have consensus as a group is if it is something that everyone can live with, maybe not love, but live with. He noted that if it is something that SCE&G disagrees with then it is not going to be a consensus. Randy Mahan also noted that one should not always assume that the public interests and SCE&G's interests are completely different, and that the goal is to go through the interests and come up with a balance.

Bill Marshall expressed concern as to whether what was being accomplished in the group would ultimately be vetoed by SCE&G management and noted that he believed it was incumbent that SCE&G note what they could not live with during the group sessions. Randy Mahan agreed and noted that it was also the responsibility of the individuals in the group to let the group know if it was something that they could not live with as well.

Alan briefly noted that Kleinschmidt Associates and SCE&G were coming up with a Workplan that will be based on the mission statement of the group. He noted that it will identify items that need to be accomplished in the group and how the group is going to go about accomplishing the items.

Discussions then turned to presentations and one individual questioned whether or not any participating member would have the ability to make presentations to the group. Alan noted that they would have the opportunity to place the topic item on an agenda for the next meeting. Alan also began to discuss the "Parking Lot" and noted that all of the parking lot issues would be addressed at the appropriate time. He noted that the Parking Lot was in place in order to promote the flow through the agenda.

The group then began to briefly discuss confidentiality as it has to do with settlement negotiations. A group member noted concern as to compromised issues, and noted that if concessions had to be made it was important that confidentiality was in place. Randy agreed that that was fair and it would be looked into. One individual asked if they could bring a tape recorder into group meetings.

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Consequently, the group decided that tape recorders should not be allowed in part because it may discourage individuals from speaking freely.

The group then began to discuss the need for more county representatives and local law enforcement officials at the group meetings. It was noted that a special invitation may be necessary. Aaron Small noted that he would contact the resident deputy of Lake Murray and Tommy Boozer noted that he would contact Skeet Mills and the DNR law enforcement. The group also noted that it may be beneficial to include the Lexington County Sheriff and West Columbia Rescue.

Alan noted that comments were received on the Operating Procedures and Kleinschmidt Associates and SCE&G are working on a second version.

As a homework item the group decided that a representative from each of the participating organizations should present a list of their interests to the group at the next meeting. It was also requested that enough copies be provided so that they can be passed out to the group. The group also decided that each entity represented would provide a group description and background that would be sent to Dave Anderson at Kleinschmidt Associates with a deadline of December 7th.

The agenda for this meeting is attached below.

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**Saluda Hydro Relicensing
Safety Resource Conservation Group**

Meeting Agenda

**November 16, 2005
9:30 AM
Lake Murray Training Center**

- **9:35 to 9:45** Introduction
 - SCE&G and KA Staff
 - Resource Agency Representatives
 - NGO Representatives
 - Individuals
 - **9:45 to 10:00** Purpose of Resource Groups
 - **10:00 to 11:00** **Presentation – Saluda Hydro Operations – Lee Xanthakos
SCANA Services**
 - **11:00 to 11:45** Develop Safety RCG Mission Statement
 - **11:45 to 12:45** Lunch
 - **1:00 to 2:00** Discuss Safety RCG procedures
 - **2:00 to 2:30** Develop List of Homework Assignments
 - **2:30 to 2:45** Develop an Agenda for Next Meeting
 - **2:45 to 3:00** Set Next Meeting Date
- Adjourn