

MEETING NOTES

**SOUTH CAROLINA ELECTRIC & GAS COMPANY
SALUDA HYDRO PROJECT RELICENSING
Fish Entrainment Technical Working Committee
Conference Call
March 1, 2007**

Final jms 04-16-07

ATTENDEES:

Bill Argentieri, SCE&G

Jeni Summerlin, Kleinschmidt Associates

Hal Beard, SCDNR

Tom Bowles, SCE&G

Alan Stuart, Kleinschmidt Associates

Alison Guth, Kleinschmidt Associates

Amanda Hill, USFWS

ACTION ITEMS

- Incorporate comments into the Saluda Fish Entrainment and Turbine Mortality Report and send out to all Technical Working Committee (TWC) members for review

Jeni Summerlin

NEXT MEETING

TBA

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MEETING NOTES:

These notes serve as 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 at approximately 2:00 PM and noted that the purpose of today's meeting will be to discuss comments on the Saluda Fish Entrainment and Turbine Mortality Report and potential mitigation for subsequent fish mortality.

Questions/Comments on Saluda Fish Entrainment and Turbine Mortality Report

Amanda Hill suggested developing an additional table to determine the percent of fish entrained/killed between Units 1-4 and Unit 5. Jeni Summerlin noted that Table 3-6 describes the monthly estimated total number of fish entrained. The entrainment numbers with the stratification filter applied for the months of July through November, represent the number of fish entrained by Unit 5. Jeni mentioned that fish mortality rates for Units 1-4 and Unit 5 were combined because turbine characteristics for each of these units, such as station head, runner diameter and runner speed are similar in range.

Amanda inquired as to how this desk-top study considers the unique circumstance at Lake Murray of the dissolved oxygen stratification in the summer/fall near the dam in front of Unit 5. Jeni explained that a stratification filter was applied to entrainment rates for Units 1 through 4. This means that the flows for Units 1 through 4 were set to zero for the months of July through November. These months were chosen because Units 1 through 4 are located approximately 190 ft deep and that Lake Murray is typically stratified during these months with very little dissolved oxygen at these depths. Amanda asked why August and October flows were considered in relation to the filters. Jeni noted that during the months of August and October, Lake Murray is typically still stratified.

Mitigation

Amanda asked if any other fish species besides striped bass would likely be entrained in the vicinity of Unit 5 intake. Hal Beard noted that blueback herring would likely be entrained in the Unit 5 intake because of the depth. Bill Argentieri noted that SCE&G will continue to operate Unit 5 as a "last on, first off" operation. Alan noted that Jim Ruane will use the W2 to figure out the striped bass habitat in the area of Unit 5. Hal asked SCE&G if they were continuing to monitor fish entrainment with hydroacoustics during the critical time of year for striped bass. Bill noted that they are currently monitoring entrainment with hydroacoustics and will continue with this method in the future. Hal inquired as to if it was too early to discuss mitigation for the entrained fish at Lake Murray. Alan noted that he conversed with Dick Christie about potential mitigation and Dick thought it may be too early to discuss mitigation at this point.

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Moving Forward

Alan asked committee members if they had any other questions or additional problems that were not identified in the report regarding entrainment. The group noted that the edits and comments should be incorporated into the report and then sent back out to the TWC with Dick Christie copied on the email. It was also noted by the group that once the report was finalized by the TWC, then it should be sent to the Resource Conservation Group (RCG) as final. Alan noted that the RCG members may address questions at the next RCG meeting.

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