

MEETING NOTES

**SOUTH CAROLINA ELECTRIC & GAS COMPANY
SALUDA HYDRO PROJECT RELICENSING
LAKE AND LAND MANAGEMENT TWC**

**SCE&G Training Center
April 8, 2008**

final ACG 8-11-08

ATTENDEES:

Alan Stuart, Kleinschmidt Associates
Alison Guth, Kleinschmidt Associates
Tommy Boozer, SCE&G
David Hancock, SCE&G
Joy Downs, LMA
Ron Ahle, SCDNR
Randy Mahan, SCANA Services
Dick Christie, SCDNR
John Frick, Landowner
Jim Cumberland, SCCCL
Amanda Hill, USFWS

Steve Bell, LW
Bill Argentieri, SCE&G
Tony Bebber, SCPRT
Van Hoffman, SCANA
Carl Sundius, CALM
John David Dawfins, Newberry County
Vivianne Vejdani, SCDNR
Roy Parker, LMA
James Leslie, Lake Murray Docks
Suzanne Rhodes, SCWF
Linda Schneider, individual

DATE: April 8, 2008

INTRODUCTIONS AND DISCUSSION

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 opened the meeting and noted that the purpose of the meeting would be to discuss the proposed dock policy on Forest and Game Management Land. It was explained that Tommy Boozer and Randy Mahan added discussion in the document that potentially addresses property owners that would donate property. Tommy explained that the Forest Management Property is traditionally a protected classification, however they wanted to propose something that is fair to the property owners. Tommy continued to explain that if the property had less than a 75 ft. buffer, then the property owner would deed the additional acreage in order to make a uniform buffer. Tommy also noted that if the property owner would like additional slips (up to 6) they would have to deed SCE&G an acre per slip contiguous with SCE&G property. Tony Bebber asked what the minimum shoreline frontage would be. Tommy replied that it was 500 feet.

Ron Ahle pointed out that the Clouds Creek area has forest and game lands on either side of it. Ron explained that the long continuous length of forest management land along Clouds Creek was valuable to DNR and they would not like to see this eligible for docks. Dick Christie noted that

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existing WMA areas may lose some of their historical uses if paths to docks are placed through the property. Dick suggested looking at the maps to discuss this issue. Ron agreed and noted that it may be necessary to assign that certain tracks are not eligible for docks, and the others will be done on a case by case basis. Tommy replied that he did not believe that they should pick and choose lands, that they should develop certain criteria and base choices on that. John Frick noted that he believed that if this was a good plan than it should be done with all undeveloped property on the lake. Randy Mahan replied that it was a good plan for certain properties on the lake. Ron noted his concern for placing development in traditionally protected lands. Tommy explained that there had been mixed feelings on both sides regarding this. Steve Bell noted that he would like to see the agencies look at these areas to decide what would best be in natural areas versus forest management. Steve continued to explain noted that he had a discussion with the USACOE, who noted that they had areas that are protected from docks, and they have had individuals tying boats along the shoreline. John Frick stated that although he does not prefer individual docks, he believes a multi-slip and a boat ramp are appropriate. Ron responded that he did not want to see more boat ramps on individual properties. There was also disagreement among the group as to whether forest and game areas were “protected” areas. John noted that he did not believe they were protected.

There was continued extended discussion on this issue. Tommy noted that since there was such disagreement on this issue then they may leave the forest and game property as it currently was with no docks. Alan addressed Ron and asked if there were particular areas that DNR felt needed more protection and if they contained ESA's. Ron noted that he was not sure without viewing the maps, however he is concerned about what happens below the 360 as well. Ron also pointed out that the terrestrial environment and recreational opportunities of the shoreline were important. Tommy expressed that there would be around 50 properties that would have the potential for a dock under this policy. Tommy explained that they would distribute maps to representatives to look over. The individuals that would receive the maps were as follows: Steve Bell (to share with Jim Cumberland), Ron Ahle, Jim Leslie, Joy Downs, and John Frick. After some discussion it was apparent that item number 7 on the proposal, with regards to obtaining additional slips with a land donation, was not favorable to the majority of individuals in the TWC. Tommy noted that item 7 would be omitted from the proposal and the proposal would be sent to the group for comments.

The next item for discussion was on rebalancing. Alan explained that there had been several proposals, one being SCE&G's proposal, one being John Frick's proposal, the natural groups proposal, and the recreation focus group's proposal. Ron noted that the focus group had reviewed SCE&G's proposal and had developed a counter proposal to SCE&G's proposal (<http://www.saludahydrorelicense.com/documents/CounterProposal.ppt>). Ron explained that they would ideally prefer no future land sales, however, they have chosen the lands that were most important to them. Tommy explained that the SCE&G proposal contained many levels of protection that included a non-disturbance setback, larger lots and more restrictions. Ron noted that

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he would like to explore other ways of SCE&G receiving the dollar value of lands that would potentially be sold. Randy Mahan noted that due to 10-31 tax exchanges, they could receive dollar for dollar value for the property, which made the land particularly valuable to the company. Randy continued to explain that what SCE&G proposed was something that they have had to work very hard at to get approval from senior management. Therefore, it may be difficult to receive approval on a new proposal.

During lunch SCE&G reviewed and discussed the proposal submitted by the focus group. When the group re-met, Randy noted that he believed the proposal needed more consideration and that SCE&G would get back with the focus group on this issue. Randy continued to explain that what they returned with would most likely be the final recommendation from upper management. Bill Argentieri asked if one representative from the group could be available for questions on the proposal and the focus group agreed that Ron could act as a representative. SCE&G noted that they would arrange a meeting date when a decision had been reached. The group adjourned and Alan noted at the next meeting they would be concluding discussions on the Forest and Game Management land dock proposal and would review the issues matrix.

SCE&G FOREST MANAGEMENT PROPERTY DOCK POLICY

The SCE&G Forest Management Classification identifies SCE&G timberlands located within the (PBL) Project Boundary line of the Lake Murray Saluda Hydro Project. The Forest Management Classification property will not be available for sale and is protected from shoreline (dock/ramp) development. The timber is managed under the S. C. Forestry Commission (BMP) Best Management Practices with restriction of any timber harvesting within 100 feet of the high water mark (360 contour).

SCE&G has approximately 100 miles of shoreline and 3,570 acres classified as Forest Management property around Lake Murray. The majority of the Forest Management property is located in the upper western end of the project along the Big and Little Saluda Rivers.

The Forest Management Classification has been in effect since 1975 when SCE&G was ordered by the (FERC) Federal Energy Regulatory Commission to establish a Land Use Shoreline Management Plan for the Saluda Hydro Electric Project. The land being identified as Forest Management Property was protected from shoreline development by restricting the sale of any available lands within the PBL that were identified under the Forest Management Classification.

Over the years many property owners with land adjoining the SCE&G shoreline property identified as Forest Management, have expressed concerns of the restriction of no docks within the Forest Management Classification. Many of the current property owners are family members of the original property owners from whom SCE&G purchased their land for the development of the Lake. The majority of the Forest Management Properties were originally timber, pasture, and farm lands and have not changed very much over the years. This policy would address the possibility of permitting some type of limited dock access within the Forest Management Classification to existing back property owners who could meet the established criteria for dock approval.

Requirements:

Individual Residential Dock

1. Eligibility for dock consideration restricted to property owners of record as of January 1, 2007. SCE&G has County documentation for property ownership for Newberry, Saluda, Lexington, and Richland Counties.
2. Only one residential dock will be permitted for each identified tract of land.
3. To be eligible for a dock, the property must first have a minimum of 500 feet on the Project Boundary Line (PBL).
4. No dock will be permitted in narrow coves or shall water areas or areas identified as Environmental Sensitive Area (ESA).

5. A minimum width of 100 feet from the 360 contour must be established prior to dock approval. If the PBL is less than 100 feet the property owner would be required to deed SCE&G enough of their property to create a minimum 100 foot Buffer Zone to qualify for a dock.
6. Dock site selection will typically be located in close proximity to the narrowest distance from the 360 contour and being a minimum of 100 feet.

7. Options for Additional Boat Slips

If a back property owners is willing to deed non-project property to SCE&G as an incentive for additional boat slips, the following requirements will apply:

- a. A maximum number of six (6) slips will be approved for each tract.
 - b. The back property owner will be required to deed SCE&G one (1) acre for each slip requested.
 - c. Property disbursement will be determined and evaluated on a case by case basis. Acreage could all be in one location or distributed equally along the PBL, whichever one has the greatest benefit to the project.
 - d. Additional slips would be added to the original dock in one location. Slips would not be permitted to be located in different areas along the shoreline.
 - e. Acreage deeded for dock incentives would be re-classified as project property and located inside the PBL.
8. A single residential access path, approximately 10 feet wide, may be cleared for access to a permitted dock from the adjacent back property owner's land. The access path must follow a meandering route to prevent erosion and to protect the aesthetics of the shoreline. No trees larger than 10 inches at breast height can be removed within the 10 foot access path. No removal or clearing of trees or vegetation cover within the Forest Management Property will be permitted, with the exception being within the permitted access path.
 9. Be advised that any unauthorized removal of trees or vegetation on SCE&G property will result in the immediate cancellation of the dock.
 10. Each permit will be evaluated on a case- by-case basis with final approval at the sole discretion of the SCE&G Lake Management Department.
 11. No docks will be permitted on the SCE&G Forest management Land located on the Big Saluda River above Kempson Bridge on Hwy 395. This area, identified as the headwater of Lake Murray, has significant environmental, ecological, and aesthetic values that warrant protection.