

**MEETING NOTES**

**SOUTH CAROLINA ELECTRIC & GAS COMPANY  
SALUDA HYDRO PROJECT RELICENSING  
SAFETY RCG MEETING**

**SCE&G Carolina Research Park Facility  
April 9, 2008**

final acg 8/11/08

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**ATTENDEES:**

Alison Guth, Kleinschmidt Associates	Dave Anderson, Kleinschmidt Associates
Randy Mahan, SCANA Services, Inc.	David Price, LMPS
Bill Argentieri, SCE&G	Mike Waddell, TU
Jay Schabacher, LMA	Bill Marshall, LSSRAC, SCDNR
Alan Stuart, Kleinschmidt Associates	Dick Christie, DNR
Joy Downs, LMA	Jim Devereaux, SCE&G
Jim Cumberland, CCL	Suzanne Rhodes, SCWF
Karen Kustafik, City of Cola Parks & Rec	Bret Hoffman, Kleinschmidt Associates

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*These notes serve as summary of the major points presented during the meeting and are not intended to be a transcript or analysis of the meeting.*

Bill opened the meeting and introduced Jim Devereaux who would be presenting at the meeting (presentation available at <http://www.saludahydrolicense.com/documents/SafetyRCG4-9-08.pdf>). Bill explained that Jim D has been working on the siren system and seeking advice from Karen Kustafik for the locations of the proposed sirens. It was noted that the purpose of the presentation would be to describe the existing and future warning system.

Jim D. began the presentation and explained the background behind the warning system. He noted that in order to warn against rising water levels, there was a warning system that consisted of sirens, strobe lights, and a combination of the two. Jim D. also explained that the output level of the sirens was 12 decibels over ambient sound (routine background noise, including minimum flows) and sound levels were adjusted by direct measurement at each siren location. For the new siren locations, Jim D. explained that they had to take the neighbors into consideration. Furthermore, it was noted that the location of the sirens was also chosen in order to maximize sound travel around river bends. Jim D. continued to explain that they also take into account the islands on the river in order that sirens can be heard on the back side of the islands.

Jim D. began to describe the new strobe and siren locations. He noted that there was a new strobe location at the confluence of the spillway channel and there will be a new siren near Saluda Hydro. In the upper portion of the river, Jim D. explained, there would be existing or proposed sirens/and or strobes about every .5 river mile. Upon viewing the proposed siren locations, Mike Waddell

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suggested a possible transfer of the new strobe C to above the island near Saluda Shoals Park, so that there was coverage on both sides of the island.

Jim D. continued to discuss the different portions of the LSR, and noted that between Saluda Shoals Park and I-20 there was a slow wide stretch of river that did not receive much use. Jim D. explained that there were not a lot of places to take out in that area and it was not a wade fishing area, therefore, there were no plans for sirens or strobes along that particular stretch of river. Also, due to the fact that it is a straight section of river, there was very little area that is not covered by the upper and lower sirens. Upon viewing the mapped proposed siren locations, Mike Waddell suggested that a strobe should be put in place of siren #7. It was pointed out that there is a lot of canopy coverage in this area and Jim D. noted that there are a lot of people who also camp there. Karen K. explained that they had discussed this area, and pointed out that when the greenway is put in place there will be much activity in the area. She noted that if people are at the bottom of Oh Brother Rapids, then they may not be able to hear the siren at Ocean Blvd. Bill noted that with the installation of the siren they will work with the neighbors. The group agreed that Siren # 7 did need to be in place. The group also discussed siren #9 and the possible need for it. It was noted that some sirens have over a mile spread, so once siren #7 and #8 were installed, the need for siren # 9 would be determined.

After discussion on the location of the sirens, the group discussed the activation sequence. Jim D explained that sirens 1-3 and strobes A and B were activation with generation of about 800 to 900 cfs. Jim D. further explained that sirens 4 and 5 and strobes C and D are activated by pressure transducer 1 and a time delay. Sirens 6 through 8, Jim pointed out, and strobes E and F are activated by time delay off of pressure transducer 1. For siren 9, Jim explained that was also activated off of a time delay program. It was noted that zone (areas that define “zones can be viewed in the presentation <http://www.saludahydrorelicense.com/documents/SafetyRCG4-9-08.pdf> ) 5 was activated by pressure transducer 2 and activated 3 sirens.

Upon viewing the siren locations, Bill Marshall pointed out that siren # 2 may not be needed if there was a siren at the plant, one at hope ferry, and another downstream. Jim explained that the reasoning behind that siren was that it was in front of an island where there was a lot of activity. He further noted that his concern would be that they would not be able to hear the siren at the USGS gage. Jim D. explained that they would be working with the neighbors on the sound levels of that siren. Bill M. explained that he was looking for options in order not to impact the bank of the river. Karen pointed out that Charlene Coleman had asked her to note that while a warning system on the river was a good thing, it was also important preserve wilderness characteristic of the river. Jim D. replied that as long as it can be shown that there is effective coverage in the river, eliminating a siren will not be a problem. Mike W. noted that he believed that strobe C and siren 3 and 4 needed to be activated by generation at the plant. Bill noted that SCE&G would look into that. Jim Cumberland noted that he had been giving a lot of thought to when the sirens should be activated and noted that he liked the idea of time delayed activation as opposed to the sirens being activated all at once.

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After the group concluded discussion of the siren and strobe system, they began to discuss other facets of the safety system. Alan Stuart explained that there was a call-down system, as well as discussion on a public education system. It was noted that NGO websites would be a good location for information on the call down system. Bill further pointed out that a public notice would be sent out when the call-down system was officially up and running.

The group concluded discussions and noted that they were pleased with the proposal. Group adjourned.

**Below is a summary of the recommendations made by RCG members:**

- The recommendation was made to transfer the new strobe C to above the island near Saluda Shoals Park so that there is coverage on both sides of that island - Mike Waddell
- Mike Waddell suggested a strobe should go in place of siren #7, however the group agreed that due to canopy cover a siren should be put in place instead.
- The group noted that siren #9 may not be needed and the need should be determined after the installation of sirens 7 and 8.
- Bill Marshall noted that siren #2 may not be needed.
- Mike Waddell recommended adding siren # 3 and # 4 and strobe C into Zone one.

Subsequent to the meeting, Bill Marshall noted the following: "On the last page of the minutes, the recommendations of meeting participants are summarized. While at the meeting, I suggested that siren 2 may not be needed for the same reasons that siren 9 may not be needed. That is, in my experience of living near the river in West Columbia, from my house I can easily hear the siren at Riverbanks Zoo, which I measured on a topo map to be one-mile distance from my house. When SCE&G increases siren coverage along the river, I think a two-mile spread between sirens might be adequate to provide the desired audible coverage on the river if the sound is projected both upstream and downstream at the same volume that is being used at the Zoo. As was mentioned at the meeting, SCE&G should consider implementing the proposed additions to the warning system with an initial wide-spaced placement of the sirens to be followed some testing of the audible coverage and then fill-in with additional sirens (such as number 2 and 9) as proves necessary."