

Kevin Colburn National Stewardship Director 1035 Van Buren Street Missoula, MT 59802 406-543-1802 <u>kevin@amwhitewater.org</u>

Mr. James M. Landreth, Vice President Fossil & Hydro Operations South Carolina Electric & Gas Company 111 Research Drive Columbia, SC 29203 Attn: Mr. William R. Argentieri bargentieri@scana.com

March 13th, 2008

Dear Mr. Landreth,

American Whitewater is a national nonprofit organization whose mission is to protect and restore our nation's whitewater resources while enhancing opportunities to enjoy them safely. We have roughly 6,500 members and over 100 affiliate clubs nationwide, and are based in North Carolina. A significant portion of our membership lives near the project and seeks recreational opportunities on the Saluda River. We have collaboratively participated in the management of the Saluda River for many years, including participation in the relicensing process for the Saluda Project since its inception. We have played an active role in studies and mitigation discussions relating to river-based recreation and conservation. American Whitewater is represented by both staff and volunteers on this project, and is working closely with paddling clubs and other organizations. Based on the aforementioned information, American Whitewater has a direct interest in the Saluda River and the relicensing of the Saluda Project.

We have reviewed the Draft License Application (DLA). There is no proposed action in the DLA for us to comment on which makes substantive comments difficult to develop. With this said we are in regular contact with the Licensee and other stakeholders and look forward to continuing our efforts to collaboratively develop a proposed action that is good for paddlers, public safety, and the Saluda River itself. Our interests on the Saluda include 1) an enhanced flow regime that meets multiple stakeholders' interests – including providing ample whitewater boating opportunities, 2) free public river access that meets current and anticipated demands, 3) online flow information, and 4) ramping and other safety initiatives.

We have no further comment at this time. Thank You for considering these comments,

Respectfully submitted on March 13th, 2008.

Kevin Colburn

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Charlene Coleman Volunteer Regional Coordinator American Whitewater