

MEETING NOTES
Stevens Creek Hydroelectric Project (FERC No. 2353)

Dominion Energy South Carolina, Inc.
Stakeholder Site Visit

May 15, 2019

Final KMK 6-20-19

ATTENDEES:

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| Amy Bresnahan (DESC) | Melanie Olds (USFWS) |
| Bill Argentieri (DESC) | Pace Wilber (NMFS) |
| Randy Mahan (DESC) | Twyla Cheatwood (NMFS) |
| Brandon Stutts (DESC) | Andy Herndon (NMFS) |
| Caleb Gaston (DESC) | Scott Hyatt (USACE) |
| Alison Jakupca (Kleinschmidt) | Tonya Bonitatibus (SRK) |
| Kelly Kirven (Kleinschmidt) | Rachel Freeman (SRK) |
| Jason Moak (Kleinschmidt) | Tony Hicks (SRNL retiree) |
| Jordan Johnson (Kleinschmidt) | Andy Colbert (Outdoor Augusta) |
| Henry Mealing (Kleinschmidt) | Rob Pavey (individual) |
| Thom Litts (GDNR) | Bill Smith (individual) |
| Paula Marcinek (GDNR) | Cory Eubanks (individual) |
| Ed Betross (GDNR) | Ronald Davis (individual) |
| Elizabeth Miller (SCDNR) | Tom Proctor (individual) |
| Ron Ahle (SCDNR) | John Harris (individual) |
| Chris Thomasson (SCDNR) | |

On May 15, 2019, Dominion Energy South Carolina, Inc. (DESC) hosted a stakeholder site visit at the Stevens Creek Hydroelectric Project. The purpose of the site visit was to allow stakeholders an opportunity to view the Project area from several of the DESC-managed Project recreation sites and the Project dam and powerhouse prior to the official start of relicensing. DESC believes this site visit will provide important perspective of the Project that stakeholders can refer to during study scoping and throughout the entire relicensing. A second site visit will be held as part of the Joint Agency Meeting (JAM) after the Pre-Application Document (PAD) is filed with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC).

DESC representatives and stakeholders met at the Betty's Branch Recreation Site, part of the larger Riverside Park located in Columbia County, GA. The group viewed the boat launch area and then loaded into vehicles and traveled to the Fury's Ferry Recreation Site (Edgefield County, SC). The group viewed the Fury's Ferry site including the boat launch and the Project area visible from the recreation site. The group then traveled to the Stevens Creek Park Site (Edgefield County, SC), viewed the site, boat launch, and Project area visible from the recreation site. The group then traveled to the Stevens Creek Project powerhouse (Columbia County, GA). The group viewed the inside of the powerhouse through the open roll up door and walked along the upstream side of the powerhouse and lock area. On the lock area, the stakeholders were able to view upstream and

downstream portions of the Savannah River, the trash rake, the lock, and the spillway. Finally, the group traveled back to the Betty's Branch Recreation Site to have lunch and follow-up discussions. Stakeholders listed the following items as issues for concern or follow-up during relicensing.

- Stakeholders requested that trash receptacles be installed at the recreation sites.
- Stakeholders noted security concerns at Fury's Ferry.
- Caleb noted that the Fury's Ferry ramp sign is only visible from one direction on the paved road. It appeared that an additional sign was originally located on the other side of the post but is now missing.
- Several stakeholders indicated that the stumps in the river near the Stevens Creek Park site make it difficult to launch a boat and navigate the river. In addition, stakeholders noted that there was a substantial drop-off at the end of the ramp, along with a stump close to the end of the ramp at the left side.
- Reservoir fluctuation was again mentioned as a primary issue of stakeholder concern and DESC personnel provided an explanation of the re-regulation function of the Project. The group additionally discussed means of predicting reservoir fluctuation using USGS gages and calling the USACE to understand their generation schedule for Strom Thurmond Dam and means to track flood events using USGS gages.
- Several stakeholders again mentioned the proliferation of aquatic vegetation on the mainstem of the river and in the Stevens Creek arm.
- While at the dam, federal agencies discussed the appropriateness of the lock as a fish passage option, as well as alternative fish passage measures, if fish passage is deemed necessary.
- Tonya inquired about having a USGS gage on Stevens Creek closer to where it joins the Savannah River. The current gage on Stevens Creek is about 20 miles upstream near Modoc.

These items will be considered and addressed during relicensing, specifically through review of existing data or studies that may be conducted.

ACTION ITEMS:

- Kleinschmidt and DESC will schedule a meeting to develop Resource Conservation Groups and begin discussion of the PAD and study plans.