

**MEETING NOTES**  
**Stevens Creek Hydroelectric Project (FERC No. 2535)**

**Dominion Energy South Carolina, Inc.**  
**Recreation Site Visit**

**May 27, 2021**

Final JAG 3-4-22

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**ATTENDEES:**

Amy Bresnahan (DESC)	Elizabeth Miller (SCDNR)
Ray Ammarell (DESC)	Jay Payne (GDNR)
Paul Vidonic (Dominion)	Paula Marcinek (GDNR)
Pete Sturke (Dominion)	Aspen Kemmerlin (GHPD)
Alison Jakupca (Kleinschmidt)	Santiago Martinez (GHPD)
Henry Mealing (Kleinschmidt)	Jessica Crawford (Archaeological Conservancy)
Bret Hoffman (Kleinschmidt)	Tonya Bonitatibus (Savannah Riverkeeper)
Kelly Kirven (Kleinschmidt)	John Craun (Individual)
Timothy Scarboro (GDNR)	

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

The purpose of the meeting was to visit the Stevens Creek Hydroelectric Project (Project) to discuss potential recreation improvements at the Project.

Alison provided a brief recap of recreation improvements that have been recommended for the Stevens Creek Project, including the installation of a canoe portage (on either the GA or SC side of the dam) and a tailrace fishing pier on the GA side of the dam.

The group started the site visit on the GA side of the dam, just downstream of the powerhouse. They viewed the area immediately downstream of the powerhouse and an area a little further down in the tailrace. Regarding a canoe portage on the GA side of the dam, concerns over public safety and close proximity to Stallings Island (a National Historic Landmark and a National Register of Historic Places [NRHP]-listed site) were expressed. However, a tailrace fishing pier may be possible and will be discussed further.

The group then traveled to the SC side of the dam to view the small piece of property owned by DESC adjacent to the dam abutment to see if this area could potentially be modified to include a canoe portage. The group agreed that although the shoreline is extremely steep, a canoe portage could potentially be constructed by performing minor site-grading, without the need for heavy equipment, as it would be difficult for heavy equipment to access the site. DESC noted that they would need to discuss the proposed canoe portage with legal counsel, as there are potential safety concerns with the site being in very close proximity to the dam. Concerns over increasing public access to Stallings Island were also discussed.

Tonya noted that her preference for dam portage would be through the existing lock at the dam, although this may cause several safety issues.

The group will meet again later in the year to continue discussing potential additional recreation opportunities at the Project and DESC will provide a follow-up regarding internal review of the SC-based canoe portage.