

October 28, 2022

**VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL**

Chris Stout, Section Manager  
Coastal Zone Consistency Division  
Office of Ocean and Coastal Resource Management  
South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control

Re: Dominion Energy South Carolina, Inc.  
Request for Determination of Consistency or Non-Applicability with South  
Carolina Coastal Zone Consistency Division, Pursuant to Coastal Zone  
Management Act  
Stevens Creek Hydroelectric Project (FERC No. P-2535)

Dear Mr. Stout:

Dominion Energy South Carolina, Inc. (DESC) is the Licensee for the 17.3 MW Stevens Creek Hydroelectric Project (Project; FERC No. 2535), located in Edgefield and McCormick counties, South Carolina and Columbia County, Georgia, at the confluence of the Stevens Creek and the Savannah River, approximately one mile upstream of the Augusta Diversion Dam<sup>1</sup>. DESC is currently in the process of applying for a new federal operating permit ("license") for the Project from the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) in accordance with their regulations under 18 CFR Part 5. The existing license for the Project is due to expire on October 31, 2025.

Section 307(c)(3) of the Coastal Zone Management Act (CZMA) requires that all federally licensed and permitted activities be consistent with approved state Coastal Zone Management Programs. The Office of Ocean and Coastal Resource Management (OCRM) has direct permitting authority over the "critical areas" of the coast, defined as coastal waters, tidelands, and beach/dune systems. The OCRM also has indirect management authority of coastal resources throughout the eight coastal counties, defined as the

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<sup>1</sup> The Augusta Diversion Dam is part of the Augusta Canal Hydropower Project (FERC Project No. 11810), owned and operated by the City of Augusta, Georgia.

"coastal zone." It is our understanding that South Carolina's coastal zone consists of coastal waters and submerged bottom seaward to the State's jurisdictional limits, as well as the lands and waters of the eight coastal counties, including Horry, Georgetown, Berkeley, Charleston, Dorchester, Colleton, Beaufort, and Jasper (Policies and Procedures of the South Carolina Coastal Management Program, updates July 1995).

Given this description, it appears the Project is well outside of the South Carolina coastal zone, and that continued Project operations would subsequently *not affect* South Carolina's coastal zone. As such, Kleinschmidt Associates, on behalf of DESC, is herein requesting OCRM's concurrence on this matter.

We would appreciate your review and written determination on the Project at your earliest convenience via electronic mail. For all correspondence, please contact Jennifer Güt at [Jennifer.Gut@KleinschmidtGroup.com](mailto:Jennifer.Gut@KleinschmidtGroup.com).

Sincerely,

**KLEINSCHMIDT ASSOCIATES**

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Jennifer A. Güt".

Jennifer A. Güt  
Staff Licensing Coordinator



MARK WILLIAMS  
COMMISSIONER

DOUG HAYMANS  
DIRECTOR

## NOTIFICATION

Effective August 1, 2021

To: Interested Applicants/Sponsors/General Public

From: Jill Andrews, Coastal Resources Division, Coastal Management Program Section Chief 

RE: Executive Order 12372 Intergovernmental Coordination & Environmental Review

The Coastal Zone Management Act (CZMA, 15 CFR 930) includes provisions that are intended to ensure that federal assistance to applicant agencies for activities affecting any coastal use or resource is granted only when such activities are consistent with approved coastal management programs. Georgia's Coastal Management Program (GCMP) area encompasses eleven coastal counties: Brantley, Bryan, Camden, Charlton, Chatham, Effingham, Glynn, Liberty, Long, McIntosh, and Wayne. For assistance within these counties please contact our Federal Consistency Coordinator ([Kelie.Moore@dnr.ga.gov](mailto:Kelie.Moore@dnr.ga.gov))

Assistance programs and intergovernmental reviews outside of these eleven (11) counties are not subject to the CZMA provisions and do not require approval from Coastal Resources Division.

Coastal Barrier Resources Act (CRBA) areas do not extend outside these eleven (11) coastal counties and do not require approval from Coastal Resources Division.

Housing and Urban Development (HUD) federal assistance projects proposed anywhere within Georgia, including within the eleven (11) coastal counties, do not require approval from Coastal Resources Division.

Please use this Notification as an official document to send when submitting your application to a funding agency or for other intergovernmental review verification needs. This letter is also available on the Georgia State Clearinghouse website: <http://www.opb.georgia.gov/state-clearinghouse> and on the Georgia Department of Natural Resources Coastal Resources Division website: <https://www.coastalgadnr.org/MarshShore>

**From:** [Stout, Christopher](#)  
**To:** [Jennifer Gut](#)  
**Cc:** [Martin, Holli](#)  
**Subject:** RE: Coastal Zone Consistency - Stevens Creek Hydro Project  
**Date:** Friday, October 28, 2022 3:16:25 PM  
**Attachments:** [image002.png](#)

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Ms. Güt

Thank you for coordinating the review of this proposed project with our office. Based upon the location of the Stevens Creek Hydroelectric Project, the work is outside of the coastal zone of South Carolina and would not require a review from our section.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Regards  
Chris

**Christopher M. Stout**  
Manager, Coastal Zone Consistency Section  
**S.C. Dept. of Health & Environmental Control**  
Office: (843) 953-0691  
Mobile: (843) 340-3112  
Connect: [www.scdhec.gov](http://www.scdhec.gov) [Facebook](#) [Twitter](#)



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**From:** Jennifer Gut <Jennifer.Gut@KleinschmidtGroup.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, October 28, 2022 1:00 PM  
**To:** Stout, Christopher <stoutcm@dhec.sc.gov>  
**Cc:** Martin, Holli <martinhd@dhec.sc.gov>  
**Subject:** Coastal Zone Consistency - Stevens Creek Hydro Project

**\*\*\* Caution. This is an EXTERNAL email. DO NOT open attachments or click links from unknown senders or unexpected email. \*\*\***

Good afternoon Chris,

I hope you're doing well. I am working with Dominion Energy South Carolina, Inc. to relicense the Stevens Creek Hydroelectric Project located in McCormick and Edgefield counties, SC. We are seeking consultation regarding the Project in relation to the Coastal Zone Management Act. Please see the attached letter for more information and let me know if you have questions or if I need to pursue this through another avenue. I hope you have a great weekend.

Best,

Jenn

**Jennifer A. Güt**

Staff Licensing Coordinator

***Kleinschmidt***

**Office:** 803.904.8680

**Cell:** 706.294.3225

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