



North Carolina Department of Environment and Natural Resources

Division of Water Quality

Pat McCrory
Governor

Charles Wakild, P. E.
Director

John E. Skvarla, III
Secretary

April 4, 2013

TO: DENR-DWQ-Wetlands-Public Listserv

FROM: Karen Higgins, Wetlands, Buffers, Stormwater – Compliance and Permitting Unit
Lori Montgomery, P.E., Program Development Unit
Amy Chapman, Transportation Permitting Unit

RE: Public Notice and Notice of Public Hearing on May 14, 2013 and Cancellation of Public Hearing Initially Scheduled for April 16, 2013; Alcoa Power Generating, Inc. – Yadkin Hydroelectric Project (FERC No. 2197) Water Quality Certification

The purpose of this Public Notice is outlined below. This notice is available electronically at <http://portal.ncdenr.org/web/wq/swp/ws/401/publicnotices>.

I. Public Notice and Notice of Public Hearing on May 14, 2013 and Cancellation of Public Hearing Initially Scheduled for April 16, 2013; Alcoa Power Generating, Inc. – Yadkin Hydroelectric Project (FERC No. 2197) Water Quality Certification

PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given that on September 28, 2012, Alcoa Power Generating, Inc. (293 Hwy. 740, Badin, NC 28009) applied to the North Carolina Division of Water Quality (DWQ) for a 401 Water Quality Certification, pursuant to Section 401 of the Federal Clean Water Act and Title 15A North Carolina Administrative Code 02H .0500. The certification is required as part of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) relicensing process that, if approved, would allow for continued operation of the hydroelectric dams at High Rock, Tuckertown, Narrows, and Falls reservoirs on the Yadkin River in Davie, Davidson, Rowan, Montgomery and Stanly counties. The Division of Water Quality must take final action on the application prior to September 27, 2013.

The public is hereby notified that the DWQ has cancelled the public hearing that was initially scheduled for April 16, 2013. DWQ will instead hold a public hearing on Tuesday, May 14, 2013 starting at 7:00 p.m. at the Stanly County Commissioners Meeting Room at 1000 North First Street in Albemarle, NC, 28001. Speaker registration and sign-in will begin at 6:00 p.m. The purpose of this hearing is to allow interested persons to submit oral and/or written comments regarding the 401 Water Quality Certification application as well as additional information submitted thereafter.

The public is invited to comment in writing on the application described above as well as speak at the hearing. Speakers must register at the hearing; speaking sequence will be in the order of registration. Speaking times may be limited to 3 minutes maximum per speaker, with the final time limit to be determined on the day of the hearing depending upon the number of registered speakers. Cross examination of persons speaking will not be allowed; however, the Hearing Officer may ask questions for clarification. Written comments may be forwarded at any time before or after the hearing provided they are received by the Division no later than 5:00 p.m. on June 13, 2013.

Written comments should be mailed to NCDWQ, 1650 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, NC 27699-1650, Attn: Karen Higgins (919-807-6360), faxed to 919-807-6494, or emailed to karen.higgins@ncdenr.gov.

The application is online at:

<http://its.enr.state.nc.us/Weblink8/Browse.aspx?startid=169386>. Contact Beverly Strickland (919-807-6350) for assistance with the website. The application is also on file at the DWQ Central Office and may be inspected with an appointment during normal business hours (8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.) at 512 N. Salisbury Street, Raleigh, NC 27604. To schedule an appointment, contact Karen Higgins at karen.higgins@ncdenr.gov or 919-807-6360.

cc: DWQ Wetland Regional Contacts
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