

**The Catawba-Wateree River Basin Advisory Commission (CWRBAC)
Special Session Teleconference Call
October, 26 2016**

Commission Members: Rep. Bradford (Representative by Staff Member), Barry Gullet (Chair), Sen. Wes Hayes, Susie Hamrick Jones, Rick Lee, Jeff Lineberger, Tim Mead, Kathy Wilson

1. Call Meeting to Order

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Gullet.

2. Summary of Catawba-Wateree Comprehensive Relicensing Agreement (CRA) Modification and License Amendments - Mark Oakley, Catawba/Wateree Relicensing Project Manager, Duke Energy

The following information was presented to the Committee by Mr. Oakely.

- Previewed with Catawba-Wateree River Basin Advisory Commission February 5, 2016
- Presented to CRA Parties February 29, 2016
- All modifications unanimously approved by the 70 CRA Parties on August 6, 2016

Modification	CRA Party Requesting (Reason)	Affected CRA Section(s)	Modification Implementation Date
Change 6,000 cfs recreation flow release at Wylie Hydro Station to 3,000 cfs	Carolina Canoe Club (Safety)	<u>Appendix A, page A-6</u>	After state water quality certification amendment and FERC license amendment approvals are received.
Repurpose East Wateree Access Area funding	Kershaw County, SC and SC Department of Natural Resources (Changed circumstances)	<u>10.27.35.4</u>	Immediately upon reissuance of this Revision incorporating Party approvals.
Additional option for funding for Upper Wylie Motorboat Launch Improvements	Belmont, NC, Mecklenburg County, NC and Duke Energy (Improve drought resiliency)	<u>10.27.21.3</u>	Immediately upon reissuance of this Revision incorporating Party approvals.

Technology flexibility for flood management at Lake Wateree	Duke Energy (Thorough consideration of options)	<u>14.6.3</u>	After FERC license amendment approval is received (Note: This is not a requirement of state water quality certifications).
Add six inches to James, Norman, and Wylie summer Normal Target Elevations (Catawba-Wateree Water Management Group's (CWWMG) Water Supply Master Plan)	Duke Energy and other CRA Parties that are also CWWMG Members (Improve drought resiliency)	<u>Appendix A, pages A-1 and A-2</u>	State water quality certification amendment and FERC license amendment approvals are required. If approvals are received, this modification would be implemented after Wateree Dam is modified to improve flood management or 12/31/2025 whichever is later.

Summary of NC and SC Water Quality Certification (WQC) Amendments

- Draft amendment application issued for NC and SC agency consultation July 15, 2016
- Consultation comments returned by August 25, 2016
- Amendment applications filed in NC and SC on September 9, 2016
- SC public comment process runs from September 30, 2016 through October 30, 2016
- Public hearings not expected

WQC amendments are necessary due to the changes listed below. These changes affect certain sections and appendices of the Catawba-Wateree Comprehensive Relicensing Agreement (CRA) dated December 22, 2006 (Rev 1) which are also incorporated by reference as conditions of the original WQCs.

1. CRA Parties have found it to be beneficial to improve regional drought resiliency by raising reservoir summer target elevations on Lakes James, Norman, and Wylie by an additional 6 inches from May 1 – October 1 and to make a public safety improvement by modifying the 6,000 cubic feet per second (cfs) recreation flow release from the Wylie Development to 3,000 cfs.
2. Duke Energy voluntarily initiated revisions to update the Low Inflow Protocol (LIP) and the Maintenance and Emergency Protocol (MEP) in accordance with the CRA based on experience gained during voluntary implementation of these protocols since 2006. The revisions to the LIP are also consistent with recommendations from the Water Supply Master Plan prepared in 2014-2015 by the Catawba-Wateree Water Management Group.

3. The license issued for the Catawba-Wateree Hydroelectric Project on November 25, 2015 requires Duke Energy to file both a Water Quality Monitoring Plan (WQMP) and a Flow and Water Quality Implementation Plan (FWQIP). During the time since these CRA provisions were developed in 2006, some of these provisions, their status and implementation schedule have changed.

It was noted that Duke had sent notification concerning proposed changes to the affected CRA parties. Also, Lake Wateree representatives were consulted regarding the proposed water retention in the upper lakes to improve drought resiliency. The Catawba Wateree Drought Management Advisory Group has approved the changes to the Low Inflow Protocol.

3. Committee Support

It was decided that Chairman Gullet would draft a letter of Committee support concerning the CRA amendments to each State's (NC and SC) Water Quality Certification Section. The draft letter will be emailed to Committee Members, and if approved, the final letter of support will be sent to both States' Offices with Chairman Gullet's signature.

Jeff Lineberger, with Duke Energy, noted his intention to abstain from a Committee vote regarding this issue.

The call was adjourned by Chairman Gullet.

Notes submitted by Carol Roberts, SC DHEC Watershed Program