

**FINAL
PROGRESS ENERGY
YADKIN-PEE DEE RIVER PROJECT RELICENSING
MEETING NOTES SUMMARY
TERRESTRIAL RESOURCES WORKING GROUP
MEETING No. 3
August 13, 2003**

The following is a summary of the items and issues that were discussed during the second meeting of the Terrestrial Resources Working Group held on August 13, 2003, in Pinehurst, NC. The meeting agenda and sign-up sheet are provided as Attachment A.

- 1) Scott Fletcher of Devine Tarbell and Associates Inc. (DTA) introduced himself as a consultant for Progress Energy and as serving in the capacity of Meeting Leader. All attendees introduced themselves and their affiliation. Scott reviewed the agenda for the meeting a copy of which had been provided to all attendees.

Meeting Purpose: The first and second Resource Working Group (RWG) Meetings resulted in the preparation of a list of issues. Progress Energy had grouped the issues in the second RWG. Since the second RWG meeting, held June 11th, Progress Energy had prepared Issues Evaluation Templates for each of the 10 identified and agreed to issues. The use of the issues evaluation templates provides a consistent approach for the evaluation of each identified issue. The evaluation process results in one of the following conclusions:

- 1) There is sufficient existing information to address some or all of the issue,
- 2) A study is needed,
- 3) There is no Project effect or the issue is not relevant and no study is needed.

On August 5, 2003, Progress Energy distributed the completed Issues Evaluation Templates to the RWG members for review and comment. The purpose of this meeting was to review each of the Issues Evaluation Templates and listen to comments from the RWG. Scott stated that we were not necessarily trying to resolve all issues today, but to identify those that we agree on that either do not need further studies or do need studies.

- 2) Review of RWG Meeting No. 2 Meeting Summary

Scott referred to the meeting summary that had been forwarded to the members of the RWG and asked if there were any comments. There were no comments on the meeting summary. It was agreed, as in the previous RWGs, that if there were no comments than the meeting notes would be considered final at that time.

- 3) Issues Evaluation Template Review

Scott explained that Robin Bryson, Progress Energy, and he would be going through the Issues Evaluation Templates. A copy of each Issues Evaluation Template is included as Attachment B. A brief description of the discussion on each template is provided below. Scott also explained

that for those issues that the RWG could not agree or would like to have additional time to review, a “parking lot” would be created to place the issue into. However, one rule for going into the “parking lot” was that people would reconvene with a different position than those expressed in today’s meeting. The goal was not to have just a replay of the same discussions. It is only worthwhile to revisit if both sides had given additional thought and could work to resolve the issue.

1. On-going monitoring of RTE populations. Progress Energy proposes to prepare a study plan for performing a habitat-based survey for suspected and known RTE. Progress Energy explained in greater detail that this did include state as well as federal RTE species. NCWRC also commented that Progress Energy should check with the terrestrial non-game people as well. In addition, it was noted that the issues template identifies a federally listed endangered plant, Schwiowitz sunflower, as present on Project lands. This may be an error and the database will be reviewed by Progress Energy.
2. Issues 2 & 7 - Downstream Project effects on wildlife including South Carolina RTE species. Progress Energy proposes to perform studies based on the results of work completed in Water Resources Issue No. 6. Additional data was identified that Progress Energy can use including additional wetlands information in South Carolina which will become available within approximately 3 months time, as well as some terrestrial information from the North Carolina Heritage Program database.
3. Water Quality Impacts on RTE. Progress Energy proposes no studies to address this issue. There were no comments.
4. The main issue was operational effects on waterfowl habitat, wetlands, and vernal pools. A study plan will be prepared to perform a study to characterize and document Project operations effects on specific wetland communities within Project boundaries. NCWRC requested that the study plan include looking at future alternatives and operational scenarios.
5. Management and control of ROW vegetation. Progress Energy currently has a policy for ROW maintenance that protects RTE species. No further studies are proposed to address this issue. Attendees agreed to this approach.
6. Protection of important wildlife areas. There are no studies proposed to address this issue. If potential enhancement measures are identified in relicensing, then this will be part of the protection, mitigation, or enhancement (PME) measures associated with the Project. There were no additional comments.
7. Downstream Project Effects. This issue was previously discussed in Issue No. 2.
8. Wildlife inventories. A study plan will be prepared to perform wildlife inventories in specific, high value habitat areas. Bruce Sorrie commented that he would forward some baseline information regarding birds in the Project area to Progress Energy.

9. Habitat fragmentation. There are no studies proposed to address this issue. This issue will be considered during the development of the Blewett Falls Shoreline Management Plan. There were no comments.
 10. Expansion of gamelands and current wildlife areas. There are no studies proposed to address this issue. If potential enhancement measures are identified in relicensing, then these would be part of PME measures associated with the Project. There were no additional comments.
- 4). Action Items – The following list of action items were identified at this meeting:

Progress Energy mentioned that it was agreed in the previous RWG meetings that that it might be more convenient to schedule the meetings differently; with the Land Use and Recreation and Terrestrial RWGs on the first day and then the Water Resources RWG on the second day, followed by Instream Flow sub group on the third day. The Terrestrial RWG agreed to schedule future Terrestrial RWG meetings on the first day, before the Water Resources RWG meeting.

It was also agreed by the RWG that the comment period for the Issues Evaluation Templates would be open until August 29, 2003. Comments can be sent to Barry Arney (Progress Energy) and Michael Murphy (DTA).

ATTACHMENT A
MEETING AGENDA
MEETING PARTICIPANT SIGNUP SHEET

AGENDA
PROGRESS ENERGY
YADKIN-PEE DEE RIVER PROJECT
TERRESTRIAL RESOURCES WORKING GROUP
MEETING NO. 3
AUGUST 13, 2003
1:30 – 4:30

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| 1. Meeting Purpose and Introductions | 1:30 – 1:45 |
| 2. RWG No. 2 Meeting Minutes | 1:45 – 2:00 |
| 3. Review Issues Evaluation Templates | 2:00 – 4:15 |
| 4. Agenda for RWG Meeting No. 4 | 4:15 – 4:30 |

**PROGRESS ENERGY
YADKIN-PEE DEE RIVER PROJECT
TERRESTRIAL RESOURCES WORKING GROUP
MEETING NO. 3 - AUGUST 13, 2003**

SIGN IN SHEET

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