

MEETING NOTES

**SOUTH CAROLINA ELECTRIC & GAS COMPANY
SALUDA HYDRO PROJECT RELICENSING
RECREATION MANAGEMENT TECHNICAL WORKING COMMITTEE**

**CONFERENCE CALL
April 7, 2006**

final dka 04-25-06

ATTENDEES:

Name	Organization	Name	Organization
Tommy Boozer	SCE&G	Steve Bell	Lake Murray Watch
Van Hoffman	SCE&G	Tony Bebbber	SCPRT
David Hancock	SCE&G	Dave Anderson	Kleinschmidt Associates
Kelly Maloney	Kleinschmidt Associates	Marty Phillips	Kleinschmidt Associates
Patrick Moore	AR/CCL	Jennifer Summerlin	Kleinschmidt Associates

HOMEWORK ITEMS:

- Tommy B. – review lease agreements for Dreher Island and Saluda Shoals
- Tim V. – provide group with number and location of regatta permits
- Dave A. – locate and distribute recreation site maps and future recreation properties
- Dave A. – distribute draft study plan
- Dave A. – check with Malcolm about next meeting date

PARKING LOT ITEMS:

- None

DATE OF NEXT MEETING:

**April 17, 2006 at 2:00 p.m.
Lake Murray Training Center**

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

Dave A. opened the meeting by mentioning that Tommy B. had provided an updated map of existing recreation sites and future recreation lands and that he would be distributing the map to the group and posting it to the web site. Dave then directed attention to the draft Lake Murray Public Access Site Questionnaire (attached). Someone asked about the time frame the surveys would be conducted. Dave replied that the study is being planned for Memorial Day to September 30th. There was some discussion as to how we would collect information from waterfowl hunters, who typically use access areas during the winter. Dave replied that it is being proposed to conduct a focus group with selected waterfowl hunters, where the same type of information would be collected. There was some discussion about whether the on-site surveys should be conducted for an entire year. Dave felt that concentrating effort during the peak recreation season provided the best information for the money expended. Tony thought that missing the March/April timeframe would skew the results towards skiers and boaters. After this discussion, the group agreed to keep the time frame as it currently stands, but to examine the data next fall to see how many anglers were interviewed. If the group decides that there were not enough anglers surveyed during the peak recreation season, the sampling frame could be modified to “pick up” March and April of next year.

The group then examined specific questions on the Lake Murray questionnaire. David H. asked if we could ask a question about off season usage to deal with the sampling frame issue. Dave A. said we could, but the questionnaire is at the maximum length. There was some discussion about the time of day the interviews would take place. Kelly M. replied that the day was defined as 6:00 am to 7:00 pm. The group agreed this was good since anglers typically use the lake during the early morning hours.

Steve B. asked if we could record if the respondent was disabled to get an idea of how many disabled people are using the sites. Marty replied that this could lead to assumptions about what is and what is not a disability, and that we will not be able to tell whether some people have them or not. She would not feel comfortable with letting the interviewers make this determination.

Steve B. asked about Question 5A and if we could get respondents to specifically locate where they went. Kelly M. replied that we could try it in the pretest. Marty replied that we could break out the lake into smaller segments, as long as the segments lined up with the segments used in the boating density study. Kelly also talked about how many on-the-water activities take place over large geographic areas and a dot might not really mean anything. Dave A. mentioned that we could get some of this same information from the aerial photographs, but we would not know where the boats

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came from. Tony B. thought the individual maps would be most useful. Marty stated that we could obtain the information but would not be able to correlate individual responses to dots on a map. The group agreed to try having respondents indicate their location on the lake by placing a dot on a map during the pre-test and see if this format works.

Tony B. had a couple of specific suggestions for the questionnaire. He wanted to change "Tent or Vehicle Camping" to "Camping," take out "Hunting" and move "Swimming," "Picknicking," and "Sunbathing" to the top of the list (Question 3). For Question 7D, he thought "Tent Camping" and "RV Camping" should be separate items and the "Bilingual Signs" should be added to the list. Tony also suggested combining Questions 7E and 7F. Marty replied that we need to keep 7E and 7F the way they are to tell the difference between a non-response and a "no."

Kelly M. mentioned that Karen K. had submitted comments about asking if the respondents have alcoholic beverages with them. Tommy replied that we should not consider it. Kelly mentioned that this would likely shut off the interview process because of the nature of the question. Steve B. stated that it would gather information about people drinking on the rocks on the LSR. Tommy replied that it is an issue that SCE&G can not do anything about. Steve replied that it is an issue that SCE&G brings up when they discuss the safety issues on the LSR. Dave A. suggested that it is not an issue for this TWC and he thinks we should refer the issue to the Safety RCG.

Dave then focused attention on the Lower Saluda River Public Access Site Questionnaire (attached). He mentioned that it is very similar to the Lake questionnaire, except for a few questions about the sirens on the river. Patrick M. liked the questions on the siren and asked if we could ask about behavior associated with the sirens. Marty said they could try to develop a question concerning how people typically behave when the sirens go off.

Dave A. asked if the siren questions are applicable at the other sites being sampled on the river (besides the Zoo). The group thought they were. Patrick M. asked where people would be intercepted at the Zoo. Dave replied that they would be intercepted by the west parking lot. Patrick mentioned that there is another access site at the opposite side of the parking lot. Dave agreed that the best way to intercept people would not be determined until the pre-test and site inventories are completed. Dave questioned if the same recreation season would capture most of the use in this area. Patrick thought a lot of use occurred during April and May. The group agreed that they can reexamine this area once the peak recreation results are available to determine if we need to complete more interviews next year.

There was some further discussion about asking about safety issues on the LSR. Tony wondered if we could ask if people have enough time to get off the river. Marty wondered if we just need to observe behavior associated with the sirens. Patrick mentioned this is something he suggested but

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the logistics were too many to overcome. There was some discussion about other possible questions such as “Did you feel safe on the river today” (which would then be tied to flow conditions), or “Did flows impact your experience today.” Dave suggested that Kleinschmidt craft new questions about safety on the LSR and distribute a new questionnaire for review. Dave mentioned that we don’t need to meet face-to-face to take comments, we need to get this done as soon as possible so that we can get the study in place. The group agreed to make electronic comments to the questionnaire after Kleinschmidt distributes it.

Dave directed attention to the remaining agenda items and suggested we postpone the other topics (due to time). Steve B. mentioned that the “Public Lands Open to the Public” did not need to be discussed as long as the group has listing of public access and that these areas would be indicated on classification maps. The group agreed to table this discussion. Steve also asked about remaining issues to be dealt with in this TWC/RCG. Dave pointed him to the “Cataloged Study Request” document available on the web site. Steve expressed his concern that we might be missing some issues. The group agreed to review the “Cataloged Study Request” document and make any comments on other issues to Dave. Dave indicated he would send out the draft study plan after the call and the TWC needed to meet to finalize the plan. The group agreed to meet after the RCG meeting on the 17th and would attempt to accommodate Malcolm and meet later in the day. Dave agreed to contact Malcolm before setting the next meeting date.

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**Saluda Hydro Relicensing
Recreation Management Technical Working Committee**

Meeting Agenda

April 7, 2006

9:30 AM

Conference Call

- **9:30 to 10:00** Discussion of User Questionnaires
- **10:00 to 10:30** Discussion of “Project Lands Open to the Public”
- **10:30 to 10:45** Identifying Other Issues
- **10:45 to 11:00** Setting Next Meeting Date and Moving Forward



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Additional Comments Received

Malcolm Leaphart: Sorry I could not participate in the teleconference call last Friday when I was out of town, and also this morning when I have conflicting meetings at work (between them at this moment in fact...). I suggest a face-to-face session next, and a late afternoon or evening time would be appreciated as morning meetings are difficult to get away from work for.

I am honestly anxious for the TWC to get past the survey preparations and to begin to address key project recreational access issues, especially those for the lower Saluda River. In my absence, I defer to Tony Bebber's expertise and support whatever recommendations he makes in getting the surveys wrapped up. As for the river recreational management issues, I will follow up as soon as I can with a list of those items that need to be discussed. Hopefully that will be helpful as a starting point for discussions of improved access and recreational sites along the lower Saluda. As a lake user, I am also concerned that the recreational and access sites there are inadequate and look forward to participating in discussing those.

Tony Bebber: Here's some additional comments on the LSR draft. When looking through it, I realized that we have only asked about the specific site. Don't we want to ask if there are other recreational needs on Lake Murray or Lower Saluda, sort of like 7A on the LSR form? Maybe I'll know for sure after I see the study plan? Will it include a mail or phone survey of area residents (4+ counties)?

Steve Bell: I agree with Tony, that while the site surveys will provide some useful information, additional studies and/or information will be needed to address specific stakeholder issues. As I explained at the end of the meeting, we need to review all issues to determine what if any additional studies or info is needed to address stakeholder concerns. The study plan will have to be amended at that time.

Malcolm Leaphart: Please clarify for me how we are going to identify NEW recreation sites since neither of the questionnaires ask those surveyed 'if' and 'where' they would like to see some on the river and the lake? This is of course a key issue for the Rec RCG and committees and I want to make sure that we do fail to address it... Thanks.

Lake Murray Recreation Study Public Access Site Questionnaire

Clerk: _____	Site: _____	Date: _____	Time: _____ am/pm
Weather: _____ (Check all that apply)	<input type="checkbox"/> Sunny <input type="checkbox"/> Cloudy <input type="checkbox"/> Heavy Rain	<input type="checkbox"/> Partly Cloudy <input type="checkbox"/> Light Rain <input type="checkbox"/> Windy	Record Respondent Gender: <input type="checkbox"/> Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female RESPONDENT REFUSED INTERVIEW: <input type="checkbox"/> RESPONDENT DOES NOT SPEAK ENGLISH: <input type="checkbox"/>

THE FIRST FEW QUESTIONS ASK ABOUT YOUR EXPERIENCE HERE TODAY

1. Including yourself, how many people are in your party today? *(Fill in blank.)*
 _____ people in party

2. What time did you arrive **at Lake Murray** today? *(Fill in blank.)*
 _____ am / pm

3. What is the primary recreation activity that you participated in today **at Lake Murray**?
(Read the list to respondents. Check only one main activity in the first column.)

What other activities did you participate in today? *(Check all that apply in the second column. If boating or fishing from a boat are indicated as primary activities, skip to Question 5A.)*

Check only one main activity	Check all other activities	Types of Activities
		FISHING:
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	boat fishing
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	pier/dock fishing
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	bank fishing
		BOATING:
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	motor boating
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	pontoon/party boating
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	water skiing/tubing/other tow
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	jet skiing
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	sailing
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	canoeing/kayaking
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	windsurfing
		OTHER:
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	bicycling
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	tent or vehicle camping
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	horseback riding
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	walking/hiking/backpacking
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	sightseeing
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	hunting
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	nature study/wildlife viewing
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	swimming
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	picnicking
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	sunbathing
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	other: _____
	<input type="checkbox"/>	None

7C. Are there any additional facilities needed **at this recreation site**? (Check one box.)

- YES
- NO (If no, skip to Question 8.)

7D. What do you recommend? (Do not read this list. Allow respondent to answer and check all that apply and/or fill in the blanks.)

<input type="checkbox"/> access road	<input type="checkbox"/> camping area	<input type="checkbox"/> rest rooms
<input type="checkbox"/> bank fishing area	<input type="checkbox"/> fish cleaning station	<input type="checkbox"/> signs & information
<input type="checkbox"/> boat dock	<input type="checkbox"/> fishing pier/dock	<input type="checkbox"/> swimming area
<input type="checkbox"/> boat fueling	<input type="checkbox"/> lighting	<input type="checkbox"/> trails
<input type="checkbox"/> boat launch	<input type="checkbox"/> parking lot	<input type="checkbox"/> trash cans
<input type="checkbox"/> boat pump outs	<input type="checkbox"/> picnic tables/shelter	<input type="checkbox"/> RV camping
<input type="checkbox"/> other (please specify: _____)		

7E. Are there any other improvements that you would recommend for this site? (Check one box.)

- YES
- NO (If no, skip to Question 8.)

7F. What improvements do you recommend? (Fill in the blank.)

I HAVE JUST A FEW MORE QUESTIONS

8. Do you own a permanent or seasonal lakefront home or condominium **on Lake Murray**? What is your zip code? (Check one box and fill in the blank for zip code.)

- YES – Permanent Home → ZIP CODE: _____
- YES – Seasonal Home → ZIP CODE: _____
- NO - Non-lakefront resident → ZIP CODE: _____

9. In what year were you born? (Fill in blank.)

_____ YEAR

10. Do you have any additional comments about the recreation facilities at **Lake Murray**? (Fill in blank and be as specific as possible.)

THANK YOU FOR YOUR HELP! WE APPRECIATE YOUR TIME TODAY!

**Lower Saluda River Recreation Study
Public Access Site Questionnaire**

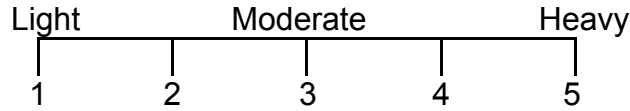
Clerk: _____	Site: _____	Date: _____	Time: _____ am/pm
Weather: <input type="checkbox"/> Sunny	<input type="checkbox"/> Partly Cloudy	Record Respondent Gender: <input type="checkbox"/> Male	<input type="checkbox"/> Female
(Check all <input type="checkbox"/> Cloudy	<input type="checkbox"/> Light Rain	RESPONDENT REFUSED INTERVIEW: <input type="checkbox"/>	
that apply) <input type="checkbox"/> Heavy Rain	<input type="checkbox"/> Windy	RESPONDENT DOES NOT SPEAK ENGLISH: <input type="checkbox"/>	

THE FIRST FEW QUESTIONS ASK ABOUT YOUR EXPERIENCE HERE TODAY

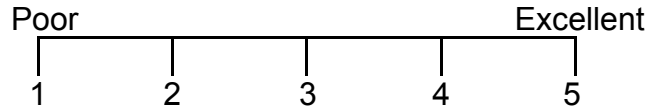
- Including yourself, how many people are in your party today? *(Fill in blank.)*
_____ people in party
- What time did you arrive **at the Lower Saluda River** today? *(Fill in blank.)*
_____ am / pm
- What is the primary recreation activity that you participated in today **at the Lower Saluda River**? *(Read the list to respondents. Check only one main activity in the first column.)*
What other activities did you participate in today? *(Check all that apply in second column.)*

Check only <u>one</u> main activity	Check all other activities	Types of Activities
		FISHING:
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	boat fishing
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	pier/dock fishing
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	wading fishing
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	bank fishing
		BOATING:
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	tubing/floating
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	flatwater canoeing/kayaking
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	whitewater canoeing/kayaking
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	rafting
		OTHER:
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	bicycling
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	tent or vehicle camping
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	horseback riding
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	walking/hiking/backpacking
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	sightseeing
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	hunting
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	nature study/wildlife viewing
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	swimming
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	picnicking
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	sunbathing
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	other: _____
	<input type="checkbox"/>	None

4. On a scale from 1 to 5, with 1 being light, 3 being moderate, and 5 being heavy, how would you rate the crowdedness **at this recreation site** today? (Circle one number.)



- 5A. On a scale from 1 to 5, with 1 being poor and 5 being excellent, how would you rate the overall condition **of this recreation site** today? (Circle one number.)



- 6A. Why did you choose to come to this site today? (Fill in the blank.)

- 7A. Are there any additional facilities needed **at this recreation site**? (Check one box.)

- YES
 NO (If no, skip to Question 8.)

- 7B. What do you recommend? (Do not read this list. Allow respondent to answer and check all that apply and/or fill in the blank.)

<input type="checkbox"/> access road	<input type="checkbox"/> camping area	<input type="checkbox"/> rest rooms
<input type="checkbox"/> bank fishing area	<input type="checkbox"/> fish cleaning station	<input type="checkbox"/> signs & information
<input type="checkbox"/> boat dock	<input type="checkbox"/> fishing pier/dock	<input type="checkbox"/> swimming area
<input type="checkbox"/> picnic tables/shelter	<input type="checkbox"/> lighting	<input type="checkbox"/> trails
<input type="checkbox"/> boat launch	<input type="checkbox"/> parking lot	<input type="checkbox"/> trash cans
<input type="checkbox"/> other (please specify: _____)		

- 7C. Are there any other improvements that you would recommend for this site? (Check one box.)

- YES
 NO (If no, skip to Question 8.)

- 7D. What improvements do you recommend? (Fill in the blank.)

- 8A. Are you aware of the siren on **the Lower Saluda River**? (Check one box.)

- YES
 NO (If no, skip to Question 9.)

8B. Do you know what the siren is for? *(Check one box.)*

- YES
- NO *(If no, skip to Question 9.)*

8C. What do you think the siren is for? *(Fill in the blank.)*

I HAVE JUST A FEW MORE QUESTIONS

9. Do you own a permanent or seasonal lakefront home or condominium **on Lake Murray**? What is your zip code? *(Check one box and fill in the blank for zip code.)*

- YES – Permanent Home → ZIP CODE: _____
- YES – Seasonal Home → ZIP CODE: _____
- NO – Non-lakefront resident → ZIP CODE: _____

10. In what year were you born? *(Fill in blank.)*

_____ YEAR

11. Do you have any additional comments about the recreation facilities at **the Lower Saluda River**? *(Fill in blank and be as specific as possible.)*

THANK YOU FOR YOUR HELP! WE APPRECIATE YOUR TIME TODAY!