

MEETING NOTES

**SOUTH CAROLINA ELECTRIC & GAS COMPANY
SALUDA HYDRO PROJECT RELICENSING
LAKE AND LAND MANAGEMENT TWC**

**SCE&G Carolina Research Park
October 31, 2006**

Final acg 12-6-06

ATTENDEES:

Alison Guth, Kleinschmidt Associates
Alan Stuart, Kleinschmidt Associates
Tommy Boozer, SCE&G
Dick Christie, SCDNR
Roy Parker, LMA
Steve Bell, Lake Watch
Van Hoffman, SCANA
Tony Bebber, SCPRT

Bill Argentieri, SCE&G
George Duke, LMHOC
Ron Ahle, SCDNR
Rhett Bickley, Lexington Co.
David Hancock, SCE&G
John Frick, landowner
Amanda Hill, USFWS

HOMEWORK:

- Tommy, David and Van – GIS map depicting width of fringelands
- DNR – Develop Goal/Mission Statement for land rebalancing
- Entire Group – To review Evaluation Criteria and possible ways of scoring

DATE OF NEXT MEETING:

**November 21, 2006 at 9:30 a.m.
Located at Lake Murray Training Center**

MEETING NOTES:

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.

Welcome and Fringeland Presentation:

Alan Stuart opened the meeting and noted that Van Hoffman would be providing the group with a presentation on fringelands. The group viewed the presentation which included various examples of land parcels around Lake Murray. Van included aerial shots that depicted how the 100 ft setback could affect the fringeland. Van also showed the group examples of land that includes conservation areas, such as shallow water habitat.

The group discussed the sale of fringelands. Ron Ahle noted that the intrinsic values that the Lake provides need to be kept in perspective when looking at potential reclassification. These include the back property owners interests, wildlife interests, and development interests, among others. The group discussed some of the limitations involved with areas of fringeland that are less than 75 ft. It

MEETING NOTES

**SOUTH CAROLINA ELECTRIC & GAS COMPANY
SALUDA HYDRO PROJECT RELICENSING
LAKE AND LAND MANAGEMENT TWC**

**SCE&G Carolina Research Park
October 31, 2006**

Final acg 12-6-06

was explained that SCE&G cannot sell fringelands that are less than 75 ft, however it can be possible to permit a dock in those areas. There was also brief discussion regarding some incentives for widening buffer zones.

After his presentation, Van noted that Lexington County was working on new sediment control measures. He explained that Lexington County may come in to discuss this and provide a presentation to the TWC.

Presentation on Rebalancing:

After lunch, Ron Ahle began his presentation entitled Rebalancing of Shoreline Uses on Lake Murray: The DNR's Perspective. The group reviewed the values of the shoreline and the benefits of riparian setbacks. Ron explained that there may be other ways for managing the 75 ft setbacks which include: a widening to 100ft, increasing the no clearing zone, maintaining a closed canopy by replacing diseased or hazardous trees, increase penalties and fines, improve educational outreach, and involve stakeholders in monitoring. Ron also noted his concern at allowing docks in shallow coves. Tommy Boozer noted that if an area is identified as shallow cove, SCE&G does not allow the individual to dredge.

During the presentation, the group also looked at easement properties with ESA's. Ron noted that they had concerns that the selling of ESA land with development behind it will eventually lead to the reduction of habitat. Ron also presented the group with DNR's selection criteria for the protection of lands that included the following:

- General habitat quality
- Fish spawning and nursery habitat
- Length and depth of undeveloped shoreline
- Waterfowl hunting opportunities
- Habitat in surrounding region
- Aesthetics
- Recreational values
- Adjacency

The group then began to discuss the rebalancing efforts by DNR and SCE&G, and the proposals that were made. Ron noted that the above stated criteria was used by DNR when making the proposal, and choices were not made based on the back property owner. He also noted that longer stretches of land are desirable because there are certain values that are lost with smaller stretches.

Other Information Needs:

Ron concluded his presentation and Alan asked if there were any more presentations that were desired by the group before intensive rebalancing discussions. The group noted that although there

MEETING NOTES

**SOUTH CAROLINA ELECTRIC & GAS COMPANY
SALUDA HYDRO PROJECT RELICENSING
LAKE AND LAND MANAGEMENT TWC**

**SCE&G Carolina Research Park
October 31, 2006**

Final acg 12-6-06

were no more presentations needed, there were several information needs that existed. Ron noted that a map depicting the widths of the fringelands would be a necessary tool during rebalancing discussions. Tommy noted that they would work on using the current GIS to put together these maps as best as possible. Ron noted that they would only need to include the future development lands that can be sold.

Rebalancing Evaluation Criteria:

The group then noted that they would develop a list of evaluation criteria, similar to DNR's, to use when evaluating land. Interactively, the group developed the following list of general criteria that will be refined later:

Evaluation Criteria:

- General habitat quality
- Fish Spawning and nursery habitat
- Length of undeveloped shoreline
- Depth of undeveloped Shoreline
- Waterfowl hunting opportunities
- Habitat in surrounding region
- Aesthetics
- Recreational values, public use and access
- Adjacency
- Back property owners
- ESA's
- Conservation areas
- Continuity
- Development pressure
- Zoning (Density)
- Economics
- Endangered Species (federal, or state)
- Unique habitat
- Water Quality

The group considered what other tools were needed for discussions on rebalancing. Dick noted that it would be important to make sure all the keys to the maps were correct. Tommy noted that they would be. Steve Bell also noted that he would like to look at all the properties that DNR and the USFWS identified individually. The group noted that at an upcoming meeting they would look at the areas one by one using the evaluation criteria that they developed. Tommy noted that they would have Orbis come in to project the maps so that the group could view them. DNR also

MEETING NOTES

**SOUTH CAROLINA ELECTRIC & GAS COMPANY
SALUDA HYDRO PROJECT RELICENSING
LAKE AND LAND MANAGEMENT TWC**

**SCE&G Carolina Research Park
October 31, 2006**

Final acg 12-6-06

pointed out that they had a set of ESA maps with the classifications listed that they would bring to the meeting.

Discussion Review:

The group decided that at the next meeting they would refine the Evaluation Criteria to a list that was more workable. The group would also consider a method of scoring areas of land based on the Evaluation Criteria. DNR noted that they would work on developing a scoring mechanism as a homework item, and Alan encouraged the whole group to consider scoring options before the next meeting. The group noted that the first areas that they would consider for rebalancing would be Future Development, which would consist of approximately 102 miles of shoreline.

Alan pointed out that it would be important for the group to have a goal statement that would guide the group through rebalancing. DNR was tasked with developing a strawman of a goal statement for the next meeting. Van also briefly touched on the economic benefits of the fringelands with the group. Van explained that the fringelands were important to the company in that the money from their sales is placed into other acquisitions so that it does not have to be borrowed. He further noted that their primary use is to set up 10-31 land exchanges to buy substation sites. Van noted that this helps to keep rates down and the company also earns a return off of the basis.

The group concluded the meeting and reviewed the action items. Tommy noted that when the group began to review the maps with Orbis it may be best to have a meeting two days in a row. The group agreed. The next meeting date was set for November 21 at the Lake Murray Training Center.