

Mr. James M. Landreth, V.P.  
Fossil & Hydro Operations  
SCE&G  
111 Research Dr.  
Columbia, S.C. 29203  
Attn: Mr. William R. Argentieri

Re: COMMENTS ON THE SALUDA HYDRO ICD

Dear Sir,

I am a long time resident of Saluda County, S.C. I own property on Lake Murray and am a developer and owner of a real estate company on Lake Murray.

It is in my opinion that SCE&G has taken a stand that is very unbalanced toward the future development of properties in Saluda and Newberry Counties. The "Lake Watch" environmental groups have tipped the scale for all the things they want. They already have their own non-vegetative areas, individual docks, ramps, etc. One of their main advocates, Mr. Steve Bell, lives in Newberry Shores. Mr. Bell's shoreline and waterfront is completely vacant of any type of vegetation to the waters edge, and he makes sure it stays in that condition. This is a double standard.

I am for balanced natural and wooded vegetation. The limited brushing 75' buffer zone has been an effective rule, however, SCE&G needs to allow these rural counties the opportunity to have sensible and balanced development. Today we live in a "world economy". Saluda County recently lost it's only two industrial textile plants. Over 400 people lost their jobs. Saluda County needs Lake Murray development to help cover their tax needs and it will also create jobs and support hundreds of business owners in the county.

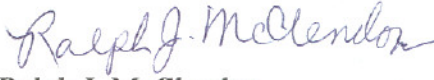
The people who are primarily purchasing land on Lake Murray in these counties are retirees from up north who have lost interest in the coastal areas due to high costs and hurricanes and want our warm climate.

SCE&G's stand not to allow progress also affects many land owner's who presently own land surrounding the lake. Many of these people have counted on selling their lands for retirement funding. This land now can only be considered woodlands without the ability to purchase the fringe land so that dockage can be obtained.

It may be a good idea, instead of SCE&G's previous attempt to donate their lands in these counties to the State of S.C., to consider donating these lands to Saluda and Newberry Counties. This way these counties and the people who live there could decide the best usage.

Ralph J. McClendon  
108 Front Street  
Gilbert, S.C. 29054

Respectfully,

  
Ralph J. McClendon