

# Lake Level Information Plan And Flow Communication Plan

## Nantahala River Hydroelectric Project FERC # 2692 East and West Fork Tuckasegee River Hydroelectric Projects FERC #'s 2698, and 2686

### **Introduction**

Duke Power Nantahala Area, a Division of Duke Energy Corporation (Duke), is in the process of relicensing its hydroelectric projects with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC). Duke was asked to improve its communications methodologies for providing information on instream flows and generation on the Tuckasegee and Nantahala Rivers and lake level changes for Lakes Nantahala, Glenville, Cedar Cliff, Bear, Tennessee, and Wolf Lakes. Duke worked closely with homeowner associations on the lake information systems and with camps, outfitters, and representatives of private boaters on the river information systems. This report describes the plans for providing the upgraded information through an automated system on both an Internet site and a telephone voice response unit (VRU) system.

### **Internet Site Information**

The Internet address for this information will be: <http://www.nantahalapower.com>

### **Telephone Voice Response Unit (VRU)**

The existing Lake Neighbor Information Line (1-800-829-5253) will be upgraded to serve as a single telephone information source providing automated data for Thorpe, Cedar Cliff, and Nantahala Power Plants and Glenville, Cedar Cliff, Bear Creek, Wolf, Tennessee and Nantahala Lakes.

### **Summary of Information Available on the Internet**

The reservoir information to be available on the Internet and VRU includes:

- Current (actual) reservoir elevations for Glenville, Cedar Cliff, Bear Creek, Wolf, Tennessee and Nantahala Lakes.
- The difference between current and target reservoir elevations.
- Special messages for each reservoir with information pertinent to each lake as needed.
- A graph for each reservoir showing a 7-day history of reservoir elevations.
- A graph for each reservoir showing actual reservoir elevations for the past 3 months, target elevations for the past 3 months, and target elevations for the next 3 months.

The generation information to be available on the Internet includes:

- Specific generation schedules will be provided on Sunday and Thursday for the following three to four days for Thorpe, Cedar Cliff, and Nantahala Power Plants. The schedules will be updated automatically when the generation schedules change.
- An approximate schedule of when the leading and receding edges of generated flows will begin and end at four locations on the Tuckasegee River: (1) Tuckasegee Gauge (about one mile below the confluence of the East and West Forks); (2) Webster; (3) Dillsboro; (4) Shoal Creek (Whittier). The flow schedules will be based on the generation schedules at Thorpe and Cedar Cliff Power Plants and typical flow travel times to the four locations. These flow schedules will be projected and updated automatically, consistent with the generation schedules.

### **Summary of Information Available on the Telephone (VRU)**

The reservoir information to be available on the telephone (VRU) includes:

- Current (actual) reservoir elevations for Glenville, Cedar Cliff, Bear Creek, Wolf, Tennessee and Nantahala Lakes.

- The difference between current and target reservoir elevations.
- Special messages for each reservoir with information pertinent to each lake as needed.

The generation information to be available on the telephone (VRU) includes:

- Specific generation schedules will be provided on Sunday and Thursday for the following three to four days for Thorpe, Cedar Cliff, and Nantahala Power Plants. The schedules will be updated automatically when the generation schedules change.
- An approximate schedule of when the leading and receding edges of generated flows will begin and end at four locations on the Tuckasegee River: (1) Tuckasegee Gauge (about one mile below the confluence of the East and West Forks); (2) Webster; (3) Dillsboro; (4) Shoal Creek (Whittier). The flow schedules will be based on the generation schedules at Thorpe and Cedar Cliff Power Plants and typical flow travel times to the four locations. These flow schedules will be projected and updated automatically, consistent with the generation schedules.

### **Test Period for Both Systems**

Both systems will be tested during the summer of 2003 utilizing paddling and homeowner groups for the trial. Information from the test period will be used to fine tune the system so that it provides the information needed to those who need it on a timely basis.

### **Conclusion**

The communication systems described in this plan should provide the desired information on stream flows, power plant generation, and lake levels that have been requested by the public. This information should enhance public recreation, safety, and the overall enjoyment of these lake and stream resources.

