

The following is a brief summary of the September 25, 2007 CW-DMAG conference call:

1. Attending Organizations:

Organization

NCDENR

NCWRC

SCDHEC

SCDNR

City of Morganton

Town of Granite Falls

City of Lenoir

Town of Valdese

City of Hickory

Charlotte Mecklenburg Utilities

Lincoln County

City of Gastonia

City of Rock Hill

Union-Lancaster Catawba Water

Treatment Plant

Bowater

Chester Metropolitan District

City of Camden

Invista

Licensee

2. Review of Drought Response Status

Since the last CW-DMAG conference call, Charlotte-Mecklenburg Utilities (CMU) has moved to Stage 3 mandatory restrictions (with a ban on all outdoor irrigation except hand-held devices) effective Wednesday, September 25, 2007. The following is the link to CMU's web-site for details:

<http://www.charmeck.org/Departments/Utilities/WaterSmart/Mandatory+Water+Restrictions.htm>

3. LIP Trigger Update

Ed Bruce briefly reviewed the Low Inflow Protocol (LIP) drought indicators as of **Friday, September 21, 2007**:

Storage Index (SI): 46.74%
Target Storage Index= 75.00%
Ratio= **62.32%** (Supports Stage 2 (note: Stage 3 **ratio** threshold is 57% for September))

Trend Data:

SI on July 30, 2007=	64.36%
SI on August 27, 2007=	53.54%
SI on August 31, 2007=	52.58%
SI on September 7, 2007=	50.26%
SI on September 14, 2007=	47.56%
SI on September 21, 2007=	46.74%
Loss Rate since July 30, 2007=	2.33% per week
Loss Rate since August 31, 2007=	1.95% per week

Ed Bruce noted that the SI on September 25, 2007 was 46.07%, which represents a loss rate since September 21, 2007 of 1.17% per week. This rate of decline is less than in previous weeks

and can be attributable to the effective water use reductions occurring in the basin. In addition, the evaporation rate is declining somewhat due to transition to fall weather.

The following are Stage 3 SI trigger points during October (Stage 3 trigger point is 57% of TSI):

October 1: TSI= 75%, **Stage 3 SI = 42.75%**
October 15: TSI= 72.29%, **Stage 3 SI = 41.21%**
October 31: TSI= 69.19%, **Stage 3 SI = 39.44%**

Streamflow Indicator (six-month average versus historical six-month average):

Ratio= **47.70%** (Supports Stage 3)

Trend Data:

Ratio on July 30, 2007= 66.6%

Ratio on August 31, 2007= 64.0%

Tom Fransen (NCDENR) reported that the most recent ratio is **46.8%**.

US Drought Monitor (three-month average assuming current reading for September)

Three-month Numeric Average= **+2.33** (Supports Stage 2)

Groundwater Gages (feet below surface):

USGS Langtree gage

August 31, 2007 reading= 20.85 ft

September 7, 2007 reading= 21.10 ft

September 14, 2007 reading= 21.24 ft

September 21, 2007 reading= 21.38 ft

USGS Linville gage

August 31, 2007 reading= 2.41 ft

September 7, 2007 reading= 2.43 ft

September 14, 2007 reading= 2.49 ft

September 21, 2007 reading= 2.37 ft

NCDWR Glen Alpine gage

August 15, 2007 reading= 9.90 ft

September 5, 2007 reading= 10.03 ft

September 13, 2007 reading= 10.19 ft

September 20, 2007 reading= 9.98 ft

4. Duke Operations Update

George Galleher provided a brief update on Duke's operations of the Catawba-Wateree Project. Without substantial rain, additional flow from Lake James will be necessary to maintain downstream reservoirs. This will cause Lake James's elevation to decline slightly over the next few days. The hydro generation rate (during pulses) from Lake Wylie will be reduced very slightly in an effort to conserve additional water in Lake Wylie. Downstream water users will not be affected by this adjustment.

Duke meteorology staff is predicting little rainfall in the basin over the next few days. Longer-term projections still show a neutral to dry pattern into next spring and summer. Duke estimated that the natural evaporation loss in August was approximately 300 mgd. The natural evaporation may be lower in the fall due to the lower temperatures and longer night-time hours, but is difficult to estimate.

5. Preparing for Stage 3

As noted above, CMU has moved to Stage 3 mandatory water use restrictions (with a ban on outdoor irrigation) and CMU encouraged other Public Water Suppliers to also move to Stage 3 restrictions in light of the fact that the LIP trigger indicators are either in Stage 3 (streamflow), or are moving rapidly in that direction (Storage and Drought Monitor). CMU and Duke Energy noted that the critical time period will be next spring when the reservoirs need to be at or near Target Elevations entering into next summer in order to meet water needs through next summer. Therefore, saving water now will allow additional time for substantial rainfall.

CMU clarified that ball fields will be allowed to continue 2 day per week watering. Dust control is still allowed under the CMU restrictions for now. CMU recommended that Public Water Suppliers refer folks to NC State web-sites that have information on seeding and lawn maintenance during droughts.

6. Lake Norman Golf Course Water Use Reduction Plan

Ed Bruce e-mailed a revised proposed water use reduction plan for golf courses that use irrigation water directly from Lake Norman. The plan was prepared jointly by the golf courses and has the following reductions at each stage of the LIP:

- Stage 0: 5% reduction
- Stage 1: 15% reduction
- Stage 2: 25% reduction
- Stage 3: 35% reduction
- Stage 4: 85% reduction (greens watering only with some syringing)

The CW-DMAG agreed that this was a good water use reduction plan and Duke will notify the golf clubs in the basin that use lake water for irrigation to begin implementing the plan.

7. Miscellaneous

The CW-DMAG agreed to continue with the Tuesday 10:00 am conference call and Friday LIP trigger update through the month of October. Duke will send out an updated conference call notice along with dial-in instructions.

Ed Bruce Adjourned the meeting.