

The following is a brief summary of the October 16, 2007 CW-DMAG conference call:

1. Attending Organizations:

Member Organizations

**NCDENR
SCDHEC
SCDNR
USGS
City of Morganton
City of Lenoir
Town of Valdese
City of Hickory
Town of Longview
City of Statesville
Charlotte-Mecklenburg Utilities
Lincoln County
City of Gastonia
City of Mount Holly
City of Rock Hill
Bowater
Union-Lancaster Catawba Water Treatment Plant
Chester Metropolitan District
City of Camden
Lugoff-Elgin Water Authority
International Paper**

Other Organizations

**York County, SC
Kearns & West
USC
HDR Engineering, Inc.**

2. LIP Trigger Update

Ed Bruce briefly reviewed the Low Inflow Protocol (LIP) Storage Index drought indicator as of **Tuesday, October 16, 2007:**

Storage Index (SI): 38.22%
Target Storage Index= 71.90%
Ratio= **53.15%** (Supports Stage 3)

Ed Bruce did not update the other LIP drought trigger indicators, but referred back to ratios presented at the CW-DMAG meeting on October 11, 2007:

Streamflow Indicator **43.9%** (Supports Stage 3)

U.S. Drought Monitor Indicator **3.33** (Supports Stage 3)

3. Duke Operations and Climate Update

George Galleher provided a brief update on Duke's operations and the climate of the Catawba-Wateree Project and Basin. Some parts of the CW Basin are expected to receive less than about ¼ inches of rain over the next few days and then back to a dry weather pattern once again. George Galleher noted that the soil moisture drought indicator for the CW Basin area is the driest recorded with records through the year 2000. Duke Energy may begin to make additional required flow releases from Lake James in order to assist in keeping essential equipment covered on the 11-lake Catawba-Wateree system. This equipment provides vital services for

public health and safety including drinking water and electricity. (Post meeting note: Additional required flow releases from Lake James began on 10/18/07.)

4. USGS Camden Streamflow Gage Discussion

Ed Bruce updated the CW-DMAG on the current and on-going status of the USGS gage # 02148000 (Wateree River near Camden, SC). The current gage configuration does not read accurately at very low flows (currently reads twice actual flow amounts) and the gage data has to be adjusted manually every few weeks. USGS has proposed upgrading the site with equipment that reads much more accurately. Duke Energy has agreed to fund the installation of this equipment. The installation should be completed in the next few weeks.

5. Large Intake Data Collection

Ed Bruce reminded the CW-DMAG of the need to provide intake data requested at the CW-DMAG meeting on Thursday, October 11, 2007.

6. Miscellaneous

The following additional topics were discussed during the meeting:

- There was a brief discussion of NC Governor Easley's announcement yesterday concerning the drought. The group thought that it would be helpful if the governor clarified that well users should also conserve water like municipalities.
- There was considerable discussion on how each municipality is handling new well drilling. It appears that there is no consistent law or policy in either state on handling the permitting of wells. Larry Turner and Don Rayno agreed to research what the state regulations are for using well water for lawn irrigation during drought conditions.
- The group discussed what, if anything, could be done to encourage the SC Drought Advisory Committee to more aggressively recommend mandatory lawn watering restrictions. It was agreed that CW-DMAG members should contact the committee members directly. The following links are provided for each sub-region that the Catawba-Wateree Basin is located:

Central Drought Management Area

http://www.dnr.sc.gov/climate/sco/Drought/drought_committee_central.php

Northeast Drought Management Area

http://www.dnr.sc.gov/climate/sco/Drought/drought_committee_northeast.php

- Charlotte Mecklenburg Utilities and the City of Hickory reported continued reductions of water use of 21.5% and 20% respectively.
- The question was asked if there are some lessons to be learned from the Atlanta drought situation and Jeff Lineberger indicated that it was probable that there is a lot of contingency planning going on in the Atlanta area and that our basin should also focus on that, especially the shallowest intake in each lake and the upper basin intakes as a group.
- Ed Bruce will provide a weekly drought trigger update this Friday and the next conference call will be on Tuesday, October 23, 2007.

Ed Bruce adjourned the meeting.