

Catawba-Wateree Drought Management Advisory Group Meeting Summary

April 1, 2008

**Charlotte-Mecklenburg Utilities
Lee S. Dukes Water Treatment Plant**

Member Organizations Present:

Abitibi-Bowater

City of Belmont

City of Charlotte

City of Gastonia

City of Hickory

City of Lenoir

City of Morganton

City of Mt. Holly

City of Newton

City of Rock Hill

Duke Energy Carolinas, LLC

Lancaster County Water & Sewer
District

Lincoln County

NCDENR-PWSS

NCDWR

Town of Granite Falls

Town of Mooresville

Town of Valdese

USGS

York County

Other Organizations Present:

HDR Engineering

Kearns & West, Inc.

Introductions, Agenda Review, and Announcements

1. Ken Kearns opened the meeting with introductions and reviewed the agenda.

LIP Trigger Update

2. Ed Bruce showed a presentation of the Catawba-Wateree Storage Index (SI), stream flow indicator and individual stream flow gauges. He also reviewed the levels in the groundwater monitoring wells. He noted that storage is above the normal Target Storage Index for early April and the stream flow indicator has returned to a Stage 3 level.

Duke Operations and Meteorological Update

3. George Galleher provided an update on area meteorology predictions and Duke's hydro operations. The area has seen below-average rainfall for March and for the first quarter. Because most lakes are above their target elevations for this time of year, Duke has been making above-minimum releases to manage high-water risks.

Updates on the McGuire Intake Modifications and Lake James Dam Remediation

4. Bruce reported that the modifications on McGuire Nuclear Station intakes has been completed, which allows the minimum Lake Norman elevation needed to operate McGuire to return to the License Application's Critical Elevation. Jeff Lineberger reported that this has added approximately 3 feet of available storage in Lake Norman, which represents approximately 11 percent of the Total Usable Storage of the Project.
5. Galleher provided the status of the Lake James Dam Remediation Construction and Stabilization. He noted that Lake James would be operated at slightly lower than Target Elevation for this time of year to provide additional high-water protections during the Catawba Dam modifications. In addition, in order to meet FERC dam safety requirements, Duke must install an irrigation system to allow the grass seed to germinate on the embankment slope for the Paddy Creek Dam. The system will only be used as needed.

Water-Use Restrictions

6. Bruce noted that, at this time and based on current rainfall, storage index, and improvements in the other drought measures, it would be appropriate to reduce water-use restrictions on lawn watering to the minimum restrictions in Stage 3 of the LIP. The LIP recommends restricting lawn irrigation to no more than one day a week.
7. After a discussion of the implications of landscape irrigation allowed in LIP Stage 3, the CW-DMAG agreed to recommend to its members to return to the minimum suggested restrictions in LIP Stage 3 with the understanding that jurisdictions may be constrained by their ordinances. The CW-DMAG issued a news release with that information later that afternoon.
8. Lauren Kirkpatrick shared data collected by the Consumption Committee concerning swimming pools in the Catawba-Wateree Basin. She explained that the data collected only estimates the volume of water used for refilling existing pools, and does not include filling new pools. The amount of gallons used per day is listed below:

- Residential: 7.5 million gallons
- Community: 1.2 million gallons
- Competition: 0.5 million gallons

The subcommittee will next research the water used by residential and commercial car washes. It will also look at the water used in filling new or existing pools.

Conclusion

9. The next DMAG meeting is scheduled for Thursday, April 17th.