

**Catawba-Wateree Drought Management Advisory Group Meeting Summary
August 13, 2008**

CONFERENCE CALL

Member Organizations Present:

Abitibi Bowater
Charlotte-Mecklenburg Utilities
Chester Metropolitan District
City of Belmont
City of Camden
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
City of Statesville
Duke Energy
NCDWR
SCDHEC
Town of Fort Mill
Town of Granite Falls
Town of Mooresville
Union-Lancaster Catawba River Water-
Treatment Plant
USGS

Other Organizations Present:

HDR Engineering
Kearns & West
Town of Fort Mill
USC - Department of Geology
York County

Introductions, Agenda Review, and Announcements

1. Ed Bruce opened the meeting with a review of the agenda.

LIP Trigger Update

2. Bruce reviewed the LIP triggers status. He noted that, as of August 13, 2008, the Storage Index (SI) has declined to 67.7 percent and the ratio to Total Storage Index (TSI) is right at 90 percent, the threshold between Stage 0 and Stage 1. The storage has declined by 3.17 percent in the last week and 7.31 percent in the last month even though Duke has for some time been releasing the critical flows for downstream needs. The tributary stream flow averages continue to hover at about 45-46 percent of normal, and the groundwater levels are lower than last year. Averaged over June, July, and August to date, the Drought Monitor Indicator is at D-4, Exceptional Drought.

Duke Operations and Meteorological Update

3. George Galleher provided an update on area meteorology conditions and Duke's hydro operations. Rainfall from January through June is only 70 percent of the long-term average for the period. System average rainfall this month is 0.64 inch in a month that would normally expect 3.85 inches. The area's rainfall has been very spotty and has not contributed significantly to the storage. Galleher expects the lake levels to continue falling. No significant rainfall is anticipated in the next several days. Most forecasters are predicting an equal chance for above- or below-average rainfall in the fall, but are anticipating more tropical activity. They note that the steering currents for these storms are no longer likely to push them westward as before.
4. Galleher also noted that Duke is in the process of changing to a new control system on a lake-by-lake basis, and lake levels reported on Web during the changeover may not be as accurate until the new control systems are in place.

Update on Water Use Restriction Results

5. Ken Kearns reported that nearly all the water suppliers had provided residential use data through June and many through July. He expects the rest of the July numbers this week. The data received so far indicate that the water-use restrictions are still significantly reducing water use, but the magnitude of the reduction is not as great as that seen when Stage 3 was first imposed last fall.

Conclusion

6. The next CW-DMAG meeting will take place on Tuesday, August 26 at Charlotte-Mecklenburg Utilities' Lee S. Dukes Water Treatment Plant.
7. Bruce adjourned the meeting.