Member Organizations Present

Catawba River WTP (Lancaster Water and Sewer District and Union County)  City of Rock Hill
Charlotte Water (South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control [SCDHEC])  Duke Energy
Chester Metropolitan District  Lincoln County
City of Belmont  Resolute Forest Products
City of Camden  South Carolina Department of Natural Resources (SCDNR)
City of Cherryville  Town of Granite Falls
City of Gastonia-Two Rivers Utilities  Town of Mooresville
City of Lenoir  US Geological Survey (USGS)
City of Morganton  HDR Engineering
City of Mount Holly  Town of Fort Mill

Other Organizations Present

HDR Engineering  Town of Fort Mill
City of Concord  York County

Member Organizations Not Present

American & Efird  North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality, Division of Water Resources, (NCDEQ DWR)
Bessemer City  North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission
City of Hickory  SCANA Corporation
City of Lincolnton  Siemens Waterhouse
City of Marion  Springs Industries
City of Newton  Town of Dallas
City of Statesville  Town of Long View
Clariant Corporation  Town of Valdese
International Paper  US Fish and Wildlife Service
Invista  Lugoff-Elgin Water Authority
National Marine Fisheries Service

Introductions, Agenda Review and Announcements

- Ed Bruce, Duke Energy, opened the teleconference meeting at 3:31 PM, welcomed participants and reviewed the agenda for the day.
- Audri Baker, HDR, conducted an attendance roll call by asking for voice confirmation of each member organization’s participation on the call; individual names were not requested or recorded.
Three sets of data slides were provided to the participants prior to the meeting; Mr. Bruce (Duke Energy) and Jonathan Williams (HDR) reviewed the slide information in detail; highlights were as follows.

**Low Inflow Protocol (LIP) Update (Mr. Bruce)**

- **Storage Index (SI)**
  - The SI represents the total of all remaining usable water storage in the eleven reservoirs combined, from Lake James down to Lake Wateree, as a percentage of the total usable water storage volume (full pond) in the eleven reservoirs. In spite of recent heavy rainfall in the Charlotte area, the SI has dropped below the target level as a result of the combination of drier weather outside the immediate Charlotte area and the return to LIP Stage 0 on July 1 at which time Duke Energy resumed normal minimum flows and normal recreational flows for this time of year.

- **U.S. Drought Monitor**
  - The three-month numeric average for the U.S. Drought Monitor as of August 1, 2017 is -1.00, which supports a Normal Condition for this trigger.
  - U.S. Drought Monitor three-month maps do not show any drought designation in the Catawba-Wateree Basin region; however, an additional map generated from the first week of August shows drought areas developing again in eastern NC.
  - A new graph has been generated to display U.S. Drought Monitor information specifically for the Catawba-Wateree River Basin only. This graph clearly shows the severity of the 2008-2009 Drought of Record.

- **Streamflow**
  - The streamflow indicator is a measure of the actual six-month rolling average compared to the historical six-month rolling average measured at four USGS gages on tributary streams across the Catawba-Wateree River Basin.
  - As of August 7, 2017, the ratio was 85.7% which supports a Normal Condition.
  - It is anticipated this ratio will continue to improve.

- **Groundwater**
  - Groundwater readings are reported for four USGS gage locations representing the geographical spectrum of the basin. Levels at most wells are at or above their long term averages.
  - Langtree Regolith Gage – Groundwater levels at this gage are near their long term average for this time of year.
  - Glen Alpine Gage – Groundwater levels at this gage are above the typical long term average.
  - Near Pleasant Gardens – Groundwater levels at this newer gage are above the long term average.
  - Lancaster Gage – Groundwater levels at this newer gage reflect drier conditions in this area of the basin and remain below the long term average.
  - This recovery trigger is still in effect until the revised LIP is approved.

**Meteorology and Catawba-Wateree Project Operations Data (Mr. Bruce)**

- **Precipitation**
  - The long term average annual precipitation for the basin from 1999-2016 is 42.5 inches; 2017 basin-wide precipitation is approximately 28.89 inches to date.
  - Precipitation in the basin over the last 90 days is above normal throughout the Basin.

- **Forecast**
• Short term: Temperatures for August are at equal chance above, below, or normal throughout the Basin; rainfall is an equal chance of above, below, or normal in the upper Basin and above normal for the lower Basin.
• The overall forecast for October is for equal chance of above, below, or normal precipitation and above normal temperature.
• Long term: NOAA predicts above normal temperatures with equal chance of above, below, or normal precipitation for September through November.

  - Streamflow
  • The overall streamflow trend has been above the median since April but is beginning to show decline.

  - Reservoirs
  • Storage levels in Lakes James, Norman, Wateree, and Wylie were close to the full pond in June but have declined following the return to normal minimum releases under Stage 0 LIP conditions.

  - Hurricane Forecast
  • The overall forecast is for 10-13 named storms; 4-6 total hurricanes, and 2-3 major hurricanes.

  - Summary & Operations
  • The Catawba-Wateree River Basin remains in LIP Stage 0 since July 3, 2017.
  • Overall precipitation for the Basin is slightly below the long term average for August.
  • NOAA is forecasting warmer temperatures with equal chance of above, below, or normal precipitation for the fall season.
  • Duke Energy Operations has adjusted all lake level minimums, minimum flows, and recreation flows back to the Stage 0 operation limits. Duke Energy continues to operate conservatively.

Residential Water Use Patterns (Mr. Williams)
• The residential water patterns presented are based on data received from members of the Catawba-Wateree Water Management Group members through June 2017.
• Overall, residential water use is just below the long term average (2012-2017) for the month of June.
• Charlotte Water represents about 50% of water used by the CWWMG membership overall. Charlotte Water’s residential use for June was below the long term average; use by all other suppliers was at their combined long term average for June.
• Duke Energy’s Wateree Hydro Station generation was at the long term average in June.
• Mr. Williams reminded CWWMG members to submit their annual water use data for July 2017 by the end of August. Monthly data will continue to be collected while the basin is in a drought stage.

Closing Comments
Mr. Bruce will continue to provide monthly updates and does not anticipate any significant change in the triggers going into the fall.

Mr. Bruce adjourned the meeting at 3:53 P.M.