

**Catawba-Wateree River Basin Advisory Commission Meeting
Meeting Minutes for April 27, 2007**

- 1) Chairman Sen. Clodfelter called the meeting to order at 10 AM.
 - Meeting was held at Lee S. Dukes Water Treatment Plant in Huntersville, NC
 - Welcoming remarks by the Chairman
 - Meeting minutes for the January 5, 2007 meeting were approved unanimously by the commission

- 2) Review of status of water management bills in the South Carolina and North Carolina General Assemblies.
 - Discussed House Bill 960 (Senate Bill 1360) – Amend Interbasin Transfer Law
 - Received comments on proposed substitute – 5th version
 - In a meeting with John Morris, the Environmental Management Commission (EMC) and the House; 10 to 12 different problem items were identified in the original bill. The language was worked on and 2 provisions were removed.
 - It was stated that there needed to be a consensus bill that can be agreed upon
 - The public policy statement was expanded on.
 - The minimum water level definition was agreed upon, and the safe yield definition was stated that it could still have some problems but there would be time to discuss those
 - Item #5, line 42 was thought to be too vague by John Morris (“The report shall be based on a projected 30 year time period.”)
 - There are concerns with Items 2, 3, 4, and 5 on page 8. This could be a set up for more potential law suits and these items should be moved to page 7 so they can continue to be addressed but not in as great of detail.
 - Page 9 – Burden of Proof – the commission will develop an approval process for every 10 years and an IBT should not be permanent, it should be a last resort.
 - Page 10 – Drought Conditions – the IBT should be subject to drought conditions too.
 - Page 11 – Monitoring Process – 10 mgd certificate in Concord-Kannapolis. Report 30 days after the 1st quarter. Flow meters would give NC a universal standard. A sliding scale will be used; you get the water once you need it. Populations will not be able to be counted twice.
 - It was stated that other commissions need to be formed to address surface water issues in NC. Western NC should create a commission for rivers that flow into Georgia and Tennessee.
 - Charles Case-attorney addressing IBT issues stated that the EMC had the opportunity to have public hearings.

- David Baize, SCDHEC stated the bill had general support with only some issues remaining. All requirements for surface water withdrawals should be in one statute. The basics of the bill are to establish the waters of the state to be managed for the good of all. Minimum instream flow – to support AL (aquatic life) and downstream users. All existing users should be grandfathered in. The new permits issued will be more of an increased burden on the new users.
 - Senator Hayes noted that there are several subcommittee meetings on this bill and that there will be a full committee by the first Thursday in June. He noted that this bill probably would not be passed this year, but most likely in two years.
- 3) Review of potential water management cooperative activities between the states of South Carolina and North Carolina, by David Baize, SCDHEC and John Morris, NCDENR
- David Baize, SCDHEC
 - 1st – a sustainable water resource agreement is needed. A FERC license does not solve everything.
 - 2nd – the goal in purpose is to protect and restore the waters of the basin, and to prevent controversies.
 - 3rd – activities: water resource inventory/development, a notice process, a drought response, and shared monitoring not on the same cycles.
 - John Morris, DENR
 - The two states need to create a necessary foundation for good communication.
 - 1st – good data is needed.
 - 2nd – planning for the future, such as; river basin scale and urban region planning.
 - 3rd – good regulation
- 4) Review and Charlotte-Mecklenburg Wastewater Treatment Plant Capacity Study, by Barry Gullet, CMU
- Presentation on Wastewater Treatment Capacity Needs
 - Stakeholders – made contacts first.
 - Ridge line between the Catawba and the Yadkin
 - 1. McDowell WWTP – Mountain Island Lake, 6-12mgd
 - 2. Rocky River WWTP –
 - 3. Mallard Creek WWTP – 12mgd
 - 4. Reedy-McKee basins private WWTP – package plants and privately owned WWTP.
 - 5. Irwin WWTP
 - 6. Sugar Creek WWTP
 - 7. McAlpine WWTP – discharge within 1 mile of SC line.

- 5) Water Management group planning initiative, by Barry Gullet, CMU
- The Catawba River is not in a crisis mode
 - Reservoirs are the key; they are dictated by the amount going in and out.
 - During the severe drought of 2002, there was no water coming into the reservoir.
 - A water supply plan is needed to change human behavior to have the least impact on the water supply.
 - The water resources planning purpose is to provide technical support for managing the water.
 - 1st – supply – making the most of the natural resources; useful storage/safe yield.
 - 2nd – demand – look at the consumption trends; demand management
 - 3rd – administration – communication
 - 4th – implementation – the water management group has begun the effort to coordinate with state agencies. The group will send reports to the Bi-State Commission.
 - Water Management Group requirements are; 1) public water intake with capacity of 1mgd or more, 2) agree to LIP (low inflow protocol), 3) pay dues, and 4) voluntary basis.
 - The level of communication has increased because of this group.
 - Set 3 priority areas: 1) prepare for next drought, 2) understand demand side, and 3) identify technical opportunities to extend supply/feasibility.
 - A “check and balances” system.
- 6) Open discussion:
- A brochure was handed out from DUKE addressing the FERC relicensing agreement. (Pgs. 5, 6, and 7)
 - The next meeting is scheduled for mid- to late September, final date still to be determined.
 - A suggestion was made to the commission and the commission agreed that an outside speaker who is an expert in interstate agreements would be invited to speak to this commission.
- 7) Adjourn at 2:15pm.