

## Catawba-Wateree Bi-State River Advisory Commission Workshop on Interstate Issues - Summary

February 8, 2008

- Dr. Neil Grigg, Colorado State University, and Dr. Douglas Kenney, University of Colorado attended the meeting to provide insight into interstate water conflicts and settlements.
- Jeff Linenberger, the Director of Hydro Strategy and Licensing for Duke Energy, provided an update on the FERC relicensing process and outcomes
  1. Created a Drought Management Advisory Group and a [Low-Inflow Protocol \(LIP\)](#)
  2. The LIP has five levels of protocols, corresponding to the drought related triggers of storage, streamflow, the US Drought Monitor, and groundwater levels.
  3. The DMAG makes recommendations to stakeholders but has no regulatory authority.
  4. There is also a Water Management Group, comprised of Duke Energy and public water suppliers, that has formed a non-profit corporation with the goal of investing membership dues in initiatives to improve water quantity and quality.

Discussion of potential approaches to NC-SC cooperation, led by Dr. Grigg and Dr. Kenney

1. The FERC process has helped bring the stakeholders to the table, but there still needs to be continued conversation and cooperation
2. The Eno River Partnership could provide a good model
3. The Commission needs to better coordinate questions and answers and adaption techniques
4. The quality of the outcome is affected by how the process is framed - need to concretely determine the problem
5. The option to create a compact was broached - a tool to add teeth to the licensing process and make sure that flows stay within an agreed upon range

6. A number of elements that will be important to any agreement were not addressed in the Comprehensive Relicensing Agreement (CRA) - groundwater use and regulation, interbasin transfers; additionally, some of the data is being contested in the Lawsuit
7. Growth in the Catawba and Wateree basins, as well as neighboring basins who might need IBT's, present potential problems to creating a compact too quickly - need to project growth estimates out to 2075 at least.

#### Next Steps

1. Framing the Issues
2. NC and SC Division's of Water Resources will be assembling a list of issues to be addressed and who has authority over each issue
3. Email potential issues to appropriate representative