



R. L. Harris Hydroelectric Project

FERC No. 2628

Meeting Summary
Harris Action Team 4 – Project Lands
October 19, 2020
9:00 am to 10:30 am
Conference Call

Participants:

Angie Anderegg – Alabama Power Company (Alabama Power)
Dave Anderson – Alabama Power
Jeff Baker – Alabama Power
Jeff Beason – Alabama Power
Jason Carlee – Alabama Power
Keith Chandler – Alabama Power
Alan Creamer – Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC)
Jim Crew – Alabama Power
Colin Dinken – Kleinschmidt Associates
Amanda Fleming – Kleinschmidt Associates
Todd Fobian – Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (ADCNR)
Chris Goodman – Alabama Power
Keith Henderson – ADCNR
Martha Hunter – Alabama Rivers Alliance (ARA)
Lydia Mayo – Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)
Rachel McNamara – FERC
Ashley McVicar – Alabama Power
Tina Mills – Alabama Power
Brad Mitchell – Stakeholder
Jason Moak – Kleinschmidt Associates
Kelly Schaeffer – Kleinschmidt Associates
Brian Seale – Alabama Power
Sheila Smith – Alabama Power
Thomas St. John – Alabama Power
Stacey Thompson – Alabama Power
Sandra Wash – Kleinschmidt Associates
Jack West – ARA
Ken Wills – Alabama Glade Conservation Coalition

Action Items:

- Develop a summary comparing the current Harris Land Use Plan to the draft Shoreline Management Plan (SMP); include this summary as part of the Final License Application (FLA).
- Develop a summary comparing the current Harris Wildlife Management Plan (WMP) to the draft WMP; include this summary as part of the FLA.

Summary:

Angie Anderegg (Alabama Power) opened the meeting by introducing everyone. Following a safety briefing, Tina Mills (Alabama Power) reviewed the goals and objectives of the Project

Lands Evaluation Study. Additionally, she reviewed the progress of Phase 1, including the September 11, 2019 Harris Action Team (HAT) 4 meeting and the botanical inventory at Flat Rock Park and bobwhite quail habitat survey, which were included in the Draft *Phase 1 Project Lands Evaluation Report*. Currently, an additional adjacent 20-acre tract at Flat Rock is being inventoried. Alabama Power received comments on the Draft *Phase 1 Project Lands Evaluation Report* and filed a Final *Phase 1 Project Lands Evaluation Report* with FERC on October 2, 2020.

For Phase 2, Alabama Power is developing the draft SMP and draft WMP for the Harris Project. Although the Project Lands Evaluation Study Plan called for organizing work groups to develop these two draft documents, both plans are being discussed and developed with the entire HAT 4. Both documents will be filed with the FLA.

Alabama Power provided the Draft SMP and an annotated outline of the WMP to HAT 4 on October 5, 2020, and the purpose of this meeting was to solicitate feedback and respond to questions on both documents. Written comments must be provided to Alabama Power on or before November 2, 2020.

Tina presented the SMP outline and discussed the purpose of an SMP. Attachment A contains the presentation. Tina noted that while the Harris Project includes lands at Skyline, those lands are not included in the SMP. Since there is no shoreline at Skyline, management of those lands will be included in WMP.

Ken Wills (Glade Association) asked if the definition of the botanical area was something Alabama Power wanted the Glade Association to develop. Tina asked Ken if the definition for natural/undeveloped land use classification would provide the protections that the Glade Association is interested in for the botanical area. Ken said yes, it is a good classification but may need some specific designation that would provide purpose for the area's protection and potentially a management plan. Tina said that Alabama Power would consider the recommendations from the botanical report and determine if the natural /undeveloped land use classification will be adequate.

Rachel McNamara (FERC) noted that the draft SMP was very thorough. Rachel suggested that Alabama Power include in the FLA a summary that describes the differences between the existing Harris Land Use Plan and the proposed SMP. Angie noted that this SMP will resemble other Alabama Power hydro projects SMPs. Rachel said that FERC prefers to limit site-specific land use classifications but specify additional restrictions within a land use classification. Ken Wills asked if FERC would allow a management plan for a specific area as part of an SMP. Rachel indicated that that is a possibility.

Martha Hunter (ARA) asked how often the flood storage classification is used. Martha noted that downstream property owners have identified flooding as an issue, and she wondered if these lands could be used to address downstream flooding. Tina recommended that operations issues, including flood control, be best addressed in HAT 1 - Project Operations.

Tina then reviewed the presentation regarding the WMP annotated outline): Introduction, Purpose and Plan, Background and Existing Information, Wildlife Management Objectives, Shoreline Management, Timber Management, and Harris Physically Disabled Hunting Areas.

Following the presentation, Rachel asked at what point in the process would Alabama Power submit the WMP. Tina indicated that a Draft WMP is tentatively scheduled to be distributed to the HAT 4 in November/December 2020. Rachel reiterated that it would be helpful to FERC staff to see, within the FLA, a summary of the differences between the current WMP and the Draft WMP. Ken asked if Alabama Power would use the current WMP as a template. Tina suggested that Ken look at other Alabama Power WMPs. Tina reminded HAT 4 participants that written comments on the Draft annotated outline of the WMP are due on or before November 2, 2020.

The meeting adjourned.

Attachment A – Presentation from October 19, 2020 HAT 4 Meeting