



**MINUTES**  
**OCONEE COUNTY COUNCIL**  
**WORKSHOP MEETING with**  
**DUKE ENERGY REPRESENTATIVES**  
**December 20, 2012**

**MEMBERS, OCONEE COUNTY COUNCIL**  
Mr. Joel Thrift, District IV, Council Chairman  
Mr. Paul Corbeil, District I, Vice Chairman  
Mr. Wayne McCall, District II, Chairman Pro Tem  
Mr. Archie Barron, District III  
Mr. Reg Dexter, District V

Oconee County Council met at 6:00 PM in Council Chambers, 415 South Pine Street, Walhalla, SC with all Council Members, County Administrator Scott Moulder, Assistant Administrator Glenn Breed, Planning Director Art Holbrooks and Clerk to Council Elizabeth G. Hulse present.

Duke Energy Representatives present: Mr. Jeff Lineberger, Director, Hydro Strategy & Licensing and Mr. Scott Miller Community Relations Manager.

**Press:**

Pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act, notice of the meeting, date, time, place of meeting and agenda were posted on the bulletin board at the County Administrative Offices, 415 South Pine Street, Walhalla, SC, and the County Council website [[www.oconeese.com/council](http://www.oconeese.com/council)]. In addition it was made available [upon request] to the newspapers, radio stations, television stations and concerned citizens.

Member of the press present: Ray Chandler/Anderson Independent, Dick Mangrum/WGOG Radio & Mike Eads/The Daily Journal.

**Call to Order:**

Mr. Thrift called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

**Council Workshop Discussion with Staff & Duke Energy re: Keowee Toxaway Relicensing:**

Mr. Thrift welcomed the Mr. Lineberger & Mr. Miller and thanked them for the opportunity to meet and share their presentation not only with Council but with the public. Mr. Thrift noted that a few members had already seen the presentation and felt it would be beneficial to have Duke explain their processes to the public. Lastly, Mr. Thrift noted that there would not be an opportunity for Public Comment at this meeting.

Mr. Lineberger thanked Council for the opportunity to address Council and the citizens present. Mr. Lineberger, utilizing several handouts [copies filed with these minutes] and a PowerPoint presentation entitled "Keowee-Toxaway Hydroelectric Project Relicensing", addressed Council addressing key topics as follow:

- Keowee-Toxaway Hydro Project & the Savannah River Basin
- Duke Energy's Keowee-Toxaway Area Reservoirs
- Lakes Keowee, Jocassee & Bad Creek Usable Storage
- Keowee-Toxaway Relicensing
  - Completed Activities
  - Other Completed Activities
  - Studies
  - Stakeholders
- Trial Balloon [*Draft proposal for the Non-Binding Agreement-in-Principle [AIP]*]
  - Reservoir Levels during non-drought, non-emergency periods
    - Jocassee: 1110-1096 feet
    - Keowee: 800-795 feet
  - LIP [Low Inflow Protocol] Stages: Reservoir Elevations & Flow Releases
    - Jocassee: 1080 feet
    - Keowee: 790 feet [*higher than 775 feet in existing license*]
  - New Operating Agreement
    - New Operating Agreement with the US Army Corps of Engineers & Southeastern Power Administration

- Keowee Reservoir Level Model Results [*Graph & Pie Charts*]
- Shoreline Management
- Public Recreation
- Enhancement Funds
- Speaking Clearly about 790 Feet
  - Duke doesn't want lower lake levels
  - Oconee Nuclear Station: Millions spent to lower intake to 790' to address severe drought
  - Lake Access
  - Property Values
    - No One Guaranteed specific lake levels in a rainfall dependent water system
    - Negative vs. Positive
    - Clemson University for Draft Comprehensive Report
      - ✓ No Additional Report Scheduled
- Next Steps
  - May 2013: Pencils Down on AIP
  - July 2013: Non-Binding AIP Signing
  - November 2013: Relicensing Agreement Signing
- Keowee-Toxaway Relicensing – Upcoming Activities
- Keeping Informed
  - eNewsletter: [ktrelicensing@duke-energy.com](mailto:ktrelicensing@duke-energy.com)
  - Relicensing Website: [www.duke-energy.com/lakes/leowee-toxaway-relicensing.asp](http://www.duke-energy.com/lakes/leowee-toxaway-relicensing.asp)

Mr. Lineberger fielded questions from Council regarding various issues including:

- The potential for additional public information meetings [*yes*],
- Drafting a new agreement with the Army Corp of Engineers [ACOE] [*yes, the process is ongoing*],
- Explanation regarding “eligible organizations”,
- Full Savannah River Basin,
- “Normal” lake level ranges,
- Drought stages and proposed water releases,
- Long range drought planning,
- No change to waterfront property designation,
- Property values, and
- Advantages to Duke to have lakes at full pond.

Discussion followed.

### **Public Comment Session** [*chair discretion and/or time permitting*]:

As noted at the beginning of the meeting, the Chair did not open the floor for public comment.

Mr. Thrift thanked Mr. Lineberger & Mr. Miller for sharing their progress on the Keowee-Toxaway re-licensing noting that these are complex issues and their presentation make the issues easier to understand.

### **Adjourn**

Mr. Thrift adjourned the meeting at 7:27 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

---

Elizabeth G. Hulse  
Clerk to Council