



The Yadkin Report

Lake Information & Relicensing News



In the Community

Alcoa Opens New Facility in Rowan County; \$6 Million Investment Adds 75 Jobs

Alcoa announced plans this month to open a new manufacturing plant in Rowan County that will create 75 new jobs in the area.

The plant, operated by Alcoa Subassembly and Logistics, will assemble more than a million wheel-tires annually for Freightliner, the largest heavy-duty truck manufacturer in North America. The Rowan County plant — a \$6 million investment for Alcoa — will be located in a 300,000 square foot building on Airport Road.

"Alcoa's investment and creation of 75 jobs is great news for Rowan County," said North Carolina Secretary of Commerce Jim Fain. "It is a welcomed addition to the strong transportation components sector of North Carolina's economy, which is vital to our region."

The Salisbury-Rowan Economic Development Commission was instrumental in helping Alcoa site its new facility.

"This is great news. The company plans to hire local people and provide good wages and benefits," said Randy Harrell, executive director of the Salisbury-Rowan Economic Development Commission.

The new facility will add to Alcoa's presence in North Carolina, where Alcoa has four other operating locations in the cities of Badin, Catawba, Charlotte and Greensboro. The Rowan County plant will be the largest facility that Alcoa Subassembly and Logistics operates.

"Alcoa has made this investment in response to a strong commercial vehicle market," said James Albon, manager, Alcoa Subassembly and Logistics. "Our investment in Rowan County will bring a wealth of opportunities with it for the local community, such as increased sales to state and local vendors as well as an expansion of the state and local tax base. Local non-profit organizations will benefit too through Alcoa Foundation programs and grants that are made in Alcoa communities worldwide."

Uwharrie Point Hosts ACC Golf Tournament

The Old North State Club at Uwharrie Point hosted the 52nd annual ACC Men's Golf Championship earlier this month. It is the ninth time the club has hosted the event.

Duke, led by junior Ryan Blaum, captured its first conference title since 1966. Blaum shot a 67 in the final round to finish 10-under par and earn individual medalist honors.

This electronic newsletter is designed to keep the community informed about important issues related to the relicensing of the Yadkin Project. Please pass this newsletter along to others who may be interesting in [signing up for our newsletter mailing list](#).

We welcome your input and ideas for future newsletters. [Click here to share your feedback](#).

Relicensing Update

As Alcoa-Yadkin prepares to file its license application with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) in April 2006, it is holding a series of voluntary settlement negotiations meetings with organizations representing recreational lake users, state and federal agencies, environmental groups and other stakeholders. We will provide regular updates on the progress of those meetings in this space.

Alcoa-Yadkin hosted a settlement negotiations meeting with representatives from more than two dozen organizations on April 7 at the Alcoa Conference Center in Badin, NC. The group accepted two new authorized representatives (Badin Museum, Catawba Indians) and two new participants (US EPA, Yadkin Pee Dee Relicensing Coalition). In preparation for negotiations, the group began discussion of a draft outline of agreements in principle. In addition, the group reviewed a series of preliminary model runs that showed model capability and potential impacts of each run on water levels, energy generation and downstream water flows. The group will hold its next meeting on May 4-5.

Alcoa Honors Olson With 2004 Environmental Stewardship Award

Marshall Olson, a natural resources specialist at Alcoa-Yadkin, received the 2004 Environmental Stewardship Award from Alcoa for his work on a forestry project on the Yadkin transmission lines.

Around the Lakes

North Carolina Announces Success of 2004 Big Sweep

Big Sweep has announced the results of its 2004 campaign to clean up the state's waterways. Thanks to the support of more than 12,000 volunteers, Big Sweep activities resulted in removing more than 206 tons of garbage from rivers, lakes and waterways across North Carolina.

Many Big Sweep activities locally were cancelled due to high water levels caused by the trio of hurricanes to hit North Carolina last fall. The 2005 Big Sweep is scheduled for October 1. For more information, visit ncbigssweep.org

Did You Know?

Tuckertown Lake, created in 1962, was the last of Alcoa's four hydroelectric stations built on the Yadkin River.

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Relicensing Efforts Begin Shift From IAG Work to Negotiations

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With a majority of its technical studies complete, Alcoa-Yadkin will begin to phase out the work of the Issue Advisory Groups to concentrate on the settlement negotiations process.

Recognizing that it is time to begin evaluating study results and the possible implication on project operations, Alcoa-Yadkin will set aside time during its May 2005 negotiations session for participants to comment on completed study reports and draft study reports.

Since not all studies have been completed, several Issue Advisory Groups will continue to meet, as necessary, to complete the appropriate review and comment on draft study reports.

Calendar of Upcoming Meetings

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May 3

Recreation, Aesthetics, Shoreline Management Issue Advisory Group Meeting

May 4-5

Settlement Negotiations Meeting
*Authorized Representatives Only

All meetings are held at the Badin Conference Center in Badin, NC.

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Balancing Energy Generation, Recreation *and* Environmental Resources