



Relicensing News

Alcoa files Relicensing Settlement Agreement

Alcoa formally filed its Relicensing Settlement Agreement with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) on May 7, 2007. The agreement — signed by 23 stakeholder organizations representing state and federal agencies, local governments, environmental interest groups and local homeowners, businesses and recreational users — offers significant recreational enhancements and environmental protections.

“We’re excited to have the Relicensing Settlement Agreement finalized and submitted to FERC,” said Gene Ellis. “This agreement represents a collective recommendation from many different organizations about how the Yadkin Project should be managed in the future. It’s a well-balanced agreement that provides tremendous benefits to everyone who enjoys the lakes and wants to preserve the region’s natural beauty.”

Two additional organizations sign relicensing agreement

Montgomery County and the South Carolina Department of Health & Environmental Control added their names to the list of organizations supporting the Relicensing Settlement Agreement (RSA). Both organizations had requested an extension from the original deadline and were not previously listed among those groups supporting the agreement.

Next steps in relicensing

FERC is currently writing an environmental impact statement of the Yadkin Project and is expected to issue a first draft in Fall 2007.

Around the Lakes

Public recreation areas now open

It’s time to pull out your bathing suit and get ready for summer. The defined swimming areas at the Yadkin lakes officially opened on Tuesday, May 15.

In The Community

Alcoa, Stanly County share common goal

There has been a lot of discussion recently about environment waste sites associated with Alcoa’s Badin Works smelter. Community interest in the waste sites is understandable. The smelter started producing aluminum in 1916, several decades before anyone understood the potential for environmental impacts associated with these operations.

During the past 20 years, Alcoa has worked closely with state and federal environmental officials to identify and investigate possible waste sites in Stanly County. The company’s goals are the same as the Stanly County commissioners — to manage these sites in a way that will protect the environment and public health.

Alcoa has worked hard to achieve those goals, spending more than \$8 million to remediate eight waste sites in Stanly County. It plans to spend an additional \$1-2 million more in the next few years on additional remediation, maintenance and monitoring.

The company works closely with the NC Dept. of Environment and Natural Resources, which is currently reviewing Alcoa’s studies. During a recent meeting with the Stanly County Board of Public Health, state officials said these sites do not pose any known risks.

Alcoa News

High Rock Lake to host Bassmaster American

High Rock Lake is hosting one of the most prestigious fishing tournaments in the nation May 17-20. The **Bassmaster American**, one of three major tournaments on the Bassmaster schedule, features an exclusive field of the 51 best anglers in BASS. The lineup includes Boyd Duckett, 2007 Bassmaster Classic champion; Mike Iaconelli, 2006 Bassmaster Angler of the Year; and Dave Wolak, the defending champion of the Bassmaster American.

"High Rock Lake is a great fishery for the first Bassmaster Major of 2007," said Michael Mulone, BASS director of site selection. "As a former Classic location, it is rich in history and it is still highly regarded as one of the best bass lakes in the country."

Anglers will fish High Rock Lake the first two days of competition, before moving to Lake Townsend in Brown Summit for the final two days. Southmont Landing at Abbotts Creek will serve as the launching spot, beginning at 7:00 am on Thursday. The official weigh-in will take place at Greensboro Coliseum each day at 4:30 pm.

"High Rock Lake has developed a reputation as one of the best bass fishing spots in the nation. It hosts numerous tournaments each year and will serve as an excellent venue for some of the world's best anglers to compete," said Marshall Olson of Alcoa. "We've worked hard to sustain a healthy environment for fish and other wildlife by protecting and enhancing habitat. Attracting quality tournaments like this is a sign of our success."

High Rock Lake has hosted three previous Bassmaster Classics, including the 1994 Classic won by Bryan Kerchal. The Bassmaster American trophy bears the name of Kerchal, who died tragically at age 23 in a plane crash just months after his win.

ESPN2 will provide coverage of the Bassmaster American on Saturday, May 26 at 9:00 am.

"Play it safe on lake," Alcoa urges boaters and swimmers

With the start of summer right around the corner, Alcoa is urging boaters and swimmers to "play it safe on the lakes." Alcoa is launching its annual water safety campaign in conjunction with National Safe Boating Week (May 19-25).

The campaign, featuring newspaper and radio ads, encourages boaters and swimmers to always wear a life jacket. More than 80 percent of the people who died in a boating accident in 2005 were not wearing a life jacket.

"Alcoa is working with the N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission, the U.S. Coast Guard and local law enforcement agencies to deliver an important safety message. The best way to protect you and your family is to always wear a life jacket when you are on the water," said Tommy Gibson, community relations manager for Alcoa.

Alcoa Ranks Among "World's Most Ethical Companies"

Alcoa was named one of the World's Most Ethical Companies by Ethisphere Magazine, a national publication dedicated to illuminating the important correlation between ethics and profit. Companies were recognized for their strong leadership in ethics and compliance, advancement of industry discourse on social and ethical issues, and positive engagement in the communities in which they operate.

"At Alcoa, our values guide our behavior at every level of the organization. We are proud of this accomplishment which recognizes our commitment to ethical leadership and corporate social responsibility," said Alcoa Chairman and CEO Alain Belda.

The editors of the magazine chose fewer than 100 companies from several thousand organizations that they analyzed over a six-month period.

"This was a rigorous process that identified a select group of companies that were unequalled in their industries for their commitment to ethical leadership and corporate social responsibility. These organizations go beyond making statements about doing business ethically; they translate those words into action," said Alex Brigham, executive editor of Ethisphere Magazine.

The process included reviewing companies' codes of ethics, litigation and regulatory infraction histories; evaluating investment in innovation and sustainable business practices; looking at companies' activities to improve corporate citizenship; studying nominations from senior executives, industry peers, suppliers and customers; and working with consumer action groups for feedback and rating.

Did You Know?

Alcoa, Duke Energy encourage NCWRC to adopt new safety measures near dams

Alcoa and Duke Energy have asked the N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission to adopt new safety measures near the dams along the Yadkin and Catawba Rivers.

Establishing "exclusionary zones" would prohibit people from fishing, boating or swimming within 100 feet upstream or downstream of the dams.



"This is a safety issue. We simply want to put stronger efforts in place to protect people," said Marshall Olson of Alcoa. "Fishing boats can easily capsize as a result of the turbulent waters, and at least three fishermen have drowned near the dams in the past 15 years."

Alcoa currently takes several precautions around the dams. Warning signs encourage boaters, swimmers and others to stay away from the dam due to the potential for rapidly-changing water conditions. Also, a loud warning siren is sounded and strobe lights are activated several minutes before the flood gates are opened or generators are started to give people nearby an opportunity to move away from turbulent waters.

The NC Wildlife Resources Commission held two public hearings about the exclusionary zone request in April 2007. Many anglers said the areas near the dams are among their favorite fishing spots and they oppose the idea of limiting access to these areas.

This year marks a special anniversary for Badin Lake (90 years), High Rock Lake (80 years) and Tuckertown (45 years). Look for more information throughout the year as we celebrate this special milestone.

This electronic newsletter is designed to keep the community informed about important issues related to the relicensing of the Yadkin Project.

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Balancing Energy Generation, Recreation *and* Environmental Resources