

Summary of Water Allocation Committee Meeting

December 8, 2004, 11:00 AM
Conference Room #3, 14th Floor, Archdale Building
Raleigh, NC

Agenda

Action Items

I. Concord Kannapolis Petition for Interbasin Transfer

Phil Fragapane of the Division of Water Resources (DWR) presented a proposal by the Cities of Concord and Kannapolis to transfer water from the Yadkin and Catawba River Sub Basins to the Rocky River Sub Basin. A summary of the proposal follows:

The Cities of Concord and Kannapolis are requesting an interbasin transfer (IBT) certificate from the North Carolina Environmental Management Commission (EMC) for a combined 48 million gallons per day (MGD) on a maximum day basis from the Catawba River Sub-Basin (3-1) and the Yadkin River Sub-Basin (18-1) to the Rocky River Sub-Basin (18-4). Maximum day IBT under the proposal would be up to 38 MGD from the Catawba River Sub-Basin and up to 10 MGD from the Yadkin River Sub-Basin.

Short-term demand increases would be met using interconnections with Charlotte (Catawba), Salisbury (Yadkin), and Albemarle (Yadkin). Long-term demands would be met by developing a raw water supply from Lake Norman (Catawba) to supplement flows to Lake Howell and Kannapolis Lake.

The IBT is being requested to meet a projected cumulative demand shortfall of 24 MGD in 2035.

Comments and Discussion

Kenny Waldroup expressed concerns that efforts to develop reclaimed water use not be adversely affected by stream buffer requirements.

David Moreau mentioned that a study is now being done relative to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) relicensing of Lake Norman in the Catawba Basin and that impacts of withdrawals from that lake would not be known until that study is complete.

Dr. Moreau added that he was not comfortable making any recommendation on the IBT matter before he has read the supporting Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) documentation.

John Morris of DWR explained that the proposed IBT certification process for Concord/Kannapolis is different than has been done in the past. The current request before the committee is for permission to take BOTH the EIS and petition to a hearing for public comment, reducing the number of required public hearings from two to one.

It was decided that the matter would be discussed again at the February meeting of the Water Allocation Committee(WAC) and that it would also be tentatively added to the February EMC agenda. In the meantime, the committee members will be given both CD and hard copies of the support documentation for review.

The following will be included in the February WAC meeting:

- CH2MHill will give a brief summary of the EIS.
- The FERC relicensing process timeline will be presented.