

# **COVER SHEET**

**FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION**

**FINAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT  
FOR THE YADKIN AND YADKIN-PEE DEE RIVER  
PROJECTS**

**Docket Nos. P-2197-073 and 2206-030**

**Cover Letter**

**Pages i to iv**

**FEIS**

FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, DC 20426

OFFICE OF ENERGY PROJECTS

To the Agency or Individual Addressed:

**Reference: Final Environmental Impact Statement**

Attached is the final environmental impact statement (EIS) for the Yadkin Hydroelectric Project (Yadkin or Project No. 2197) located in the North Carolina counties of Davidson, Davie, Montgomery, Rowan, and Stanly within the Yadkin River drainage and the Yadkin-Pee Dee River Hydroelectric Project (Yadkin-Pee Dee or Project No. 2206), located on the Yadkin and Pee Dee rivers in Anson, Montgomery, Richmond, and Stanly counties, North Carolina.

The EIS documents the view of governmental agencies, non-governmental organizations, affected Indian tribes, the public, the license applicants, and Commission staff. It contains staff evaluations on the applicants' proposals and the alternatives for relicensing the Yadkin and Yadkin-Pee Dee River Projects.

Before the Commission makes a licensing decision, it takes into account all concerns relevant to the public interest. The EIS will be part of the record from which the Commission will make its decision. The EIS was sent to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and made available to the public on or before April 18, 2008.

Copies of the EIS are available for review in the Commission's Public Reference Branch, Room 2A, located at 888 First Street, NE, Washington DC 20426. An electronic copy of the final EIS also may be viewed on FERC's website at <http://www.ferc.gov> using the "eLibrary" link. Please call (202) 502-8222 or TTY (202) 208-1659 for assistance.

Attachment: Final Environmental Impact Statement

## COVER SHEET

- a. Title: Relicensing the Yadkin Project, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC or Commission) Project No. 2197 and the Yadkin-Pee Dee River Project, FERC Project No. 2206
- b. Subject: Final Environmental Impact Statement
- c. Lead Agency: FERC
- d. Abstract: The Yadkin Project is located on the Yadkin River in Davidson, Davie, Montgomery, Rowan, and Stanly counties, North Carolina. There are no federal lands affected by the project.
- The Yadkin-Pee Dee River Project is located on the Yadkin and Pee Dee rivers in Anson, Montgomery, Richmond, and Stanly counties, North Carolina. There are no federal lands affected by the project.
- e. Contact: **Environmental Staff**
- |                                      |                                      |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Stephen Bowler                       | Lee Emery                            |
| Federal Energy Regulatory Commission | Federal Energy Regulatory Commission |
| Office of Energy Projects            | Office of Energy Projects            |
| 888 First Street, NE                 | 888 First Street, NE                 |
| Washington, DC 20426                 | Washington, DC 20426                 |
| (202) 502-6861                       | (202) 502-8379                       |
- f. Transmittal: This final environmental impact statement prepared by the Commission's staff on the hydroelectric license applications filed by Alcoa Power Generating, Inc. and Progress Energy Carolinas for the existing Yadkin Project and Yadkin-Pee Dee River Project (FERC Nos. 2197 and 2206, respectively) is being made available to the public on or about September 28, 2007, as required by the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969.<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup>National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, amended (Pub. L. 91-190. 42 U.S.C. 4321-4347, January 1, 1970, as amended by Pub. L. 94-52, July 3, 1975, Pub. L. 94-83, August 9, 1975, and Pub. L. 97-258, §4(b), September 13, 1982).

## FOREWORD

The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (Commission), pursuant to the Federal Power Act (FPA)<sup>2</sup> and the U.S. Department of Energy Organization Act,<sup>3</sup> is authorized to issue licenses for up to 50 years for the construction and operation of non-federal hydroelectric development subject to its jurisdiction, on the necessary conditions:

That the project...shall be such as in the judgment of the Commission will be best adapted to a comprehensive plan for improving or developing a waterway or waterways for the use or benefit of interstate or foreign commerce, for the improvement and utilization of water-power development, for the adequate protection, mitigation, and enhancement of fish and wildlife (including related spawning grounds and habitat), and for other beneficial public uses, including irrigation, flood control, water supply, and recreational and other purposes referred to in section 4(e)...<sup>4</sup>

The Commission may require such other conditions not inconsistent with the FPA as may be found necessary to provide for the various public interests to be served by the project.<sup>5</sup> Compliance with such conditions during the licensing period is required. The Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure allow any person objecting to a licensee's compliance or noncompliance with such conditions to file a complaint noting the basis for such objection for the Commission's consideration.<sup>6</sup>

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<sup>2</sup>16 USC §791(a)-825r, as amended by the Electric Consumers Protection Act of 1986, Public Law 99-495 (1986) and the Energy Policy Act of 1992, Public Law 102-486 (1992), and the Energy Policy Act of 2005, Public Law 109-58 (2005).

<sup>3</sup>Public Law 95-91, 91 Stat. 556 (1977).

<sup>4</sup>16 USC §803(a).

<sup>5</sup>16 USC §803(g).

<sup>6</sup>18 CFR §385.206 (1987).

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