

**Yadkin Hydroelectric Project (FERC No. 2197)  
Cultural Resource Issue Advisory Group Meeting  
October 6, 2004**

**Alcoa Conference Center  
Badin, North Carolina**

**Final Meeting Summary**

**Meeting Agenda**

See Attachment 1.

**Meeting Participants**

See Attachment 2.

**Welcome and Introductions**

Gene Ellis, APCI Yadkin Division, opened the meeting with a welcome and introductions. Jody Cason, Long View Associates, reviewed the meeting agenda and provided a brief review of the previous Issue Advisory Group (IAG) meetings in August and November 2003 and the consultation and study work that had been completed to date. Jody noted that in December 2003 the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) delegated authority to Yadkin to conduct Section 106 consultation.

Jody then provided some background on the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) Eligibility Study, being conducted by Phil Thomason of Thomason and Associates. She explained that a draft study report was distributed to the IAG in July 2004. Since July, the North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) conducted some additional survey work in the Trading Ford area and submitted a request to the Keeper of the National Register for a formal review and determination of eligibility of the Trading Ford area. Jody said she expected the Keeper to 1) make a determination of eligibility or 2) conclude that there is insufficient information to make a final determination by the end of October 2004. Jody indicated that comments would be accepted on the NRHP Eligibility Study Draft Report through November 5, 2004.

Ann Brownlee, Trading Ford Historic District Preservation Association, asked if Yadkin was planning to redistribute the report without Figure 127, which she considers confidential. Jody indicated that she would provide a copy of the report without the figure to Ann. The figure will not be included in the final report.

**NRHP Eligibility Study Draft Report**

Phil Thomason reviewed the objectives of the NRHP Eligibility Study. He concluded that the following properties are eligible and should be nominated to the National Register in a Multiple

Property Documentation Form (MPDF): 1) Narrows Development – dam, powerhouse, ancillary building and structures (boundary revision proposed), 2) Falls Development – dam and powerhouse, 3) High Rock Development – dam, powerhouse, ancillary buildings, and a section of the Winston-Salem Railroad bed, and 4) Tuckertown Development – dam and powerhouse. Phil explained that these properties are significant under the National Register criteria A and C for their historical, architectural, and engineering significance.

Continuing, Phil explained that he also conducted an evaluation of the cultural landscapes from the Trading Ford to the Falls Development. Specifically, he evaluated how this section of the Yadkin River was transformed over time and what remains on the landscape. The study documented dozens of mills and mill sites, but none of the mills remain today. Phil explained that much of the Project area has been developed; however, some significant, potentially eligible properties were identified:

1. The Trading Ford Road section west of the Duke Steam Plant along the south shoreline of High Rock Reservoir.
2. The Bald Mountain Quarry conveyor ruins on the east shoreline of Tuckertown Reservoir.
3. The Whitney Dam and Canal on the south shoreline of Narrows Reservoir.

Phil explained that since he completed the draft report in early 2004, the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) announced that it is now considering the America's interstate system to be potentially eligible for the National Register. Based on this new information, Phil concluded that there is a 1.5 mile section of the Yadkin River with a series of transportation-related sites and structures, including the I-85 Bridge, which may be best assessed collectively as a historic district.

Next, Phil showed and discussed many of the photographs included in the report.

Steve Claggett, North Carolina Office of State Archaeology, indicated that the Department of Cultural Resources would be providing written comments on the draft report. He said that he was pleased to see the incorporation of the hydro facility archives (photos) into the draft report. He said the state has an interest in the prehistoric features near the Narrows Development, within the proposed expanded boundary. Steve also wondered if any consideration was given to the archaeological components of these potentially eligible areas. He thought some archaeological information would help strengthen the case of potential eligibility of these areas. Steve said that he is curious about the application of criteria D (significance in engineering) in the eligibility determination. Renee Gledhill-Earley, North Carolina State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO), asked Phil to also consider adding criteria B at the Old Whitney Dam and Canal site. Steve also commented that the documentation of all the mills in the report was good and useful information.

Steve Claggett asked if Phil planned to revise the study report to reflect his conclusion that a 1.5 mile section of the river is potentially eligible as a historic district because of the various transportation-related components. Gene Ellis answered yes. Gene Ellis clarified that report will be amended to reflect the change in eligibility of the interstate bridge.

Larry Jones, High Rock Lake Association, asked if there was an old dam on Second Creek near Stokes Ferry Road. Phil said that there are remnants of a dam on Second Creek, but the dam is really just a series of stones.

Ann Brownlee said that she appreciates the amount of work that was done for the report. She said that given all the available information, she was disappointed that only one eligible landscape feature was identified in 38 miles of river. She wondered if this was a result of only a reconnaissance level study. Ann asked that the area above the Trading Ford at least be mentioned in the report. She noted that Phil had only looked at a 1.5 mile section of the river. She said that she generally considers the four-mile section of river from Beard's Bridge to the Linwood Southmont Road (Davidson County side) as the Trading Ford area. Ann added that the ferry photographs on page 37 of the draft report are of Hannah's Ferry near the Yadkin, South Yadkin confluence.

On page 89 Ann noted that the "trading path" and "great road" (or great wagon road) are two different things and are not the same road. Ann showed Phil on a map where she believed the two different roads existed.

Ann pointed out to Phil on a map some differences in opinion about the location of some of the old roads and paths and ferry crossings.

Ann disagreed with Phil that most of the road beds are gone (page 157), rather some are extant and others have eroded.

Because Ann had many specific comments to share with Phil on the draft report, Jody proposed that she cover the final agenda item and adjourn the meeting. Anyone interested in hearing the remainder of Ann's specific comments on the report was invited to stay and listen.

### **Archaeological Surveys of Four Areas along the Uwharrie National Forest on Narrows Reservoir**

Jody Cason explained that Yadkin received comments on the Initial Consultation Document (September 2002) from both the SHPO and the U.S. Forest Service (USFS). She said that the SHPO had recommended no additional archaeological survey work at the Project and the USFS asked for resource surveys of specific areas along the Uwharrie National Forest on Narrows Reservoir that they believe are being impacted by recreational use of the shoreline. Jody said that additional consultation has occurred with the USFS and that in November 2003 Yadkin went into the field with the USFS to identify these areas. She said that Mike Harmon, USFS, identified four specific areas of concern. Jody explained that based on this narrow scope of work, Yadkin has asked Legacy Research to draft a study plan. Yadkin anticipates distributing a draft study plan to the Cultural Resources IAG by early November for review and comment. Once the study plan is finalized, Legacy can begin the field work. Steve Claggett asked if there was any evidence of vandalism or looting at the areas identified during the field visit with the USFS. Bob Smet, APGI Yadkin Division, answered there was no evidence of vandalism or looting, just camping and fishing use.

## **Wrap-up**

Before adjourning the meeting, Jody reviewed the upcoming IAG meeting schedule:

November 3, 2004 Recreation, Aesthetics, and Shoreline Management IAG Meeting (a.m.)

November 3, 2004 Negotiations Planning Meeting (p.m.)

November 4, 2004 Operations Model IAG Meeting

Jody said that comments on the NRHP Eligibility Study Draft Report were due on or before November 5, 2004. She explained that Phil would review all comments received and finalize the report by year end. Jody said that Yarkin would also be working with Legacy Research and the IAG to get the archaeological study work in the field.

Ann Brownlee asked what will be done to protect and preserve (including interpretation) of historic and cultural resources at the Project. Jody said those steps are down the road and will be discussed further either at future IAG meetings and/or in the settlement negotiations. Renee Gledhill-Early commented that the SHPO is unlikely to participate in the settlement negotiations, because the SHPO has a role through the formal Section 106 process. Ann agreed. She did not see a role for discussions of Section 106 issues in the settlement negotiations. Jody explained that APCI experienced a similar situation during the Tapoco Project relicensing where the SHPOs, tribes, and other interested parties participated through a workgroup to identify and conduct historic and archaeological resource studies, but did not actively participate in the settlement negotiations process. The interests of these groups were addressed through Section 106 and the development of a Programmatic Agreement and a Historic Properties Management Plan.

The meeting adjourned at about 11:00 a.m.

**Attachment 1 – Meeting Agenda**

**Yadkin Project Relicensing (FERC No. 2197)  
Communications Enhanced Three-Stage Relicensing Process**

**Cultural Resources Issue Advisory Group Meeting**

**Wednesday, October 6, 2004  
Alcoa Conference Center  
Badin, North Carolina**

**9:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon**

**Draft Agenda**

1. Welcome and Introductions
2. Review and Discuss NRHP Eligibility Study Draft Report
3. Update on Plans for Archaeological Surveys of Four Areas along the Uwharrie National Forest on Narrows Reservoir
4. Wrap-up and Next Steps

## Attachment 2 – Meeting Attendees

| <b>Name</b>           | <b>Organization</b>                                     |
|-----------------------|---|
| Ann Brownlee          | Trading Ford Historic District Preservation Association |
| Bob Smet              | APGI, Yadkin Division                                   |
| Bob Warren            | Uwharrie Point Community Association                    |
| Chip Conner           | Uwharrie Point Community Association                    |
| Gene Ellis            | APGI, Yadkin Division                                   |
| Jody Cason            | Long View Associates                                    |
| Larry Jones           | High Rock Lake Association                              |
| Phil Thomason         | Thomason and Associates                                 |
| Renee Gledhill-Earley | NC SHPO   |
| Roy Rowe              | Piedmont Boat Club                                      |
| Steve Claggett        | NC Office of State Archaeology                          |
| Sue Hennessy          | Yadkin Pee Dee Lakes Project                            |
| Wendy Bley            | Long View Associates                                    |