

## **Alcoa Primary Metals**

Alcoa Power Generating Inc.

Yadkin Division PO Box 576 Badin, North Carolina 28009-0576 Tel: 1-888-886-1063 Fax: 1-704-422-5776

January 29, 2003

Robert Petree SaveHighRockLake.org PO Box 628 Southmont, NC 27351

Dear Mr. Petree:

As you know, Alcoa Power Generating Inc. through its Yadkin Division has initiated the process of relicensing its Yadkin Hydroelectric Project (Project No. 2197) with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC). The second stage of Yadkin's process, the Communications Enhanced Three Stage Relicensing Process, includes the formation of Issue Advisory Groups (IAGs). These groups will advise Yadkin on the important resource issues requiring study during the relicensing process. After reviewing your application for IAG membership, Yadkin has determined that SaveHighRockLake.org meets all five criteria for participation on the IAGs.

In order to get the IAGs up and running, we are planning two initial meetings of IAGs. The first is scheduled for February 28, 2003 and will be an introductory meeting for all potential IAG members. This meeting is scheduled to take place from 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM (lunch will be provided) at the Alcoa Conference Center in Badin, North Carolina. (Take NC Highway 740 to Badin. Turn east on to Falls Road. The first right on Falls Road is the employee parking lot. Take the second right on Falls Road to the Alcoa Conference Center. Parking is in the back of the Conference Center.)

This initial meeting will provide an opportunity for introductions and a brief review of the relicensing process. The meeting will also be used to discuss and determine the individual IAGs that will be created to support the process. Yadkin had anticipated IAGs in the areas of Fish and Aquatics; Water Quality; Terrestrial and Wetlands; Recreation; Rare, Threatened and Endangered Species; and Cultural Resources. However, we recognize that issues and interests may suggest different or additional IAGs and the meeting on February 28 will be used to make final determinations on the categories for individual IAGs.

Yadkin has also scheduled a meeting period, March 12 -14 that will be used to hold the initial meetings of the individual IAGs. Although the actual meeting times and agendas will be set during our meeting on February 28, Yadkin envisions that several different individual IAG meetings will be held over this period, each meeting lasting approximately 2-4 hours. Agendas for these individual meetings would likely include IAG meeting protocols and schedules, a review of resource issues identified through agency/public comments, and identification and scoping of technical resource studies. For now, Yadkin encourages all potential IAG members to "pencil in" the March 12-14 meeting dates.

For planning purposes it would be very helpful to us if you would please respond to Jody Johns-Cason at (<u>jjcason@worldnet.att.net</u>) or (804) 675-3216 to confirm your acceptance of this invitation to IAG membership and to inform whether or not you will be present for the scheduled IAG meetings. We look forward to our association with you as we work together on this important relicensing process.

Sincerely,

GENE LUG

Gene Ellis Environmental and Natural Resources Manager