Commission Members Present:
Chester County Representatives: Herbert Lutz, Jr., Sylvia Jennings, and Kelvin Moyd
City of Chester Representative: Dr. Jacques Days
City of Chester Representative Appointees: Larry Loflin and Brenda McDow

Also present:
Joanie Winters, County Attorney
Michael E. Kozlarek, Bond Counsel

Other members of the public were present.

Action on Agenda Items:

1. Welcome/Declaration of Quorum: Chairman Days welcomed everyone on the call, thanked everyone for their participation, and declared the presence of a quorum of the Commission.

2. Invocation: Chairman Days offered thanks through prayer.

3. Approval of Minutes:
   April 30, 2020 – Mr. Loflin moved the approval of the minutes. Mr. Moyd seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

4. Discussion of Referendum Question/Division of Funds:

Chairman Days discussed the April 30 meeting and the difficulties that arose during that meeting. Prior to that meeting, Chairman Days had asked each Commission member to provide a list of the top 10-15 projects to Chairman Days so he could attempt to weight the project list and arrive at a collective tiering system. Chairman Days suggested the list he provided to the Commission during the last meeting was not entirely accurate in its tiering. Chairman Days then reminded the Commission members the Commission’s calling is to do the best work for all the County’s citizens and to try to touch all areas of the County in providing the project list and ordering.

Chairman Days suggested it might help to further the Commission’s work if the Commission could arrive at a process for ordering the projects. Chairman Days noted he wanted the process to ensure no one appeared to be more or less important, but the process would allow the Commission members to work out any differences. Chairman Days reviewed some of the potential processes for ordering projects: (a) numerical order by application number, (b) numerical order by application number for those projects approved on the first night followed by numerical order by application number for those projects approved on the second night, (c) highest cost projects to lowest cost projects, and (d) lowest cost projects to highest cost projects.

Chairman Days inquired, which, if any, of those processes might be viable. Mr. Lutz said the numerical order was not viable. Ms. Jennings stated she did not think the high cost to low cost was viable because it would not reach the “needs.” All Commission members agreed. Ms. Jennings suggested that low cost to high cost was may be a viable option. Ms. Jennings noted this method would provide for a lot of projects, but would the projects be in the order that the voters would approve. Ms. Jennings expressed her concern that the Commission is not placing enough of the “needs” at the top of the list. Mr. Loflin agreed as did Ms.
McDow, but she also noted the Commission could start with the lowest but then adjust the middle portion of the list to include the necessities. Mr. Moyd suggested the low cost to high cost would provide for the most projects, including 1-47 (all projects up to $700,000) during the first, likely borrowing. Ms. Jennings also reminded the Commission the Commission needed to ensure the County’s children had projects as well as the two fire substations because that would mean lower taxes for those citizens.

Chairman Days suggested the “low to high” process was a viable option with “some tweaking.” Mr. Lutz noted it would be “a lot of tweaking.” Chairman Days inquired if there was another viable process. Mr. Loflin suggested the Commission should focus on public safety and recreation as the top priorities because these areas touch so many people in the County, children, and other needs of the voters.

Chairman Days suggested the Commission should embrace a process and tweak that process as necessary to prioritize the list, perhaps, using an high, medium high, medium, and so forth method.

While the Commission was contemplating these potential processes, Chairman Days referenced a number of emails received regarding the Countywide radio system project and the Great Falls renovation project, copies of which are attached, respectively, as Exhibit A and Exhibit B.

Ms. Jennings stated that, in his proposed project list, Mr. Lutz did a very good job in spreading out projects, trying to consider how many projects would be covered by the first borrowing.

Mr. Loflin alerted the Commission that Mr. Lutz lost power because of a hailstorm. Mr. Lutz then rejoined the meeting by phone to let the Commission know the weather had turned severe.

Mr. Ben Grant from Chester County Emergency Management let the Commission know that Chester County was subject to a severe thunderstorm warning. Chairman Days indicated the Commission would recess for an hour because of severe weather in the area.

[THE COMMISSION RECESSED AT 6:29 P.M.]

[CHAIRMAN DAYS RECONVENCED THE COMMISSION AND CALLED THE COMMISSION BACK TO ORDER AT 7:30 P.M. THE FOLLOWING COMMISSION MEMBERS WERE PRESENT: CHAIRMAN DAYS, MS. JENNINGS, MR. LOFLIN, MS. MCDOW, AND MR. MOYD. ATTORNEY WINTERS AND ATTORNEY KOZLAREK WERE ALSO PRESENT.]

5. Adjournment: Due to continued concerns of severe weather in the area, Chairman Days suggested the Commission adjourn until Thursday, May 7, at 6:00 p.m.. Ms. McDow moved the meeting adjourn as suggested by Chairman Days. Mr. Loflin seconded. The motion in favor passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Herbert Lutz, Jr.
Secretary
May 5, 2020

C.P.S.T. Commission
1476 S.A. Cochran Bypass
Chester, SC 29706

Dear Commission Members,

On October 3, 2019 the Chester County Fire Chief’s Association received information from IWA Technical Services concerning their findings after studying the communication needs of emergency service providers in Chester County. We appreciate the time and effort of the Communication Study Committee and of IWA Technical Services.

IWA Technical Services recommendations concluded that moving emergency communication to the 800 megahertz (MHz) system was the preferred option for emergency service providers in Chester County. The Chester County Fire Chief’s Association voted to formally support the recommendations of IWA Technical Services to place all county emergency service providers on the 800 MHz Radio System.

IWA cited lower long-term cost, when compared with other viable option that would improve emergency communications, as a major reason for recommending the 800 MHz system. Another goal this move will accomplish is all county emergency service providers (fire, EMS, sheriff, EMA) will be on the same communication system and will have the ability to communicate with each other via radio. County emergency service providers are currently operating on three different radio systems and different agencies cannot directly communicate with each other when required. The ability for all County emergency agencies to communicate has been a concern and this recommendation provides a solution.

Another advantage of moving to the 800 MHz system is the ability to seamlessly integrate radio communications in the event of a large incident requiring mutual aid from other state agencies. State Emergency

EXHIBIT A
Management uses the 800 MHz system as their standard when responding to emergency incidents throughout the state. Having Chester County on the same system will make communication with other agencies and resources more efficient and easier to implement.

The Chester County Fire Chief’s Association looks forward seeing progress in improving emergency communications in Chester County through your approval of the 800 MHz Radio Project.

Regards,

Brian L. Beer
Secretary, Chester County Fire Chief’s Association
CHESTER POLICE DEPARTMENT

Eric C. Williams
Chief of Police

“To Serve and Protect”

TO: Whom It May Concern
FROM: Chief E.C. Williams
RE: Chester County 800 Radio Proposal
DATE: 5/4/20

To Whom It May Concern,

It is my understanding that a proposal of a 800 radio system is being considered for the first responders of Chester County. Upon hearing of this proposal, I really got excited to know this emergency void was being addressed. Considering the layout and logistics of Chester County a modern 800 radio system would definitely serve the county well and bring us into operating compliance in an emergency services aspect. Currently some municipalities and entities are not working on a collaborative system which handicaps services because communication amongst first responders is at a minimum. Given the nature of a first responders profession, its imperative that e professional and inclusive public service be offered to its customers regardless of their location. This radio proposal should provide the communication and ability for those serving the public to operate in a more safe and efficient manner throughout the county with confidence from this unified step. If there are any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me.

Respectfully Submitted,

Chief E.C. Williams
Chester Police Department
Office: 803-581-9675
Cell: 803-899-0098

100 West End Street    Chester, South Carolina 29706    Phone: 803-581-2132    Fax: 803-581-7645

EXHIBIT A
MEETING MINUTES
CHESTER COUNTY CAPITAL PROJECT SALES AND USE TAX COMMISSION
VIDEO CONFERENCE MEETING
HTTPS://US02WEB.ZOOM.US/J/8597396715
Meeting ID: 859 739 6715
Password: not required
OR
One tap mobile
+19292056099,,8597396715# US (New York)
+13126266799,,8597396715# US (Chicago)
May 5, 2020 – 6:00 p.m.
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EXHIBIT A
DATE: May 1, 2020

SUBJECT: One Code Sales Tax Radio Communication

To Whom it may concern,

The Fort Lawn Police Department fully supports the use of the revenue gained from the sales tax to go towards every First Responder agency having the capability to communicate with each other, by use of an 800mhz radio. The benefit would be evident. Having all First responder agencies with the capability to communicate while responding to calls for service without the delays of requiring dispatchers relay messages between agencies would greatly improve efficiency and safety of all involved.

Respectfully yours,
R. David Hayes
Chief of Police
Fort Lawn S.C.
This letter is in support of the new PAI 800 Radio program that is being proposed by the Emergency Services in Chester County.

As you know, the Chester County Rescue Squad is a vital part of the Emergency Services in Chester County.

We believe this new system will greatly improve the quality of communications for the Emergency Services in Chester County.

Loren T. (Sonny) Hudson
Chairman
Chester County Rescue Squad
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May 5, 2020 – 6:00 p.m.
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COUNTY FIRE CHIEF’S ASSOCIATION


EXHIBIT A
MEETING MINUTES
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James Jackson
Fire Chief

Veena Venkatesan
Assistant Administrator

Don Wood
Fire Marshal

Ben Grant
Deputy Fire Marshal

Riley L. Cloud
Fire Prevention Officer

Administrative
Department
106 Columbia St.
Columbia, SC 29201
Office: (803) 966-2122
Fax: (803) 966-2972

Station 1
106 Columbia St.
Columbia, SC 29201
Station 2
200 17th St. N.
Columbia, SC 29201
Station 3
350 1st St.
Columbia, SC 29201
Station 4
650 1st St.
Columbia, SC 29201
Station 5
1500 1st St.
Columbia, SC 29201
Station 6
700 1st St.
Columbia, SC 29201
Station 7
1600 1st St.
Columbia, SC 29201
Station 8
1800 1st St.
Columbia, SC 29201
Station 9
2000 1st St.
Columbia, SC 29201
Station 10
2200 1st St.
Columbia, SC 29201

October 25, 2019

Chester County Radio Study Group
Art: Don Wood
168 Columbia St.
Chester, SC 29706

Dear,

Although I have been serving as Chief of the Chester Fire Department for a short time, I have been able to see the shortcomings of our current VHF radio system. There are limitations to the system. One of the facts is that it does not provide adequate coverage within the fire district. Added to this problem, all county responders are not on the same communication system.

I was present at the County Fire Chiefs Association on October 5, 2019. I heard the presentation by PWA Technical Services. It was recommended that Chester County join the Palmnet 800 MHz System. At the previous fire department, where I also served as Chief, we utilized the 800 MHz system. I ran watch for the quality and benefit of the system. Therefore, I, along with my current department, am in support of Chester County joining the Palmnet 800 MHz System for all responders.

Respectfully,

James Jackson
Chief, Chester Fire Department

"Committed to Saving Lives and Protecting Property"
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Chester County Resident’s Radio Study
Ad Hoc Radio Group Report
Chester County Council November 4, 2019

On behalf of Emergency Responders and the Radio Group, I would like to extend our appreciation for Chester County Council’s support with our engineer study of Chester County’s radio systems.

There was a long delay in having the study completed due to several problems with the first radio system. These issues had to be resolved before the study could begin. One of 2 power sites and 1 water sites, only 1 water site was working correctly. While most of the sites needed adjusting/tuning, the Great Falls site was in need of repair to insure lower with data caused an extended delay.

While not part of the Study Engineer’s (WEA) contract scope, they provided guidance to the local radio technicians to reprogram and re-tune the first radio system. This led to the first radio system in mobile “showing as good as the current system when but leaves a lot to be desired.

Part of the Study Engineer’s (WDA) scope was to provide a recommendation for the best type radio system, with minimum benefit for the county. The Engineer’s recommendation is to join the SC Palmetto 800 MHz system (PAM 120). This system is currently used by most of our county’s law enforcement and is maintained by South Carolina.

The PAM 800 system will benefit all departments. Law enforcement will also benefit with improved coverage throughout the county when completed. The Radio Committee originally established a list of goals if hopes an updated radio system will provide.

1) Inter- and Inter-Operability
2) Maximum county Coverage
3) Cost-effective (Digital)
4) Enhanced Call Button “Man Down”
5) Radio to Radio (transmit capability)
6) Redundancy (backup)
7) Voice Clarity
8) Radio ID system
9) Least expensive “In Building Communication System”

The following benefits were identified if the PAM 800 system is implemented with the county:

1) All county agencies will be able to talk to each other
2) Cost effective for the County by taking advantage of existing infrastructure
3) Allows in addition of the desired goals (Note that some goals subjective)
4) Less expensive for businesses to provide “Responder Radio Coverage”
5) Less P25 system which increases availability for State and Federal grants
6) Provides Public Safety grade communication infrastructure (State & Federal)
7) Provides county for current and future technology
8) Provides county for short-term and long-term radio system (State assumes responsibility once implemented)
9) System is monitored 24-hours with backup (ISO compliant).

The Engineer’s recommendation was presented to the Chester County Chiefs Association October 3, 2019 and was received with unanimous support. The recommendation was also presented to the Radio Group October 9, 2019 with members in attendance representing 3 agencies. Recommendation was received with support. One agency did not support due to costs. Two agencies of consent were voted in the meeting.
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1) Why were the same technicians that maintain the PALS 800 system not able to adjust and tune the fire radio system without the assistance of the Radio Engineer?

   A: Most technicians are primarily trained on newer technology such as the 800 digital radio systems and do not have as much experience with older technology such as the current VHF fire radio system. The engineer has many years of experience with older systems and was able to help them.

2) Why did the Study Engineer meet with each agency to discuss needs and issues?

   A: The scope of the Engineer Study did not include one on one meeting with each agency. The study included a group meeting with all agencies willing to attend to receive and discuss the report. Project was to review and identify the best frequency and system infrastructure for Chester County based on measured data collected from the study.

   Specific needs of each agency / department will need to be evaluated and determined during the infrastructure and design phase once a system is chosen.

   We would like to request County Council's support with Chester County joining the PALS 800 system for all agencies in accordance with the radio engineer's recommendation.

   Respectfully,

   [Signature]

   Don Wood

For information the following are individuals were invited to group meetings:

1. Allan Chipps - Fort Lawn Fire
2. Dan Green - PALS
3. B. Hinkle - Rural Fire
4. Brett Hinkle - EMS
5. Doug McMurray - Chester County Sheriff's Dept.
6. Ed Parry - PALS
7. Fields Murphy - DMA
8. Ellis Findlay - Chester County
9. Eric Hilbert - Chester Roads Fire Department
10. Eugene Haden - Chester Roads Fire Department
12. Don Wood - Chester Fire
13. Judy Williamson - Lake Fire
14. Janice Jorden - Chester Fire
15. Johnny Robley - FWP
16. Josh Cauburn - Great Falls
17. Kids Grant - Rural Fire
18. Mike Smith - Chester County
19. Terry Tindel - Chester County Coroner
20. Timothy Stump - Chester County Schools
21. Travis Moore - Chester Police Dept.
22. Tyler Everington - Chester Police Dept.
23. Tyeon McPherson - Rockingham Fire

Page 2 of 2

EXHIBIT A
CHESTER COUNTY
SHERIFF’S DEPARTMENT
RADIO COMMUNICATIONS STUDY
FINAL REPORT

SUBMITTED
OCTOBER 3, 2019

BY

IWA TECHNICAL SERVICES, INC.
CONSULTING ENGINEERS
DALLAS, TX
(214) 707-7711
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Chester County entered into an agreement with IWA Technical Services, Inc., consulting engineers, to survey the communications systems used by Chester County, SC for their public safety agencies.

Besides looking at the end user needs, other items that were analyzed included all of the main radio systems used by Chester County for law enforcement personnel, fire personnel, EMS personnel, and other agencies that utilize the dispatch facilities and systems as controlled by the dispatch system on Dawson Street.

Of particular interest was the Fire paging, Fire two-way radio system, and the dispatch console system.

The final part of the survey was to provide a map from each of the existing permanent tower sites to determine the predicted downlink (base to subscriber [portable and mobile]) range and uplink (subscriber [portable and mobile] to base) range. The composite signal coverage was also included with the studies.

The details of each item analyzed are found in the following pages of this report.

Recommendations are made at the end of this report.
FIRE PAGING FROM DISPATCH

The paging alerts from dispatch to the pagers used by the various fire departments throughout Chester County were being missed by many agencies, and those that did get through the alerting process had very low audio volume from the pagers.

Another problem was that there were multiple dead spots throughout Chester County.

SOLUTION 1: LINK CONTROL STATION

We discovered two problems with the paging alerts on the system. The first problem was that the console radio in the equipment room being utilized for the paging alert tones had the audio level setting too low in amplitude. The second problem was that the automatic gain control (AGC) was turned on in the control station Line Access Card and in the main audio path within the same transmitter. This was corrected and the tones sounded better, but the VHF transmitters were still not performing properly.

SOLUTION 2: MOTOROLA 7550 DISPATCH CONSOLE

The dispatch consoles had the AGC turned on in the microphones, along with the console channel Conventional Channel Gateway (CCGW) for the channel in each console. The AGC functions were turned off in each console, and the audio was raised in amplitude for each console.

SOLUTION 3: AT CHESTER AND RICHBURG RADIO SITES

The audio amplitude being broadcast from the VHF fire base stations at Chester Tower and Richburg tower were not identical. The transmitter audio control level setting was reset at each of the two station locations to be the same.

RESULTS

Once the audio levels and AGC settings were corrected at the dispatch consoles, dispatch link control stations, and the two radio base station sites, all of the problems disappeared and pages were heard correctly throughout the county.
FIRE VOICE TRAFFIC FROM DISPATCH

The voice traffic from dispatch to the field units on the fire channel exhibited the same problems as the page tone traffic from dispatch.

SOLUTION 1 IN LINK CONTROL STATION

The problems in the link control station for the voice traffic were discovered to be the same as the paging link control station.

Once the page tone issues were found and corrected, the appropriate adjustments were made on the fire voice link control station and the problems were resolved.

RESULTS

The problems with the voice traffic were corrected when the paging problems were set properly.
FIRE TALKBACK TO DISPATCH

There were originally multiple serious problems with the talkback from the field units back to dispatch.

The audio would drop out in between syllables. In addition, there were many parts of the county where there was no coverage from mobiles or portables back to dispatch.

The voter VHF receiver and UHF transmitter link was impossible at Catawba.

The voter VHF receiver and UHF transmitter link was inoperable at Great Falls. The antennas on the VHF receiver was tested and failed the line sweep test.

The main JPS SNV12 voter control unit at Chester Tower had alarm LEDs lit on some of the channels.

Upon checking the FCC authorizations for the UHF link transmitters that were part of the voting system, we discovered quite a few discrepancies in all of the radio systems used by Chester County. (See section on FCC authorizations)

SOLUTION 1 AT CATAWBA VOTER SITE

The power was restored and the antennas were tested.

SOLUTION 2 AT GREAT FALLS VOTER SITE

The VHF receiver was replaced. The UHF transmitter was replaced. The VHF antenna and transmission line was replaced. The power supply was replaced. Audio levels were set at the site to be identical with the other sites.

SOLUTION 3 AT RICHBURG TOWER SITE

The UHF receivers at the Richburg Tower site were reset and the audio was set for identical levels between each channel.

SOLUTION 4 AT CHESTER TOWER SITE

The audio levels were adjusted in the JPS voter and the Convex audio processor so that all channels have the identical audio amplitude.

RESULTS

Once all of the voter receivers were set properly and the voter was optimized, everything functioned as designed and user complaints stopped.
FCC AUTHORIZATIONS

As the study progressed and all sites were analyzed, we determined that the actual operation and the FCC authorizations had discrepancies. In addition, changes were made such that required new frequencies were needed to continue operation.

The next part of our project included gathering all of the pertinent parameters so that the revised FCC authorizations would exactly match the equipment and locations utilized in the system.

The FCC authorizations project is under separate contract and is being completed at this time.
OTHER FACTORS IN THE RADIO SYSTEMS

Once the infrastructure was corrected, we noticed that some units functioned while others did not while being operated from the same location. This usually is caused by defective radios, poor installations or defective antennas, from the mobile or defective batteries, antennas, or radios on the portables.

A logging procedure should be instituted to help identify defective radios by keeping track of the unit numbers, locations, and circumstances where the radio transmission are being lost or garbled.
RANGE AND MODE TEST

A range and mode test was performed using the Sheriff's VHF channel from the Chester Tower. This test was developed to help determine if switching from the analog mode to one of the digital modes would increase the range of the radio systems.

This test was also used to determine if the predicted and actual range would match each other.

TEST SETUP

A Hytera DMR/Analog FM VHF 50 watt repeater was temporarily installed and used to replace the sheriff's Motorola OTR8000 base station. The antenna at the top of the Chester tower was utilized for the range test.

A Hytera MD782 and MD782i mobile radio were calibrated for 30 watts RF power each, along with a magnetic base quarter wave VHF antenna was mounted to the center of the rooftop of each vehicle, and a cigarette light plug was used to power the radios.

A pair of Hytera PD682i walkie-talkies were used to check the portable range along with the mobile range of the system.

TEST OPERATION

Two vehicles were traveling a few hundred feet from each other and the ability to communicate with each other was tested as they moved about Chester county and the adjacent counties. The mobile and portable radios were tested between the vehicles every few miles as the distance was increased from the transmitter site and the readings were recorded as the transmissions were made.

Transmissions were made in the analog mode and the digital mode (DMR). The readability quality was noted as the transmissions were made and received.

RESULTS

The range test confirmed that the actual range and the predicted range as illustrated in the VHF (155 MHz) were identical. The switching between the analog mode and the digital mode also showed approximately 5% increase in range for the digital mode over the analog mode.

The range was limited by the terrain and obstructions such as hills, trees, and man-made structures. If the terrain was flat, the digital mode would have been far superior in range, but that was not the case in Chester County.
PROPAGATION MAPS
COMPARISON BETWEEN VHF, UHF, 700 MHZ AND 800 MHZ

Propagation studies were made on the following bands and modes:
VHF (155 MHz)
UHF (450 MHz)
700 MHz
800 MHz
VHF Paging
UHF Paging
900 MHz Paging

In each of the two-way bands listed above, propagation maps were generated for the following circumstances:
Talk out (Base to Portable coverage)
Talk out (Base to Mobile coverage)
Talkback (Portable to Base coverage)
Talkback (Mobile to Base coverage)

For each category above, the sites studied were:
Chester
Richburg
Stantec Cooper
Great Falls

In addition, combined sites included:
Chester and Richburg
All Sites
RECOMMENDATION OF NEW RADIO SYSTEM FOR CHESTER COUNTY

The empirical studies of using the sheriff's VHF radio channel from the Chester Tower and the fully functioning four towers for the paging and fire radio system confirmed that the propagation maps can be trusted as being reliable and accurate.

In order to have adequate radio coverage from mobile units, the antennas should be center mounted on the roofs of the vehicles, and lapel mounted remote microphones with antennas for the portable units.

In order to have interoperability with the state-wide Palmetto 800 MHz system and the adjacent county neighboring systems, it is our recommendation that Chester County join the Palmetto 800 MHz system. There are substantial monetary benefits for Chester County for joining the state-wide system as well as a more robust and resilient radio communications system.

Since there are a few holes in the 800 MHz coverage along the far southern edge, far northeastern edge and the entire western end of the county, Chester County will need to add 3 more sites to the 4 existing Palmetto 800 sites that are currently in operation. With the adjacent counties using their own 800 MHz systems and the South Carolina State Highway Patrol using the Palmetto 800 MHz system, the propagation maps show that Chester County will have 95% radio coverage for all of the agencies if there are 7 towers utilized for Chester County. All 7 sites will require a microwave backhaul to facilitate IP connectivity to dispatch.

100% coverage cannot be obtained due to the effect that the new green energy building codes have on radio propagation into green energy buildings. These new buildings and the all metal construction buildings prevent radio signals penetrating the interior of these buildings. Many jurisdictions are requiring building owners to install bi-directional amplifiers to provide radio coverage for the public safety radio systems in their jurisdiction. This is mitigated on a case-by-case basis.
Dr. Jacques Days  
Chairman  
Chester County Capital Project Sales and Use Tax Commission  
P.O. Box 215  
Chester, S.C. 29055

Dear Dr. Days:

I am aware that the Commission is working on the priority list for the one cent sales tax projects and would like to address the location of our Company Store renovation project (# 47) on that list. As you know, this project is for the Great Falls Visitors Center for the whitewater, trails and State Park coming to this area. Since Duke Energy has assured us that the Whitewater project will be completed in the Fall of 2022, it is extremely important to Great Fall that the renovation project for the Visitor Center be well underway, if not completed by the time Whitewater begins to flow and visitors come to our town. We feel that having this project delayed will make it more difficult for us to take advantage of this opportunity being presented to the town.

I would further like for the Commission to consider changing the name of our project to-renovations for Great Falls Whitewater, Trails and State Park Visitors Center. Although everyone in Great Falls is familiar with the meaning of Company Store, the voters in the rest of the county may not understand the project.

Thank you for your consideration of our requests and for all of your hard work on this project.

Sincerely

Glenn Smith

Councilman Town of Great Falls
May 4, 2020

Dr. Jacques Days, Chairman
Chester County Capital Project Sales and Use Tax Commission
P.O. Box 580
Chester, S.C. 29706

Re: Duke Energy Carolinas, LLC
      Catawba-Wateree Hydroelectric Project No. 2232
      Great Falls Re-Diversion Project Schedule

Dear Mr. Days,

Duke Energy Carolinas, LLC (Duke Energy) has been asked to provide schedule information for the Great Falls Re-Diversion Project (Project) being completed to meet the requirements of the New License for the Catawba-Wateree Hydro Project received from the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission on November 25, 2015.

The Re-Diversion Project consist of modifications to install a Safe Boster Bypass Structure on the Long Bypass Reach of the Great Falls Reservoir and an Obmeyer Inflatable Gate on the Short Bypass Reach (SBR). These modifications will provide biological flow releases to enhance aquatic habitat and provide public recreation opportunities. The development of the detailed design for these modifications is currently in progress. Following completion of the design and award of the contract, Duke Energy will begin construction on these modifications in May 2021 and expects construction to be completed in the third quarter of 2022.

Please contact me at (704) 382-0293 (Tami.Styner@duke-energy.com) if you have any questions or require additional information.

Sincerely,

Tami Styner, Senior Project Manager
Catawba Wateree Hydro Project
Water Strategy and Hydro Licensing
Duke Energy Carolinas, LLC

cc: Glinda Price Coleman – Great Falls Home Town Association
    Tim Huffman – Duke Energy
Status and Schedule Expectations

- Design & Physical Model Study – Completed Q3 2018
- Final Conceptual LBR Design, Construction Documents – Complete Q4 2018
- Construction Contractor Screening – Q3 2019 (complete)
- Civil, Electrical, Mechanical Design LBR & SBR – Ongoing – Target February 2020
- FERC Submittals & 404, 401 Permit Submittals - Q2 2020
- FERC Approval & Permits – Q3-4 2020 (expected)
- Competitive Bidding Start – Q3 - 2020 (expected)
- Contract Award – Q4 2020 (expected)
- Construction Commences – 2021
- Completion Date by License Commitment – August 2022

DUK ENERGY