

ORIGINAL

March 14, 2011

FILED  
SECRETARY OF THE  
COMMISSION

Ms. Kimberly D. Bose  
Secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission  
888 First Street NE  
Washington, DC 20426

2011 MAR 21 A 11:10

FEDERAL ENERGY  
REGULATORY COMMISSION

Re: FERC Project No. 349, Martin Dam Re-licensing Process

Dear Ms. Bose:

I am a resident of Lake Martin and wish to provide comments on the referenced topic.

After nearly four years of participating in the process, it is clear that most stakeholders on the lake will be satisfied with three conditions in the final license application:

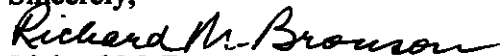
- 1) a 3-4 ft increase in winter pool,
- 2) provisions for an extended full pool in the fall, and
- 3) appropriate adaptive management procedures.

There were other important interests voiced during the process but these conditions seem fundamental to stakeholder desires. If recommended and approved, they will compliment the soon-to-be-approved *Treasured Alabama Lake* designation for Lake Martin and will greatly enhance the lake's already vital importance to economic growth in the area.

Overall, the re-licensing process has met my expectations. Virtually all of my concerns and interests were given full and fair consideration...never did I feel excluded from making my views known. There were numerous collaborative opportunities, witness the number of citizen volunteers who assisted Alabama Water Watch with an important yearlong water quality study through significant funding from Alabama Power Company.

During the past few months several stakeholders have expressed concerns over the Multi-Criteria Decision Analysis (MCDA) process. In my view those concerns are valid. However, the MCDA process should be seen as one method to help sort through the various options for lake pool levels and should not...indeed must not replace the criteria of sound judgment and good science in arriving at a final recommendation. I have every confidence that Alabama Power Company will properly apply those criteria.

Sincerely,



Richard M. Bronson  
658 Bay Pine Island Road  
Jacksons Gap, AL 36861

cc: Jim Crew, Alabama Power Company

Document Content(s)

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