ALABAMA POWER COMPANY

BIRMINGHAM, ALABAMA

MARTIN HYDROELECTRIC PROJECT

FERC NO. 349

STUDY PLAN 13 – SHORELINE MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

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1.0 GOALS AND OBJECTIVES OF STUDY

The Alabama Power Company (Alabama Power) intends to develop and implement a Shoreline Management Program (SMP) for the Martin Project that will identify project land uses and project land use classifications, determine Lake Martin shoreline management policies, reiterate the permitting program regulations, and establish and promote best management practices around Lake Martin. Alabama Power intends to file this Program with its final license application for Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) approval.

2.0 RELEVANT RESOURCE MANAGEMENT GOALS

The FERC is responsible for issuing licenses for the construction, operation, and maintenance of non-federal hydropower projects. Alabama Power, as Licensee, is responsible for operating and maintaining its FERC-licensed projects in accordance with the license requirements and project purposes (*i.e*., power generation, public recreation, environmental protection, aesthetic values, etc.). Consistent with these license responsibilities, a Licensee may authorize specific uses and occupancies of the project reservoir shoreline that are not related to hydroelectric power production or other project purposes. These land and water uses are typically referred to as "non-project uses." These "non-project uses" typically require a permit from Alabama Power before development and construction take place. Examples of "non-project uses" include boat docks, seawalls, rip-rap, excavation, etc.

Currently, shoreline management at the Martin Project is guided by the existing Comprehensive Recreation Plan and Alabama Power's permitting program. Through early consultation with Martin stakeholders, and Alabama Power's desire to have a consistent SMP for all of it's FERC projects, Alabama Power has identified several draft goals for the proposed SMP at the Martin Project. These goals are:

1) Provide for reasonable public access;
2) Protect fish and wildlife habitat;
3) Protect cultural resources;
4) Protect operational needs;
5) Facilitate compliance with appropriate license articles;
6) Protect water quality;
7) Reduce erosion;
8) Minimize scenic impacts;
9) Guide shoreline development.

It is expected that each of these goals will include measurable objectives to determine if the long-term goals are being met.

3.0 BACKGROUND AND EXISTING INFORMATION

Alabama Power's existing Comprehensive Recreation Plan for the Martin Project will provide the backbone for the proposed SMP. The land classifications for project lands in this Plan are:

- 30 ft. Buffer - a control strip of land along the shoreline in certain areas of the reservoir;
- Potential Residential - where lots for cottage construction can be developed by Alabama Power Company and made available to the public under highly restrictive lease provisions;
- Natural Undeveloped - to remain in an undeveloped state and serve as buffer zones around public recreational areas, protection to environmentally sensitive shoreline areas, means for preventing the overcrowding of partially developed shoreline areas, means for maintaining the natural aesthetic qualities of certain highly visible areas, nature study trails, and areas for primitive camping activities;
- General Public Use - reserved for the development of parks, boat ramps, concessionaires' facilities and other recreational facilities open to the public;
- Quasi Public Recreation - lands leased to quasi-public organizations as needed for public use facilities;
- Prohibited Access - to protect visitors from hazardous areas and to prevent damage to operational facilities; and
- Existing Commercial Recreation - existing concessionaire-operated public marinas and recreational areas that provide a wide variety of recreational services to the public on a fee basis.

Alabama Power has also prepared and presented to stakeholder their initial proposal to revise the land classifications at the Martin Project and identified several areas where project lands are proposed to be reclassified.

Additional existing information that will help guide the process includes:

- Alabama Power Company. 2005. Coosa River Project Shoreline Management Plan. Alabama Power Company, Birmingham, AL. (This SMP is pending FERC approval).
- Alabama Power Company. 2005. Warrior River Project Shoreline Management Plan. Alabama Power Company, Birmingham, AL. (This SMP is pending FERC approval.).
- Federal Energy Regulatory Commission. 2001. Guidance for Shoreline Management Planning at Hydropower Projects. Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, Washington, D.C.

4.0 PROJECT NEXUS

The nexus to the Project is the FERC project boundary. FERC also requires most hydroelectric projects under its jurisdiction to develop and implement a Shoreline Management Program.

5.0 STUDY AREA AND STUDY SITES

The study area for this issue would include Alabama Power-owned lands within the FERC project boundary for the Martin Project. Additional lands may be incorporated into the Project boundary if they are necessary to meet the proposed goals of the SMP.

6.0 PROPOSED METHODOLOGY

The general methodology for development of the SMP will involve consultation with MIG 4 members. Initially, Alabama Power proposes to accept comments on the proposed land reclassifications (Alabama Power presented these proposed changes at the September 2007 MIG 4 meeting). With comments received, Alabama Power will begin to develop a "straw man" of the SMP with MIG 4 input. This "straw man" will provide the basis for further development of the SMP.

The detailed process for developing the SMP will be as follows:

1) Meet with MIG 4 members to discuss the proposed changes in the land classification maps (*e.g.*, one on one meetings, site visits to areas of proposed changes, etc.) and consider information collected on location of rare, threatened, or endangered species and cultural resources (i.e., "Sensitive Areas");
2) Review the steps in developing a SMP (the "straw man" will be provided at this point);
3) Conduct a literature review of BMPs for wildlife that use riparian and shoreline habitat types;
4) Develop BMPs and how they would apply to the different land classifications;
5) Review the Martin Guidelines for Shoreline Permitting; discuss proposed modifications;
6) Review, modify (if applicable), and incorporate the Aquatic Nuisance Vegetation and Vector Control Program;
7) Incorporate (if applicable) results from the wildlife management program and RTE surveys;
8) Develop Alabama Power policies for Martin (i.e., dredging, primitive camping, etc.);
9) Develop a Draft plan for stakeholder review and comment; and
10) Develop a Final plan for FERC approval.

In addition to the aforementioned methodology for the SMP, Alabama Power will also review other relicensing studies (e.g., RTE study, wildlife plan, water quality, etc.) and integrate results, as appropriate, into the SMP.

7.0 CONSISTENCY WITH GENERALLY ACCEPTED SCIENTIFIC PRACTICE

Development of the SMP will follow general consultation guidelines in the Integrated Licensing Process.

8.0 PRODUCTS

A draft and final SMP will be developed in consultation with and assistance from the MIG 4. Alabama Power is proposing the following general sections to be included in the SMP:

- Glossary and Commonly Used Acronyms;
- Purpose and Goals of the SMP;
- Shoreline Management Policies;
- Shoreline Management;
  - Shoreline Classification;
  - Shoreline Management Policies;
  - Alabama Power's Permitting Program;
- Aquatic Nuisance Vegetation and Vector Control Program; and
- Implementation and Review.

A draft SMP including maps (both hard copy and electronic) will be provided to the MIG 4 for review and comment. Once comments are addressed, a final SMP will be filed as part of the final license application that will include a PDF copy of the literature used for the report.

9.0 SCHEDULE

This schedule corresponds to Alabama Power's Process Plan and Schedule filed with FERC on February 16, 2009. Actual consultation meeting dates will be determined with MIG 1 members upon FERC approval of the study plan.

Alabama Power files Final Study Plan ..... March 2009
FERC Approval ..... April 2009
MIG 4 Consultation ..... May 2009- December 2010
Initial Study Report ..... November 2009
Initial Study Report Meeting ..... December 2009
Draft SMP ..... September 2010
Final SMP ..... January 2011
FERC Updated Study Report ..... September 2010
Updated Study Report Meeting ..... September 2010

10.0 LEVEL OF EFFORT AND COST

Alabama Power estimates the cost of consulting with the MIG 4 and developing a Draft and Final SMP, will be approximately $250,000.

11.0 REFERENCES

Alabama Power Company. 1999. Martin Dam Project (FERC No. 349): Comprehensive Recreation Plan Exhibit R (Revised). Alabama Power Company, Birmingham, AL.

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission. April 2001. Guidance for Shoreline Management Planning at Hydropower Projects