FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, DC 20426
November 14, 2008

OFFICE OF ENERGY PROJECTS

Project No. 349-150-Alabama
Martin Dam Hydroelectric Project
Alabama Power Company

Re: Scoping of environmental issues for relicensing the Martin Dam Project

To the Parties Addressed:

The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (Commission) is reviewing the Pre-Application Document (PAD) submitted to the Commission by Alabama Power Company (Alabama Power) on June 5, 2008 for relicensing the Martin Dam Hydroelectric Project (FERC No. 349-150). The project is located on the Tallapoosa River in Tallapoosa, Coosa, and Elmore Counties, Alabama, near the towns of Alexander City and Dadeville, Alabama. Alabama Power will use the Commission's Integrated Licensing Process (ILP) to relicense the project. Under the ILP, Alabama Power must file their preliminary licensing proposal or a draft license application for the continued operation of the project by December 10, 2010. The final license application must be filed with the Commission on or before June 8, 2011. The current license for the project expires on June 8, 2013.

Pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as amended, the Commission staff intends to prepare an environmental assessment (EA) on the project. The EA would be used by the Commission to determine whether, and under what conditions, to issue a new license. To support and assist our environmental review, a scoping process has been completed to ensure that all pertinent issues are identified and analyzed and that the EA we will prepare is thorough and balanced.

In our August 5, 2008, Scoping Document (SD1), we disclosed our preliminary view of the scope of environmental issues associated with relicensing the Martin Dam Project. Based on the verbal comments that we received at the scoping meetings held on September 11, 2008 at the Central Alabama Community College, in Alexander City, Alabama, and written comments we received throughout the scoping process, we prepared the enclosed Scoping Document 2 (SD2). We appreciate the participation of governmental agencies, non-governmental organizations, and the general public in the

scoping process. The enclosed SD2 for the project is intended to serve as a guide to the issues and alternatives to be addressed in the EA. **Key changes from SD1 to SD2 are identified in bold, italicized type.**

SD2 is distributed to parties on the Service List for this proceeding, as well as to other individuals and organizations that we have identified as having previously expressed an interest in this project; no response is required. SD2 is also available from our Public Reference Room at 202-502-8371. It also can be accessed online at http://www.ferc.gov/docs-filing/elibrary.

Please direct any questions about the Martin Dam Project relicensing to Lee Emery at (202) 502-8379, or lee.emery@ferc.gov.

Enclosure: Scoping Document

cc: Mailing List
Public Files

SCOPING DOCUMENT 2
MARTIN DAM HYDROELECTRIC PROJECT

ALABAMA

PROJECT NO. 349-150

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
Office of Energy Projects
Division of Hydropower Licensing
Washington, DC

November 2008

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1.0 INTRODUCTION

The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (Commission or FERC), under the authority of the Federal Power Act (FPA),[1] may issue licenses for up to 50 years for the construction, operation, and maintenance of non-federal hydroelectric projects. On June 5, 2008, Alabama Power Company (Alabama Power), the current licensee, filed a Notice of Intent (NOI) to seek a new license[2] and a Pre-Application Document (PAD) for the 182.5-megawatt (MW) Martin Dam Hydroelectric Project (FERC Project No. 349-150). The Martin Dam Project is located on the Tallapoosa River in northeast Alabama, in Tallapoosa, Coosa, and Elmore Counties, Alabama, near the cities of Alexander City and Dadeville, Alabama. Alabama Power is using the Integrated Licensing Process (ILP). Alabama Power intends to file its application for a new license for the project with the Commission on or before June 8, 2011. ***There are 1.36 acres of*** federal lands within the project boundary.

The National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969,[3] the Commission's regulations, and other applicable laws require that we independently evaluate the environmental effects of licensing the project as proposed, as well as consider reasonable alternatives to the proposed action. Based on our review of the PAD and preliminary analysis of the issues, we propose to prepare an Environmental Assessment (EA) that describes and evaluates the probable effects, including an assessment of the site-specific and cumulative effects, if any, of the proposed action and alternatives considered. This scoping process will help us to identify the pertinent issues that we will need to analyze in the EA. ***A scoping process has been completed to support preparation of the EA and to ensure that all pertinent issues are identified and analyzed.***

[1] 16 U.S.C. §§ 791(a)-825(r) (2000).

[2] The current license for the Martin Dam Project was issued on May 11, 1978 (3 FERC ¶61,137 (1978), for a term of 40 years with an effective date of May 1, 1978; the license expires on June 8, 2013.

[3] 42 U.S.C. §§ 4321-70(f) (2000).

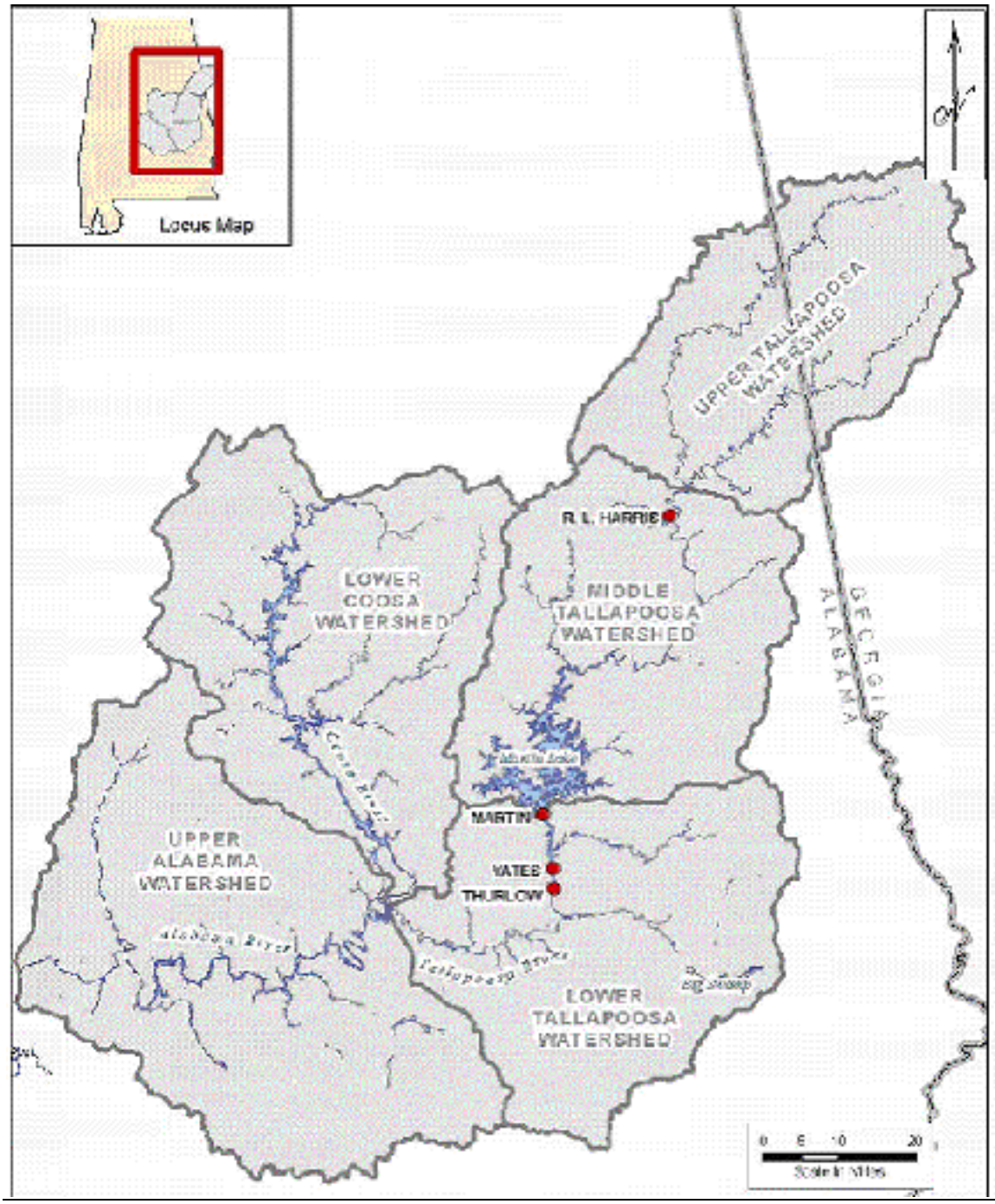

Figure 1. Location of the Martin Dam Project No. 349-150 (Source: Alabama Power, 2008, as modified by staff**).**

2.0 SCOPING

This ***Scoping Document 2 (SD2)*** is intended to advise all participants about the proposed scope of the EA and to seek additional information pertinent to this analysis. This document contains a brief description of: (1) the scoping process and schedule for developing the EA; (2) a description of the proposed action and alternatives; (3) a preliminary identification of environmental issues and proposed studies; (4) a proposed EA outline; and (5) a preliminary list of comprehensive plans that are applicable to the project.

2.1 Purposes of Scoping

Scoping is the process used to identify issues, concerns, and opportunities associated with a proposed action. The process, according to NEPA, should be conducted early in the planning stage of a project.

The purposes of the scoping process are as follows:

- invite participation of federal, state, and local resource agencies, Indian tribes, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), and other interested persons to help us identify significant environmental and socioeconomic issues related to the proposed action;
- determine the resource areas, depth of analysis, and significance of issues to be addressed in the EA;
- identify how the project would or would not contribute to cumulative impacts in the project area;
- identify reasonable alternatives to the proposed action that should be evaluated in the EA;
- solicit from participants available information on the resources at issue; and
- determine the resource areas and potential issues that do no require detailed analysis during review of the project.

We issued Scoping Document 1 (SD1) on August 5, 2008, to enable appropriate resource agencies, Indian tribes, and other interested parties to more effectively participate in and contribute to the scoping process. Based on our participation in the scoping meetings and comment received during the meetings, and our review of the

Pre-application Document (PAD) for the project, we asked for additional information from Alabama Power on October 3, 2008. Some of the concerns raised by the nine entities that commented on SD1, or during the scoping meetings, were issues that would be addressed in Alabama Power's response to our additional information request. We revised SD1 following the scoping meetings and after reviewing comments filed during the scoping comment period.

2.2 Comments and Scoping Meetings

We held two scoping meetings on September 11, 2008, to hear the views of all interested agencies and entities on the scope of the issues that should be addressed in the draft EA. Daytime and evening meetings were held at the Central Alabama Community College, Alexander City, Alabama. We also completed a site visit of the Martin Dam Project on September 10, 2008.

In addition to comments received at the scoping meetings, the following entities filed written comments on SD1:

Commenting Entity	*Date Comments Filed with Commission*
American Rivers and Alabama Rivers Alliance (Rivers)	*October 10, 2008*
World Wildlife Fund (WW Fund)	*October 13, 2008*
Lake Martin Home Owners & Boat Owners Association (Lake Martin Association	*October 13, 2008*
Lake Martin Resource Association, Inc.	*October 13, 2008*
James K. Lanier (Lanier)	*October 14, 2008*
State of Georgia (Georgia)	*October 10, 2008*
Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (Alabama DCNR)	*October 10, 2008 and October 1, 2008*
Department of the Interior (Interior)	*October 2, 2008*
Lake Wedowee Property Owners Assoc. (Wedowee)	*October 10, 2008*

All comments received are part of the Commission's official record for the project. Information in the record is available for inspection and reproduction at the Commission's Public Reference Room, located at 888 First Street, NE, Room 2A, Washington, DC, 20426, or by calling (202) 208-1371. Information may be viewed through e-library on the Commission's webpage (www.ferc.gov). Call (202) 208-2222 for assistance.

This SD2 reflects the comments received during the scoping process. Key changes to SD1 are shown in italicized, bold type. Following is a summary of the information and comments received and our responses, where appropriate.

2.3 *Issues Raised During Scoping*

There were numerous written comments submitted by the commenting entities concerning Alabama Power's potential study proposals for the project. Many of these comments recommended making slight modifications or additions to the proposed studies. We will review these suggestions, and incorporate as appropriate, when conducting our review of the study plans that are due to be filed with the Commission by Alabama Power on November 17, 2008, and not at this time in this SD2. In addition, there were numerous requests for additional data or more detailed information regarding project operation and generating schedules. Data needs are determined based on the study objectives and the need for this information will be addressed in our review of the study plans.

GENERAL COMMENTS

Comment: ***Georgia recommends consolidating the relicensing process for the Martin Dam Project with the re-licensing process for the Coosa River Project (P-2146). Georgia requests that the Commission consider a more equitable balance of waters released from the Martin Dam Project because of the burden placed on the Coosa River Project.***

Response: ***An application for the Martin Dam Project is not expected until June 2011 and consolidating the processes could delay the Coosa Project by 3 to 5 years. We continue to recommend that the projects be handled separately by the Commission. We will evaluate the cumulative effects of continued operation of the Martin Dam Project.***

Comment: Georgia and Rivers want an environmental impact statement (EIS) to be prepared for the project, if not, then Rivers wants a draft and final EA. Georgia makes this request based on the size of the project and the fact that the Martin Dam Project controls approximately half the storage in the Alabama-Coosa-Tallapoosa (ACT) River Basin.

Response: A draft and final EA are proposed for the project. The EA will be used as the basis for determining whether an EIS must be prepared.

Comment: Georgia wants the scope of the Martin Dam Project to be expanded to include the entire ACT River Basin. Georgia explains that it is important to consider the impact of Martin Dam operations on projects upstream on the adjoining Coosa River, including operations of upstream federal reservoirs in Georgia and the resulting

impacts of those operations on reservoir levels, flows within Georgia, and available water supply and other resources. Georgia states that an expanded scope is necessary because minimum navigation flows in the Alabama River are based upon combined releases from the Coosa and Tallapoosa Rivers.

Response: We support the need to adequately describe the interaction of flows and project operations between the Coosa and Tallapoosa Rivers; however, we have determined that it is not necessary to expand the geographic scope of the Martin Dam Project to accomplish this task. We are currently preparing a separate EA for the Coosa River Project on the Coosa River which will address the Coosa River Project's impact on flows in the ACT River Basin. Similarly, the EA for Martin Dam Project will address Martin's impact on flows in the ACT River Basin. We also note that the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) will principally be responsible for determining navigation flow requirements in ACT River Basin, and we assume that this issue will be addressed as part of the Corp's revision of the Water Control Manuals for the ACT River Basin.

Comment: Georgia requests that the description of the existing project include a storage-elevation curve which accurately depicts conservation storage within the Martin Dam Project.

Response: We agree that accurate storage-elevation curves are necessary and expect this item would be clarified in the development of operation studies for the project.

PROJECT OPERATIONS

Comment: Georgia states the PAD does not sufficiently discuss the drought operations and project operations under low-flow conditions. Georgia states that a comprehensive drought plan should encompass all of the ACT Basin projects.

Response: The PAD is a summary document. Operation of the Martin Dam Project under drought conditions will be more fully discussed in the EA.

Comment: Georgia wants Alabama Power to include in its National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) evaluation, flow data from the ACT River Basin to include flow data for the year 2007.

Response: We agree that all flow data should be updated through at least 2007 for any flow analysis which may be conducted for the Martin Project. The data requirements will be addressed during the study review process.

Comment: Wedowee wants the proposed guide curve for the Martin Dam Project to include any effects on Lake Wedowee, which is part of the R.L. Harris Dam Project (P-

2628). Wedowee states that if the Martin Dam Project changes its guide curve, it could reduce the holding capacity for Lake Martin and thereby cause Harris dam to hold back more water in Lake Wedowee during flood events.

***Response**: The EA should include an analysis of all resources affected by any change in operation of the Martin Project. This would include the operation of the upstream R.L. Harris Dam Project and any effects on water level management in Lake Wedowee.*

***Comment**: Rivers wants the project scope to include the analysis of two alternative operational modes: (1) run-of-river, and (2) modified run-of-river. Rivers states the modified run-of-river alternative is consistent and supportive of other stakeholder comments, including changes that would result in higher winter pool elevations and extending the season for summer pool levels. Rivers also wants the analysis in the EA to evaluate the effects of these two operational alternatives on downstream flows, erosion and sedimentation in project-affected waters of the Tallapoosa River, impacts on fish and wildlife habitat within the project boundary and within the project-affected reach of the Tallapoosa River, and Alabama Power's ability to meet downstream flow target and flood control requirements.*

***Response**: NEPA requires that an EA address all reasonable alternatives. We do not agree that run-of-river operation is a reasonable alternative in this case because operating run-of-river would eliminate all flood control benefits provided by the project. Regarding an analysis of modified run-of-river operation, Alabama Power provided a draft study plan which includes an analysis of higher winter pool elevations and extending the season for summer pool levels. We will review the details of this study during the study review period.*

WATER RESOURCES

***Comment**: Rivers and WW Fund wants the geographic scope for water resources to be extended to include project-affected stream reaches downstream from the Thurlow dam. Rivers request at minimum the geographic scope should address the project's effect on fishery and water resources for the entire 45-mile length of the Tallapoosa River below Thurlow dam. WW Fund provided data to support their determination that the Martin Dam Project affects flows on the Tallapoosa River as far downstream as Montgomery, Alabama. WW Fund also wants the EA to address the project effects on downstream fish, mollusks, snails, turbidity (caused by erosion), and water quality to the mouth of the Tallapoosa River. Interior states the operational effects of the Martin Dam Project extend downstream beyond the Yates and Thurlow Projects to the Alabama River.*

***Response**: We agree that the analysis should include the project-affected reaches downstream from the Thurlow dam, however inadequate information has been*

provided to make a determination where this point ends. We expect this issue will be addressed as part of a study, with the details addressed during the study review period. The bullets under Water Resources and Aquatic Resources have been modified to reflect this change.

Comment: Interior wants us to look at project effects outside of the project boundary and take a basin-wide approach in evaluating any proposed action that inhibits the natural flow pattern from occurring in the Tallapoosa River.

Response: We will address in the EA, project-caused effects on the environment. We will evaluate cumulative effects for the Tallapoosa River basin. Various flows will be evaluated in the EA.

Comment: Interior states that an acceptable drought contingency plan should be should be evaluated and incorporated into a new license for the project. Interior cites the Alabama Drought Response Operating Proposal as an example of a drought contingency plan that would be helpful in refining any drought contingency plan for the project. Alabama DCNR also wants an adaptive basin-wide drought contingency plan incorporated into any license issued for the project.

Response: We agree that a drought contingency plan has merit and such a plan will be evaluated in the EA, however it is premature to state what terms and conditions would be needed in a new license for the project, including any specifics regarding a drought contingency plan.

Comment: Interior wants Alabama Power and the Commission to recognize that flows released from the Martin Dam Project can affect fish moving upstream and downstream from Martin dam, including riverine species such as blue sucker, paddlefish, American eel, crystal darter, and the Alabama sturgeon.

Response: We modified our scope to include project effects on the movement of diadromous fish in project-affected waters downstream of the project.

AQUATIC RESOURCES

Comment: Rivers wants the EA to extend its cumulative impacts analysis for fish and water resources to include the Coosa River basin and to coordinate the relicensing of the Coosa River Project with the relicensing of the Martin Dam Project.

Response: This comment is similar to one made by Georgia requesting consolidating the Martin Dam and Coosa River Projects. However, we conclude that relicensing both projects should be done independently and the basin for analyzing the Martin Dam Project should remain the Tallapoosa River basin. We can address the impacts of

relicensing both projects in our cumulative impacts analysis in the EA prepared for the Martin Dam Project.

Comment: WW Fund states that the construction of the project, particularly Lake Martin, has created an impassable barrier blocking the interconnected movements of fish and mussels from tributaries entering Lake Martin. WW Fund states that to mitigate the project's impacts to these affected aquatic resources, Alabama Power should conduct genetic studies to differentiate the degree of affect on the aquatic resources to determine the amount of mitigation needed.

Response: No data has been provided by WW Fund to support their allegation. The Commission does not favor the use of genetic studies to determine the amount of mitigation needed on project-affected resources. There is too much variability in using genetics, and many factors other than the creation of a hydropower project can affect the data obtained from such studies. In addition, in determining what mitigation or enhancement measures are needed for relicensing a hydropower, we start with the existing environment and do not go back to pre-project effects. Regardless, this is a study request which will be addressed during the study review period.

Comment: Interior wants the project analysis to include project effects on migratory fish, including diadromous species, in the project-affected waters of the Tallapoosa River downstream from the project and on movements of fish in the Alabama River.

Response: We have modified the scope to include diadromous fish. We have not included at this time any analysis for the Alabama River because we will need to define in the EA how far the effects of the project occur downstream in the Tallapoosa River.

RARE, THREATENED AND ENDANGERED SPECIES

Comment: WW Fund states they have identified several areas in project-affected waters of the Tallapoosa River downstream from Thurlow dam that have been eroded and could contribute to turbidity and to the potential loss of habitat for rare, threatened and endangered (RTE) plants such as the Georgia Rockcress.

Response: Our current scope includes evaluating project effects on geology and soil resources and RTE species in project-affected areas of the Tallapoosa River downstream from the project. We will require Alabama Power to identify the specific downstream boundary of the Tallapoosa River where project-effects occur.

RECREATION AND LAND USE

Comment: Peter Young owns an 18-acre island on Lake Martin. Mr. Young says Alabama Power was going to exchange a 19-acre parcel for the 18-acre island owned

by the Youngs. The exchange has never occurred because of some differences in how the land is classified and its market value associated with the classification. The land owned by Young and the parcel to be exchanged are both classified as "natural undeveloped". Mr. Young states the 19-acres owned by Alabama Power that were part of the original exchange should not be classified as "natural undeveloped" because of the property surrounding it is developed property.

Response: The classification of the land parcels within the project boundary are subject to the licensee's shoreline management plan. During the study phase, land use classifications for shoreline management plan will be developed, and the adequacy of the shoreline management plan would be addressed in the EA.

Comment: James Lanier, member of the Cherokee Ridge Alpine Trail Association, would like Alabama Power to change the status of 700 acres of their corporate land holdings for 700 acres of land within the project boundary. The land Mr. Lanier proposes to exchange would be adjacent to current land used by the Cherokee Ridge Alpine Trail Association and would add 7 miles of hiking trails to the current trail system that is adjacent to Lake Martin.

Response: The issue of project land transfers would be addressed in the EA.

3.0 PROPOSED ACTION AND ALTERNATIVES

In accordance with NEPA, our environmental analysis will consider the following alternatives, at a minimum: (1) the licensee's' proposed action; (2) alternatives to the proposed action; and (3) no-action.

3.1 Alabama Power's Proposed Action

Alabama Power is seeking a new license for the continued operation and maintenance of the Martin Dam Project. The Commission will consider whether, and under what conditions, to issue a new license for the project.

3.1.1 Description of Existing and Proposed Project Facilities

Martin Dam is located at river mile (RM) 420.0 on the Tallapoosa River near the cities of Alexander City and Dadeville, Alabama. Martin Dam impounds about 31 miles of the Tallapoosa River, forming Martin Reservoir (or Lake Martin), a 40,000-acre reservoir with (a) 700 miles of shoreline, (b) a gross storage capacity of 1,622,000 acre-feet, and (c) active storage of 1,381,077 acre-feet at a 45.5-foot drawdown.

The existing Martin Dam Project consists of: (1) a concrete gravity dam and an earth dike section, totaling about 2,000 feet (ft) in length with a maximum height of 168 ft, and includes (a) a 720-foot-long gated spillway section with 20 vertical lift spillway gates, each measuring 30 ft wide by 16 ft high; (b) a 250-foot-long concrete gravity intake structure, (c) a 255-foot-long concrete gravity non-overflow section, and (d) an approximately 1,000-foot-long earth embankment; (2) a reservoir with a surface area of 40,000 acres at the normal full pool elevation of 491 feet mean sea level (msl); (3) headworks containing four steel penstocks and 12 intake gates, each fitted with trash racks; (4) a brick and concrete, steel-frame powerhouse, 307 foot long, 58 foot wide, and 99 foot high; (5) four vertical Francis turbines that power four generating units with a total installed capacity of 182.5 MW; (6) two 450-foot-long transmission lines; and (7) appurtenant facilities. The project generates about 33,000,000 megawatts per hour (MWh) annually.

3.1.2 Existing and Proposed Project Operation

The Martin Dam Project operates as a peaking project using a multipurpose storage reservoir (Lake Martin). The water levels in Lake Martin fluctuate seasonally to provide the many benefits the project was built to support. These purposes include hydroelectric power, limited seasonal flood control when the reservoir is in drawdown condition, recreation, municipal and industrial water supply, water quality enhancement, aquatic flow maintenance, and navigation flow support.

Under its normal peaking operations, the project operates within elevations 481 and 491 msl. Flows from the dam vary from leakage during periods of non-generation to 17,900 cubic feet per second (cfs) during generation. The Martin Dam Project typically generates Monday through Friday for eight hours per day. Releases from Martin Dam flow directly into Alabama Power's Yates and Thurlow Hydroelectric Project (FERC Project No. 2407**).** The Thurlow dam is required to release a minimum of 1,200 cfs. Releases from Martin dam are often necessary to maintain the 1,200-cfs minimum flow requirement.

Alabama Power uses three guide curves for the Martin Dam Project: (1) a flood control guide; (2) an operating guide; and (3) a drought contingency curve. These guide curves are presented in Figure 2. The flood control guide maximizes lake elevations for flood control purposes. The operating guide limits fluctuations in Lake Martin to water levels that stakeholders deemed acceptable during the previous relicensing process for the Martin Dam Project. The area between the flood control guide and operating guide represents the range that Alabama Power operates the project under normal inflow conditions.

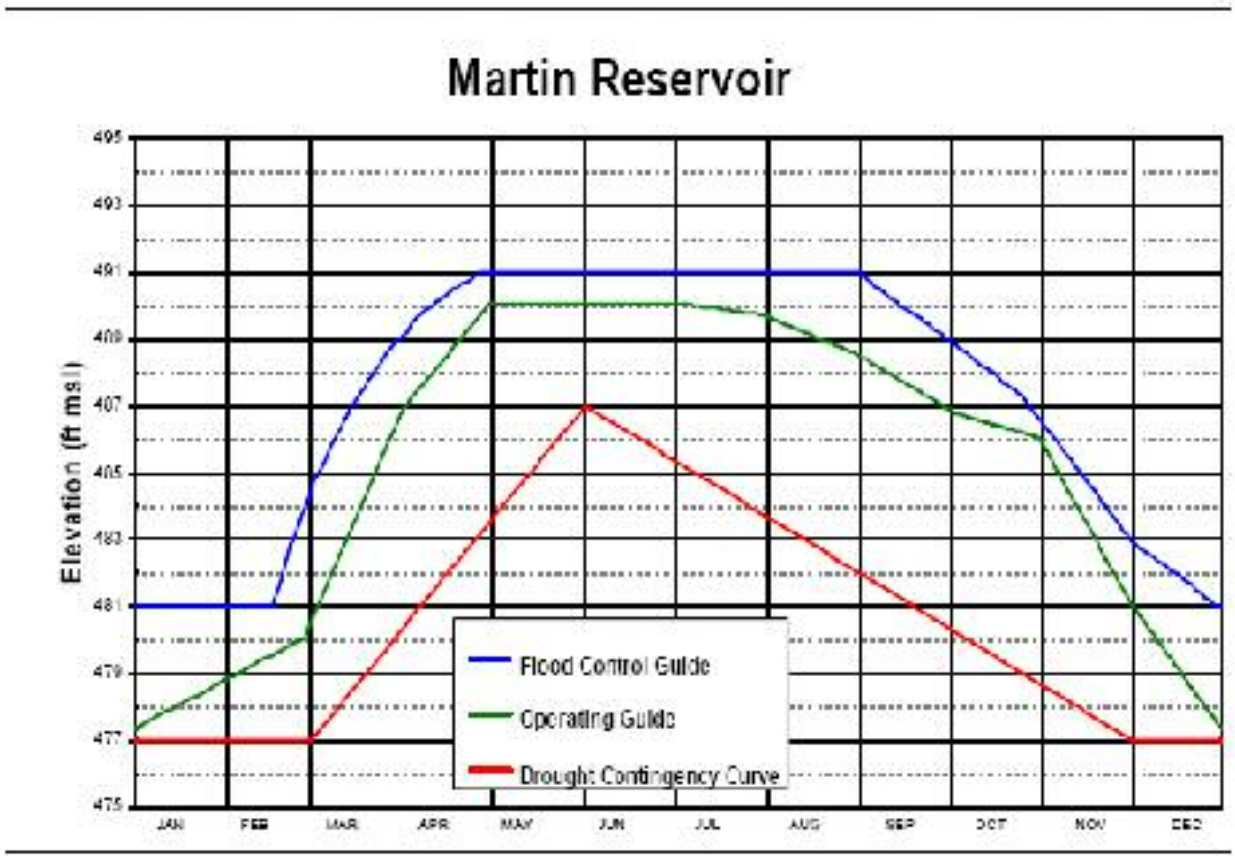

Figure 2. Existing guide curves for the Martin Dam Project No. 349-150. Curved lines in figure represent water elevations in Lake Martin during flooding (top), current operating mode (center), and drought conditions (bottom line) (Source: Alabama Power, 2008, [Figure 4.4-1 in the PAD]).

3.1.3 Proposed Studies

The following are Alabama Power's list of potential studies that it deems necessary to help determine the environmental effects associated with relicensing the Martin Dam Project. Additional studies may be needed based on comments provided by the Commission, federal and state resource agencies, interested participants, and Indian tribes.

Alabama Power has not identified any issues relating to aesthetic resources. Therefore, no studies are proposed for this resource area.

The potential studies identified by Alabama Power are organized by resource area as listed below.

Resource Area	Study Plan
1. Geology and Soils	*Erosion, Sedimentation, and Nuisance Vegetation*—Collect information about current bank erosion along the shoreline of Lake Martin and along the banks of the Tallapoosa River in the tailrace area downstream from Martin Dam. The study would collect information about sedimentation occurring in the area of Irwin Shoals in Lake Martin and at the mouths of selected tributaries entering the lake. In addition, the study would also document the presence or absence of nuisance aquatic vegetation at sedimentation sites that are identified.
2. Water Resources	*Water Quantity, Water Use, and Water Withdrawals*—Conduct a literature-based study identifying all known entities withdrawing water from Lake Martin, from Alabama Power-owned lands within the Project boundary, and from specific tributaries entering Lake Martin. The document produced from the study would also contain a description of Alabama Power's water withdrawal permitting process.
3. Water Resources	*Water Quality in Lake Martin*—Collect water quality information from Lake Martin and from the tailwaters downstream from Martin Dam. In addition, Alabama Power may collect nutrient information from selected embayments associated with tributaries entering Lake Martin. The data collected would be used to specifically address the water quality certification for the project.
4. Water Resources	*Lake Martin Guide Curve Change*—Develop a model to determine the feasibility of revising the current guide curve used by the Project. The model would examine raising the winter pool level of Lake Martin by up to 5 feet and extending the summer pool level in the lake into October and November. Alabama Power would also review the current drought contingency curve as part of the study model and potential flood effects associated with a higher winter pool.
5. Water Resources	*National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permits*—Conduct a literature review to locate and identify all NPDES permits issued to entities discharging into Lake Martin (including specific point source discharges on specific tributaries entering Lake Martin) and include their authorized effluent discharge limits. Once the list is compiled, the information would be added to a Geographic Information System (GIS) overlay being developed for the project.

Resource Area	Study Plan
6. Fish and Aquatic Resources	*Migratory Fish*—Conduct a literature-based review of available data on migratory fish currently using, and that historically used, the Tallapoosa River. The American eel was collected downstream from the Thurlow ***dam*** and is one of the migratory species of concern.
7. Fish and Aquatic Resources	*Shoreline Habitat Assessment*—Evaluate four nearshore habitat types[4] to determine which type of habitat and structural material or methodology provides the best shoreline refuge habitat for aquatic organisms.
8. Fish and Aquatic Resources	*Project Operation and Minimum Flows*—Evaluate the current project peaking operation and any flexibility there may be to change this operation, as measured (1) in the tailrace immediately downstream from the Martin Dam and (2) in the Tallapoosa River downstream from the Thurlow Dam. After the data is compiled on current project operations, field surveys may be conducted to collect biological data and water quality data at the two sites evaluated.
9. Fish and Aquatic Resources	*Fish Entrainment and Turbine Mortality*—Conduct a literature-based study that analyzes data from other fish entrainment and turbine mortality studies to compare and obtain estimates of fish entrainment and mortality caused by the Martin Dam Project. Alabama Power proposes to use hydroacoustics to provide limited field verification of the fish entrainment estimates determined from the study. These verifications would focus on project effects to stocked populations of striped bass and Florida-strain largemouth bass.

[4] The four habitat types are: (1) natural undeveloped; (2) traditional sea walls; (3) sea wall/ rip rap; and (4) large stone or rock faced shorelines.

Resource Area	Study Plan
10. Fish and Aquatic Resources	*Striped Bass Tagging Studies*—Conduct an Expert Panel review of project impacts to the stocked striped bass populations in Lake Martin. Based on those findings, Alabama Power may perform a telemetry study on striped bass in Lake Martin to determine (a) striped bass movements in the lake when it undergoes stratification, particularly during the summer and fall when striped bass seek thermal temperatures refuges in the lake, and (b) any impacts of project operations on those refugia.
11. Wildlife Resources	*Wildlife Management Plan (Wildlife Plan)*— Some land holdings within the project boundary are designated as "Natural and Undeveloped" and have the potential to be managed for enhancing native vegetation and wildlife.[5] A Wildlife Plan would be developed in concert with other proposed studies (e.g., the Shoreline Management Plan [Shoreline Plan], and Rare, Threatened, and Endangered (RTE) species surveys) to better manage the 8,800 acres of land within the project boundary.
12. Threatened and Endangered Species	*RTE Surveys*—Conduct surveys to identify the location and abundance of RTE species within the project boundary (including land and water holdings). Additional tributary sites adjacent to the project boundary may also be included in the surveys if they are affected by project operations. The survey results would identify RTE organisms potentially affected by on-going and proposed project operations and help identify ways of limiting and/or enhancing project effects on those organisms.
13. Recreation and Land Use	*Shoreline Management Plan*—Develop land use classifications and best management practices, as well as review existing land use maps and shoreline permitting regulations for Alabama Power-owned lands within the project boundary. In addition, Alabama Power would review other proposed relicensing studies (e.g., RTE study, Wildlife Plan, water quality, etc.) and integrate those results, as appropriate into the Shoreline Plan. The Shoreline Plan would combine GIS overlays of all lands within the project boundary with their current land use designation.

[5] For example, enhancing long-leaf pine forests on project lands could benefit the red-cockaded woodpecker and bald eagles, etc.

Resource Area	Study Plan
14. Recreation and Land Use	*Recreation Plan*—Develop a Recreation Plan for the project that addresses existing and potential recreational use of the project based on recreation data collected in 2007 at the project.
15. Cultural Resources	*Cultural Resources Study*—Conduct a literature-based analysis of known historic properties, including properties that may be of interest to Indian tribes potentially affected by the project; use aerial imagery of the project lands to determine project lands that may contain cultural resources; and develop a model to identify areas with a high probability of containing cultural resources that may need to be surveyed. In addition, develop a Historic Properties Management Plan for the Project.
16. Socioeconomics	*Proposed Guide Curve Changes on Socioeconomics*— Evaluate and estimate the social and economic effects of the proposed guide curve change. The study would examine potential socioeconomic effects on visitors coming to the Lake Martin Project for recreational activities, lakeshore property values, and reservoir related businesses.

3.2 Staff's Modification of the Proposed Action

We will consider various alternatives, including environmental measures not proposed by Alabama Power. We will consider and assess all alternative recommendations for operational or facility modifications, as well as protection, mitigation, and enhancement measures identified by us (the Commission staff), the agencies, Indian tribes, NGOs, and the general public. To the extent that modifications would reduce power production from the project, we will evaluate the costs of providing an equivalent amount of fossil-fueled power generation, and the contributions of such generation to airborne pollution.

3.3 No Action Alternative

Under no-action, the Martin Dam Project would continue to operate as required by the current project license (i.e., there would be no change to the existing environment). No new environmental protection, mitigation, or enhancement measures would be implemented. We use this alternative to establish baseline environmental conditions for comparison with other alternatives.

3.4 Alternatives Considered but Eliminated from Detailed Study

At present, we propose to eliminate the following alternatives from detailed and comprehensive analyses in the EA.

3.4.1 Federal Government Takeover

In accordance with the Commission's regulations,[6] a federal department or agency may file a recommendation that the United States exercise its right to take over a hydroelectric power project with a license that is subject to sections 14 and 15 of the FPA.[7] We do not, in this case, consider federal takeover to be a reasonable alternative. Federal takeover of the project would require congressional approval. While that fact alone would not preclude further consideration of this alternative, there is currently no evidence showing that federal takeover should be recommended to Congress. This alternative has not been raised as a reasonable or appropriate alternative, nor has any federal agency expressed an interest in operating the project.

3.4.2 Nonpower License

A non-power license is a temporary license which the Commission would terminate whenever it determines that another governmental agency will assume regulatory authority and supervision over the lands and facilities covered by the non-power license. Hence, issuing a non-power license for the project would not provide a long-term solution to the issues presented. To date, no party has sought a non-power license, and we have no basis for concluding that the project should no longer be used to produce power. Thus, we do not consider a non-power license to be a reasonable alternative to some form of new license with enhancement measures.

3.4.3 Project Decommissioning

The project decommissioning alternative would involve: (1) denial of the license application for the Martin Dam Project; and (2) ceasing power generation at the project. At a minimum, project decommissioning would have the following effects: (1) the energy currently generated by the project would be lost (about 33,000,000 MWh annually); and (2) there would be significant costs associated with decommissioning the project powerhouse and appurtenant facilities. Because no agency, tribe or stakeholder has suggested that project decommissioning would be an appropriate alternative for the Martin Dam Project, we have no basis for recommending decommissioning. Therefore,

[6] 18 CFR § 16.14 (2007).

[7] 16 U.S.C. §§ 14 and 15 (2000).

we do not consider project decommissioning a reasonable alternative to relicensing the project with appropriate environmental enhancement measures.

4.0 SCOPE OF CUMULATIVE ANALYSIS AND RESOURCE ISSUES

4.1 Cumulative Effects

According to the Council on Environmental Quality's regulations for implementing NEPA (40 CFR Section 1508.7), a cumulative effect is an impact on the environment resulting from the incremental impacts of the action when added to other past, present and reasonably foreseeable future actions, regardless of what agency or person undertakes such other actions. Cumulative effects can result from individually minor but collectively significant actions taking place over a period of time, including hydropower and other land and water development activities.

4.1.1 Resources That Could Be Cumulatively Affected Effected

We have reviewed the information provided in the PAD developed for the Martin Dam Project. Based on our preliminary analysis of the PAD, we have identified fishery and water resources as resources that could be cumulatively affected by the proposed relicensing of the Martin Dam Project.

4.1.2 Geographic Scope

The geographic scope of the analysis defines the physical limits or boundaries of the proposed action's effect on the resources. Because the proposed action would affect the resources differently, the geographic scope for each resource may vary. For any resources that participants recommend we analyze for cumulative effects, we are also asking them to recommend the geographic scope of what they think is appropriate for each resource identified.

For fishery resources we chose the Tallapoosa River from the upstream end of the project boundary extending downstream to project-affected waters below the Thurlow ***dam***. We chose the above geographic boundary because the presence and operation of the Martin Dam Project, along with the Yates and Thurlow hydroelectric project could affect the movements of fish and fish populations in the Tallapoosa River.

The geographic scope for water resources would be the Tallapoosa River from the project boundary within Lake Martin, downstream to project-affected stream reaches affected by operational flow releases downstream from the Thurlow dam. This boundary was selected because of the direct interaction between the Martin Dam Project and the

Yates and Thurlow Project and because of the indirect association with other water users (e.g., both consumptive and wastewater releases into Lake Martin) in the area.

4.1.3 Temporal Scope

The temporal scope of the our cumulative effects analysis in the EA will include a discussion of past, present, and future actions and their respective effects on each resource that could be cumulatively affected. Based on the potential term of a new license, the temporal scope will look 30-50 years into the future, concentrating on the effect on the resources from reasonably foreseeable future actions. The historical discussion will be limited, by necessity, to the amount of available information for each resource.

4.2 Resource Issues

In this section, we present the preliminary list of environmental issues and concerns to be addressed in the EA. This list is not intended to be exhaustive or final, but is an initial listing of issues we have identified to date associated with relicensing the project. We may modify or add to the list of issues based on comments received during scoping. After scoping is completed, we will review this list and determine the appropriate level of analysis needed to address each issue in the EA. For convenience, the issues have been listed by resource area. Those issues identified by an asterisk (*) will be analyzed for both cumulative and site-specific effects.

4.2.1 Geology and Soils Resources

- Effects of proposed project operation and ***guide*** curve changes on erosion of reservoir and island shorelines, on erosion of riverbanks in project-affected stream reaches downstream from Martin dam, and any increased sedimentation in Lake Martin caused by project operation.

4.2.2 Water Resources

- Effects of the proposed project operation on water quality in Lake Martin, as well as effects on temperature and dissolved oxygen in ***project-affected reaches of*** the Tallapoosa River downstream from Martin Dam and the project's ability to meet state water quality standards.

- Effects of the proposed ***guide*** curve on striped bass thermal refugia in Lake Martin.

- Effects of the proposed ***guide*** curve changes on water withdrawals, wastewater assimilation, water quantity and timing of releases for downstream navigation,

hydropower use (including inflows to, and minimum flow releases from the Yates and Thurlow Project), and downstream flooding potential.*

- Effects of the proposed ***guide*** curve on water quality and nutrients in embayments within Lake Martin which are associated with tributaries.

- Effects of the proposed ***guide*** curve on water usage during drought conditions (e.g., the drought contingency operations).

4.2.3 Aquatic Resources

- Fish passage and effects of project operation on movements of migratory fish in the Tallapoosa River, ***including diadromous fish species***.*

- Effects of current operation and proposed ***guide*** curve changes on the movement of striped bass into thermal refugia in Lake Martin during the summer and fall periods of the year.

- Effects of proposed project operations on nearshore aquatic plants and aquatic habitats in Lake Martin.

- Effects of project operation or operational changes on fish ***and aquatic*** resources ***within the project boundary and*** in project-affected waters downstream from Martin dam.*

4.2.4 Terrestrial Resources

- Effects of potential changes to pool elevations ***in Lake Martin*** on bottomland hardwoods, wetlands, riparian vegetation and associated wildlife within the project boundary

- Effects of potential changes in pool elevations ***in Lake Martin*** on terrestrial resource management plans, and in controlling invasive aquatic organisms and plants.

4.2.5 Rare, Threatened and Endangered (RTE) Species

- The effects of project operation and maintenance activities on state and federally-listed RTE species that may occur within the project boundary (e.g., management of long-leaf pine habitats for the red cockaded woodpecker and occurrence of potential habitats for the plants Little Amphianthus and Georgia Rockcress) ***and within project-affected waters.***

- The effects of potential increases in recreational activities within the project boundary on all potentially occurring RTE species, including those affected by any changes in project operation.

4.2.6 Recreation and Land Use

- Effects of the proposed Shoreline Management Plan and the continuation of the shoreline permitting program on land use practices within the project boundary.

- ***Effects of proposed project operation and potential changes to pool elevations on recreational resources, including boating and fishing.***

- ***The ability of the existing and proposed recreational facilities and public access sites to meet current and future recreational demand under the proposed project operations and potential changes to pool elevations.***

4.2.7 Cultural Resources

- Effects of the proposed action and alternatives on properties that are included in or eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places.

4.2.8 Developmental Resources

- Effects of any proposed or recommended environmental measures on the Martin Dam Project economics, including effects of any operational changes on the project's power and capacity benefits.

4.2.9 Proposed Protection, Mitigation, and Enhancement Measures

After Alabama Power completes its studies and reviews the findings and considers the recommendations made by stakeholders, Alabama Power will consider and may propose specific measures to protect, mitigate and enhance environmental resources affected by the project.

5.0 EA PREPARATION SCHEDULE

At this time we anticipate the need to prepare a draft and final EA (we show our outline for the EA in section 7.0 below). The draft EA will be sent to all persons and entities on the Commission's service and mailing lists for the Martin Dam Project. The draft EA will include our recommendations for operating procedures and environmental

protection, mitigation and enhancement measures that should be part of any license issued by the Commission. Recipients will have 30 days to provide the Commission with written comments on the draft EA. All comments filed with the Commission on the draft EA will be considered, and as appropriate, incorporated into the analysis for the final EA. The final EA will be considered in any Commission order rendering a decision on whether to relicense the project.

Appendix A contains the Process Plan and schedule for pre-application activity. Our preliminary schedule for processing the license application is as follows:

ACTION	**TARGET DATE**
License Application Filed	June 2011
Issue Ready for Environmental Analysis Notice	August 2011
Deadline for Filing Preliminary Agency Recommendations	October 2011
Draft EA Issued	April 2012
Deadline for Filing Comments on the EA	May 2012
Deadline for Filling Modified Agency Recommendations	July 2012
Final EA Issued	October 2012

6.0 EA OUTLINE

The preliminary outline for the Martin Dam Project EA is as follows:

TABLE OF CONTENTS
LIST OF APPENDICES
LIST OF FIGURES
LIST OF TABLES
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY
I. INTRODUCTION
- 1.1 Application
- 1.2 Purpose of Action and Need for Power
- 1.3 Statutory and Regulatory Requirements
  - 1.3.1 Federal Power Act
    - 1.3.1.1 Section 18 Fishway Prescriptions
    - 1.3.1.2 Section 4(e) Conditions
    - 1.3.1.3 Section 10(j) Conditions
  - 1.3.2 Clean Water Act
  - 1.3.3 Endangered Species Act
  - 1.3.4 Coastal Zone Management Act
  - 1.3.5 National Historic Preservation Act
- 1.4 Public Review and Comment

7.0 LIST OF COMPREHENSIVE PLANS

Section 10(a)(2) of the FPA requires us to consider whether or not, and under what conditions, relicensing the project would be consistent with relevant comprehensive plans on the Commission's Comprehensive Plan List. Those plans currently listed on the Commission's Comprehensive Plan List which we consider to be relevant to this project are listed below. We ask agencies to review this list and to inform us of any changes (additions/subtractions) that are needed. If there are plans that should be added to the list, agencies should file the plans according to 18 CFR 2.19.

Alabama

Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources. 1986. Alabama statewide comprehensive outdoor recreation plan (SCORP). Montgomery, Alabama. December 1986.

Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources. 1990. Wildlife lands needed for Alabama. Montgomery, Alabama. October 1990.

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. 2000. Recovery plan for the Mobile River Basin aquatic ecosystem. Department of the Interior. Daphne, Alabama. November 17, 2000.

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Undated. Aquatic resources management plan for the Alabama River Basin. Department of the Interior. Daphne, Alabama.

United States

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Undated. Fisheries USA: the recreational fisheries policy of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Washington, D.C.

Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission. 2006. The striped bass fishery of the Gulf of Mexico, United States: a regional management plan. Ocean Springs, Mississippi.

March 2006.

National Marine Fisheries Service. 1999. Fishery Management Report No. 35 of the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission: shad and river herring [includes alewife (*Alosa pseudoharengus*), blueback herring (*Alosa aestivalis*), Alabama shad (*Alosa alabamae*), American shad (*Alosa sapidissima*), and hickory shad (*Alosa mediocris*)] – Amendment 1 to the interstate fishery management plan for shad and river herring. April 1999.

National Marine Fisheries Service. 2000. Technical addendum 1 to Amendment 1 of the Interstate Fishery Management Plan for shad and river herring. February 9, 2000.

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission. 1995. Gulf sturgeon recovery/management plan. Atlanta, Georgia, September 15, 1995.

National Marine Fisheries Service. 1995. Gulf sturgeon (*Acipenser oxyrhynchus desotoi)* recovery/management plan. Prepared by the gulf sturgeon recovery/management task team. September 1995.

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. 1990. North American waterfowl management plan. Gulf coast joint venture plan. Department of the Interior. June 1990.

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Canadian Wildlife Service. 1986. North American waterfowl management plan. Department of the Interior. Environment Canada. May 1986.

National Park Service. 1982. The nationwide rivers inventory. Department of the Interior. Washington, D.C. January 1982.

National Marine Fisheries Service. 2000. Fishery Management Report No. 36 of the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission: Interstate Fishery Management Plan for American eel (*Anguilla rostrata*). Prepared by the American eel plan development team. April 2000.

8.0 MAILING LIST

The list below is the Commission's official mailing list for the Martin Dam Project. If you want to receive future mailings for the Martin Dam Project and are not included in the list below, please send your request by email to efiling@ferc.gov or by mail to: Kimberly D. Bose, Secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Stree, N.E., Room 1A, Washington, DC 20426. All written and emailed requests to be added to the mailing list must clearly identify the following on the first page: Martin Dam Project

No. 349-150. You may use the same method if requesting removal from the mailing list shown below.

Advisory Council on Historic Preservation Office of Project Review The Old Post office Building 1100 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W. Suite 809 Washington, DC 20004-2501	Division of Game and Fish Alabama Dept. of Conservation & Natural Resources 64 North Union Street Montgomery, AL 36130-0001
Outdoor Recreation Section Alabama Dept. of Conservation & Natural Resources 64 North Union Street Montgomery, AL 36130-0001	Division of Lands Alabama Dept. of Conservation & Natural Resources 64 N Union Street Montgomery, AL 36130-3020
Division of Parks Alabama Department of Conservation & Natural Resources 64 North Union Street Montgomery, AL 36130-3020	Division of Marine Resources Alabama Department of Conservation & Natural Resources 64 North Union Street Montgomery, AL 36130-3020
Rob Grant, Recreation Programs Coordinator Alabama Department of Economic & Community Affairs P.O. Box 5690 Montgomery, AL 36104-5690	Director Alabama Dept. of Environmental Management Water Division/Industrial Branch P.O. Box 301463 Montgomery, Alabama 36130-1463
Director Alabama Dept. of Environmental Management P.O. Box 301463 Montgomery, Alabama 36130-1461	Alabama Forestry Commission 513 Madison Avenue Montgomery, AL 36130-0001
Alabama Historical Commission State Historic Preservation Office 468 South Perry Street Montgomery, AL 36130-0001	Alabama Office of the Attorney General State House 11 South Union Street Montgomery, AL 36130-2103
Alabama Power Company John R. Dorsett, Vice President 600 North 18th Street	Alabama Power Company Gene Allison, Manager Hydro Services 600 North 18th Street

P.O. Box 2641 Birmingham, AL 35291	P.O. Box 2641 Birmingham, AL 35291
Alabama Public Commission P.O. Box 304260 100 N. Union Street RSA Union, Suite 850 Montgomery, AL 36130	Alabama Rivers Alliance Brad McLane 2027 2nd Avenue, N., Suite A Birmingham , AL 35203-3703
Alabama Soil & Water Conservation Commission RSA Union Building, Suite 334 100 North Union Street Montgomery, AL 36104-3702	Anchor Bay Marina, Inc. Thomas Hollis, Vice President 2001 Castaway Island Road Eclectic, AL 36024-4007
Anchor Bay Marina, Inc. Donald F Seibert, President 2001 Castaway Island Road Eclectic, AL 36024-4007 Elmore	J. Theodore Jackson Central Elmore Water Authority 184 Commerce Street Montgomery, AL 36104
Bobby Payne City of Tallahassee 3 Freeman Avenue Tallahassee, FL 36078-2035	Environmental Protection Agency Region IV 61 Forsyth Street, S.W. Atlanta, GA 30303-8931
Environmental Protection Agency Diana M. Woods 61 Forsyth Street, Fl. 13 Atlanta, GA 30303-8931	Federal Energy Regulatory Commission Regional Engineer Atlanta Regional Office 3125 Presidential Parkway, Suite300 Atlanta, GA 30340-3700
G. L. Finlay 104 Wind Trace Alexander City, AL 35010-8772	Southern Region Forester 1720 Peachtree Street, N.W. Atlanta, GA 30309-2449
M. Lewis Gwaltney, Jr. 4723 Bridgewater Road Birmingham, AL 35243-2613	Jim Bain Lake Martin Resource Association 2544 Willow Point Road Alexander City, AL 35010-6218
Richard M. Bronson Lake Watch of Lake Martin, Inc. P.O. Box 72	Jim Bain Russell Lands, Inc. 2544 Willow Point Road

Alexander City, AL 35011	Alexander City, AL 35010-6218
David H. Rackley Habitat Conservation Division National Marine Fisheries Service 331 Fort Johnson Road Charleston, SC 29412	Howard Mindel, Electrical Engineer U.S. Army Corps of Engineers 60 Forsyth Street, S.W., Room 10M-15 Atlanta, GA 30303-8801
Charles Yanny U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Army Engineer District, Mobile P.O. Box 2288 Mobile, AL 36628-0001	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers 550 Main Street Cincinnati, OH 45202
U.S. Bureau of Indian Affairs Solicitor's Office 1849 C Street, N.W. Room 2353 Washington, DC 20240-0001	U.S. Bureau of Indian Affairs Natural Resources Bob Dach, Hydropower Program Manager 911 N.E. 11th Avenue Portland, OR 97232
U.S. Bureau of Indian Affairs FERC Coordinator Portland Area Office 911 N.E. 11th Avenue Portland, OR 97232-4169	U.S. Bureau of Indian Affairs James Kardatzke 545 Marriott Drive, Suite 700 Nashville, TN 37214
U.S. Bureau of Land Management Jackson District Office 411 Briarwood Drive, Suite 404 Jackson, AL 39206-3058	U.S. Coast Guard Commanding Officer 1500 South Broad Street #102 Mobile, AL 36605-1804
Larry E. Goldman, Field Supervisor U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service 1208-B Main Street Daphne, AL 36526-4419	U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service Regional Hydropower Coordinator Susan T. Cielinski 1875 Century Boulevard, Suite 200 Atlanta, GA 30345

J. T. Begley Office of the Solicitor U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service U.S. Department of the Interior 530 South Gay Street Knoxville, TN 37902-1505	William Pearson, Field Supervisor U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service U.S. Department of the Interior 1208-B Main Street Daphne, AL 36526
Cynthia Bohn Ecological Services U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service 1875 Century Boulevard, N.E., Suite 200 Atlanta, GA 30345-3319	Honorable Jeff Sessions U.S. Senate 335 Russell Senate Office Building Washington, DC 20510
Honorable Richard Shelby U.S. Senate 110 Hart Senate Office Building Washington, DC 20510	U.S. National Park Service Department of Interior 100 Alabama Street S.W. Atlanta, GA 30303-8701
Charles F. White 5029 Greystone Way Birmingham, AL 35242-6428	

APPENDIX A—PROCESS PLAN AND SCHEDULE

Below is the schedule for the Martin Dam Project pre-application activity.

Activity	**Responsibility**	**Timeframe and Regulations**	**Dates**
File NOI and Pre-Application Document (PAD)	Alabama Power Company	18 CFR § 5.5, 5.6	***June 5, 2008***
Initial Tribal Consultation Meeting	FERC	18 CFR § 5.7	***July 7, 2008***
Commission notices NOI/PAD and issues Scoping Document 1	FERC	Within 60 days of filing NOI & PAD 18 CFR § 5.8	***August 5, 2008***

Activity	Responsibility	Timeframe and Regulations	Dates
Commission holds Scoping Meetings/Site Visit	FERC	Within 30 days of NOI & PAD notice & issuance of SD1 18 CFR § 5.8(b)(viii)	***September 10, 2008***
Comments on NOI, PAD, SD1, and Study Requests	All Stakeholders	Within 60 days of NOI & PAD notice & issuance of SD1 18 CFR § 5.9	***October 3, 2008***
Proposed Study Plan	Alabama Power Company	Within 45 days of deadline for filing comments on SD1 18 CFR § 5.11(a)	***November 17, 2008***
Study Plan Meeting(s)	All Stakeholders	Within 30 days of deadline for filing proposed Study Plan 18 CFR § 5.11(e)	***January 6, 2009 (week of)***
Comments on Proposed Study Plan	All Stakeholders	Within 90 days after Proposed Study Plan is filed 18 CFR § 5.12	***February 16, 2009***
Revised Study Plan (if necessary)	Alabama Power Company	Within 30 days of deadline for comments on Proposed Study Plan 18 CFR § 5.13(a)	***March 18, 2009***
Comments on Revised Study Plan	All Stakeholders	Within 15 days following Revised Study Plan 18 CFR § 5.13(b)	***April 2, 2009***
Director's Study Plan Determination	FERC	Within 30 days following Revised Study Plan 18 CFR § 5.13(c)	***May 3, 2009***
Formal Study Dispute Resolution Process (if necessary)	Stakeholders, FERC, Alabama Power Company	Initiated within 20 days of Study Plan Determination 18 CFR § 5.14	***May 25, 2009 to August 17, 2009***

Activity	Responsibility	Timeframe and Regulations	Dates
First Study Season	Alabama Power Company	18 CFR § 5.15(a)	***2009 study seasons***
Initial Study Report	Alabama Power Company	365 days from Study Determination 18 CFR § 5.15(c)(1)	***November 17, 2009 (week of)***
Initial Study Report Meeting	All Stakeholders	Within 15 days from Initial Report 18 CFR § 5.15(c)(2)	***December 2, 2009 (week of)***
Initial Study Report Meeting Summary	Alabama Power Company	Within 15 days of Study Results Meeting 18 CFR § 5.15(c)(3)	***December 17, 2009 (week of)***
Second Study Season	Alabama Power Company	18 CFR § 5.15(a)	***2010 study seasons***
Updated Study Report	Alabama Power Company	Two years from Initial Study Plan Determination 18 CFR § 5.15(f)	***November 17, 2010 (week of)***
Updated Study Report Meeting	All Stakeholders	Within 15 days of Updated Study Report 18 CFR § 5.15(f)	***December 2, 2010 (week of)***
Updated Study Report Meeting Summary	Alabama Power Company	Within 15 days of Study Results Meeting 18 CFR § 5.15(f)	***Dec 17, 2010 (week of)***
Study Disputes/Request to Modify Study Plan	All Stakeholders	Within 30 days of Study Report Meeting Summary 18 CFR § 5.15(f)	***January 3, 2011 (week of)***
Responses to Disputes/Study Requests	All Stakeholders	Within 30 days of filing of Meeting Summary Disagreements 18 CFR § 5.15(f)	***January 31, 2011 (week of)***

Activity	Responsibility	Timeframe and Regulations	Dates
Director's Study Plan Determination	FERC	Within 30 days of filing Responses to Disputes/Study Requests 18 CFR § 5.15(f)	***February 28, 2011 (week of)***
File PLP	Alabama Power Company	No later than 150 days before final application is filed 18 CFR § 5.16(a)	***January 9, 2010 (week of)***
Comments on Applicant's Preliminary Licensing Proposal, Additional Information Requests (if necessary)	All Stakeholders	Within 90 days of filing PLP or draft license application 18 CFR § 5.16(e)	***March 10, 2011 (week of)***
License Application Filed	Alabama Power Company	18 CFR § 5.17	***June 7, 2011***

Document Content(s)