



North Carolina Department of Environment and Natural Resources

Beverly Eaves Perdue
Governor

Dee Freeman
Secretary

MEMORANDUM

TO: NORTH CAROLINA GOVERNOR
The Honorable Beverly Eaves Perdue

NORTH CAROLINA GENERAL ASSEMBLY
The Honorable Thom Tillis, Speaker of the House of Representatives
The Honorable Phil Berger, President Pro Tempore of the Senate

ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW COMMISSION
The Honorable David Rouzer, Chair
The Honorable Mitch Gillespie, Co-Chair
The Honorable Ruth Samuelson, Co-Chair

SOUTH CAROLINA GOVERNOR
The Honorable Nikki Haley

SOUTH CAROLINA GENERAL ASSEMBLY

VIRGINIA GOVERNOR
The Honorable Bob McDonnell

VIRGINIA GENERAL ASSEMBLY

FROM: Kari Barsness *KKB*
Director of Legislative and Intergovernmental Affairs

SUBJECT: River Basin Advisory Commission 2012 Annual Report

DATE: October 1, 2012

Pursuant to General Statute 77-117 and General Statute 77-98 the Division of Water Resources shall submit to the Environmental Review Commission, the Governors of North Carolina, South Carolina and Virginia, the South Carolina General Assembly, the Virginia General Assembly, and the North Carolina General Assembly a report on the Catawba, Yadkin, and Roanoke River Basin Advisory Commissions by October 1st of each year. Please consider the Division of Water Resources 2012 River Basin Advisory Commission Report attached as the formal submission of this report.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact me by phone at (919) 707-8618 or via e-mail at Kari.Barsness@ncdenr.gov.

cc: Robin Smith, Assistant Secretary of Environment
Tom Reeder, Director, Division of Water Resources
Kristin Walker, Fiscal Research Division
Lanier McRee, Fiscal Research Division
Mariah Matheson, Research Division

North Carolina Department of Environment and Natural Resources

Division of Water Resources

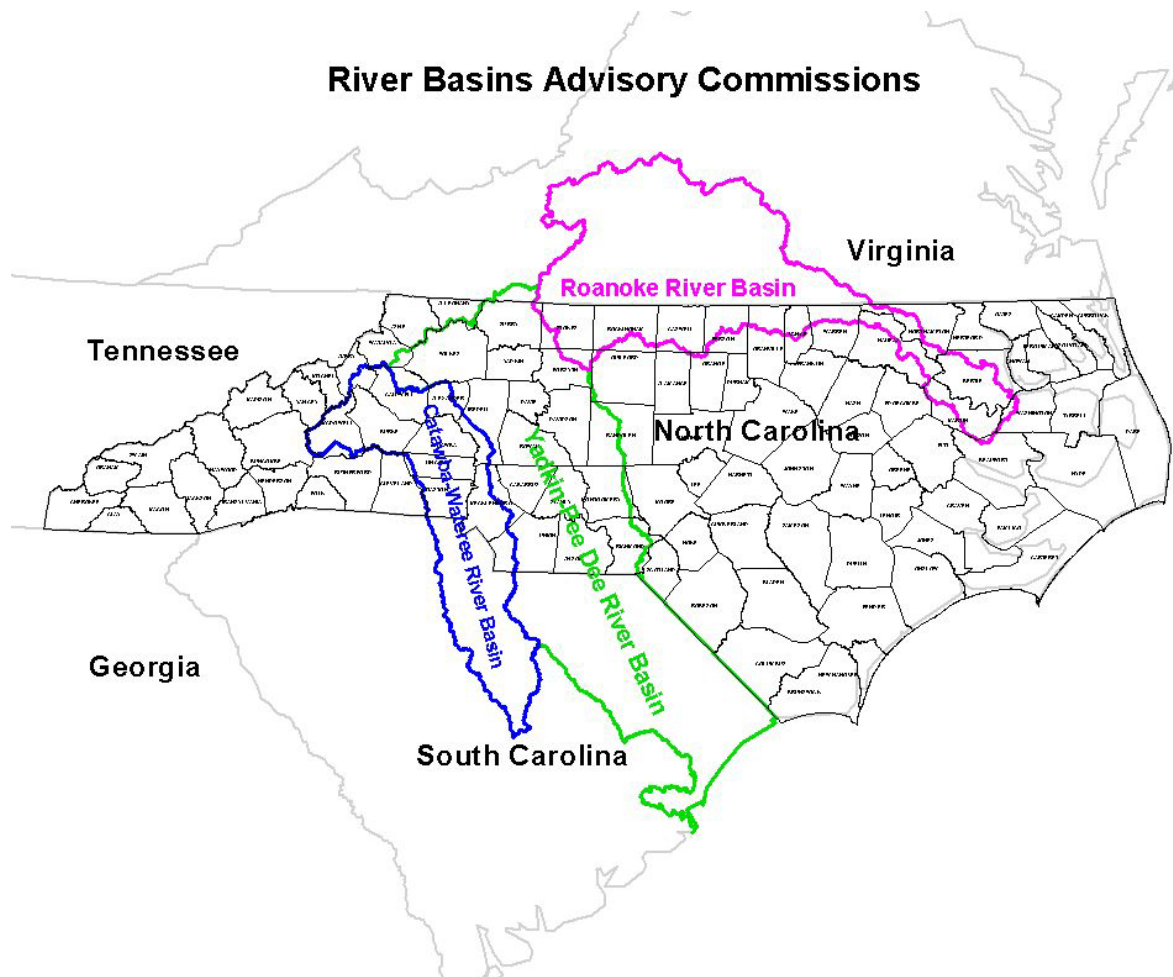
**STATUS REPORT TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
ON
WATER SUPPLY PLANNING
AUG. 1, 2011, THROUGH JULY 31, 2012**

Executive Summary

The N.C. General Assembly established three river basin advisory commissions by statute: the Catawba/Wateree River Basin Advisory Commission, the Roanoke River Basin Advisory Commission and the Yadkin/Pee Dee River Basin Advisory Commission.

The Roanoke River Basin Commission was created in 2002, with the passage of Session Law 2002-117. The Catawba/Wateree River Basin Commission and Yadkin/Pee Dee River Basin Commission were created two years later in 2004, with the passage of Session Law 2004-83.

The following figure highlights the three river basins.



The commissions were established for two primary reasons:

1. To provide a forum for discussion of issues related to water and other natural resources in the basin and;
2. To provide guidance and recommendations regarding the use, stewardship and enhancement of the natural resources in the basin for the purposes of integrated river basin management.

The N.C. Division of Water Resources maintains a website of relevant information about the three commissions. To see this information, go to <http://www.ncwater.org/basins/rbac/>.

The Catawba/Wateree River Basin Advisory Commission met four times in the period from Oct. 1, 2011, to Sept. 30, 2012. Major topics discussed at these meetings included: the Catawba River Water Treatment Plant's proposed reservoir, water conservation/water efficiency measures and the Catawba-Wateree Water Supply Master Plan and hydrologic model update.

The Roanoke River Basin Bi-State Commission met two times in the period from Oct. 1, 2011, through July 31, 2012. One additional meeting is planned for Aug. 27, 2012. The major focus has been the proposed uranium mining that would occur within the Roanoke River Basin in Virginia.

The Yadkin/Pee Dee River Basin Advisory Commission did not meet in the period from Oct. 1, 2011, to Sept. 30, 2012.

Catawba/Wateree River Basin Advisory Commission

This commission is comprised of 15 members and includes eight legislative representatives from the North Carolina and South Carolina General Assemblies. The remaining seven members include a representative of Duke Energy Carolinas, a representative from a South Carolina water or sewer utility, a member from the bi-state Catawba River task force, a representative from the North Carolina marine commissions in the basin, a member of a South Carolina lake homeowners' association on the river, a member from the Carolina's Partnership Inc. and a member of a North Carolina nonprofit land conservation trust.

Since Oct. 1, 2011, the Catawba/Wateree Commission met four times:

- Oct. 7, 2011, in Rock Hill, S.C. - The topics of concern at the Oct. meeting were a proposed off-line reservoir in Lancaster County, S.C., at the Catawba River Water Treatment Plant and an update on the Catawba-Wateree Water Supply Master Plan.
- Dec. 12, 2011, in Huntersville, N.C. – The topics of concern at the December meeting were the federal 404 permitting process; both the North Carolina and South Carolina 401 permitting process; and water conservation programs and water efficiency measures.
- March 3, 2012, in Rock Hill, S.C. – The topics at the March meeting were Catawba River water use by power plants; and both the North Carolina and South Carolina water efficiency programs.
- July 27, 2012, in Huntersville, N.C. – The topics at the July meeting were southeastern regional water efficiency measures and the update of the Catawba-Wateree River Basin Hydrologic Model.

The N.C. Division of Water Resources provides staffing and assistance to the commission. Minor meeting expenses and members' per diem expenses were incurred for fiscal year 2011-12. The division established a website for the commission where meeting agendas, meeting summaries, speaker presentations and other relevant information are available to interested parties. To see this information, go to <http://www.ncwater.org/basins/rbac/index.php?tabid=1>.

Roanoke River Basin Bi-State Commission

The Roanoke River Bi-State Commission is comprised of 18 members and includes 12 legislative representatives from North Carolina and Virginia, as well as three non-legislative members from each state.

Since Oct. 1, 2011, the commission met two times and has one additional planned meeting:

- March 3, 2012, in Danville, Va. – At the March meeting, the commission heard presentations on the proposed uranium mining and milling that would occur within the Roanoke River Basin in Virginia.
- July 25, 2012, in Henderson, N.C. – At the July meeting the commission heard additional presentations on the proposed uranium mining and milling that would occur within the Roanoke River Basin in Virginia.
- Proposed Aug. 27, 2012, in Virginia – At this meeting, the commission will develop a resolution opposing the proposed uranium mining and milling.

The N.C. Division of Water Resources provides staffing and assistance to the commission and the committee. Minor meeting expenses and members' per diem expenses were incurred for fiscal year 2011-12.

Yadkin/Pee Dee River Basin Advisory Commission

The Yadkin/Pee Dee Commission was established to be comprised of 15 members and includes eight legislative representatives from North Carolina and South Carolina. The remaining seven members include a representative from Progress Energy, Alcoa Power Generating Inc., Weyerhaeuser Inc., a North Carolina and South Carolina water or sewer utility, a South Carolina agricultural entity, and a land development industry that does business within the basin.

Since its establishment, the Yadkin/Pee Dee River Basin Advisory Commission has never met, and neither state has appointed members to the commission. If this commission meets in the future, the N.C. Division of Water Resources would provide staffing and assistance. No expenses were incurred for fiscal year 2011-12.