



US Army Corps
of Engineers
Mobile District

News Release

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Corps seeks comments at public scoping meeting on the Environmental Impact Statement for Proposed Interim Water Storage Contracts at Lake Sidney Lanier, Buford Dam, Georgia

Mobile, Ala. – The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Mobile District, will host five public scoping meetings to seek input on issues and concerns related to the proposed interim water storage contracts at Lake Sidney Lanier, Buford Dam, Ga. These comments will help define the range of alternatives to be considered and to help focus the Environmental Impact Statement on significant areas of concern. The EIS will address the proposed interim water storage contracts as contained in the *Southeastern Federal Power Customers (SeFPC), Inc. v. Secretary of the Army, et al.* settlement agreement.

Each meeting will be conducted as an open house, will have the same format and will present the same information to the public. Information stations will be set up and corps personnel will be available at each station to answer questions. The stations will include topics such as the settlement agreement for the Lake Lanier interim water storage contracts, National Environmental Policy Act, water management for multipurpose projects, hydropower, water supply, modeling tools, environmental resources and socioeconomic effects. Areas also will be set up to record oral comments and written comments.

The EIS will be used as supporting documentation for decisions concerning the proposed interim storage contracts and any required operation changes at Lake Sidney Lanier, Buford Dam or the downstream reservoirs. Under the settlement agreement, the corps would allocate storage space in Lake Sidney Lanier to three specific water supply providers named in the settlement agreement. They will pay for storage. These payments will be used to offset reduced hydropower generation revenues and will be reflected in reduced rates paid by the SeFPC members.

The interim water storage contracts will be issued for a 10-year period with potential 10-year extension and possible conversion to permanent reallocation contracts subject to congressional approval. Interim water storage contracts will apply to the following water supply users:

- more -

2-2-2-2 Corps scoping meetings for interim water supply storage in Lake Lanier

- Gwinnett County will contract for 175,000 acre-feet of storage in Lake Lanier
- City of Gainesville will contract for 20,675 acre-feet of storage in Lake Lanier
- Atlanta Regional Commission will contract for 45,183 acre-feet of storage in Lake Lanier

The corps will hold five public scoping meetings throughout the watershed during the next two weeks.

Date	Time	Location and information number
Nov. 28	5-8 p.m.	Georgia Mountains Center 301 Main Street SW Gainesville, GA 30503 (770) 534-8420
Nov. 29	5-8 p.m.	Renaissance Waverly Hotel 2450 Galleria Parkway Atlanta, GA 30339 (888) 391-8724
Nov. 30	5-8 p.m.	Troup County Parks & Recreation Center 1220 Lafayette Parkway LaGrange, GA 30240 (706) 883-1670
Dec. 5	5-8 p.m.	Dothan Conference Center 3113 Oxmoor Industrial Boulevard Dothan, AL 36303 (800) 453-5302
Dec. 6	5-8 p.m.	Tallahassee Community College The Center for Economic and Workforce Development 444 Appleyard Drive Tallahassee, FL 32304 (850) 201-6200

Individuals can provide oral or written comments at the meeting. A court reporter will be available to record oral comments.

Individuals who cannot attend the open house sessions are invited to submit comments by Dec. 29 using one of four methods.

- Submit comments online at www.LanierEIS-InterimStorageContracts.org

- more -

3-3-3-3 Corps scoping meetings for interim water supply storage in Lake Lanier

- E-mail comments to LanierEIS-InterimStorageContracts@sam.usace.army.mil.
- Mail comments to: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Mobile District
ATTN: CESAM-PD-EI
Attention: Lake Lanier Interim Storage Contracts EIS
P.O. Box 2288
Mobile, AL 36602-0001
- Fax comments to (251) 694-3815, Attention: NEPA Compliance Manager, Lake Lanier Interim Storage Contracts EIS .

Special needs assistance at the public scoping meetings can be requested by calling (251) 690-3260.

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