



North Carolina Department of Environment and Natural Resources

Pat McCrory  
Governor

John E. Skvarla, III  
Secretary

October 29, 2014

**MEMORANDUM**

TO: NORTH CAROLINA GOVERNOR PAT MCCRORY

JOINT LEGISLATIVE COMMISSION ON GOVERNMENTAL OPERATIONS  
The Honorable Thom Tillis, Co-Chair  
The Honorable Phil Berger, Co-Chair

THE ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW COMMISSION  
The Honorable Brent Jackson, Chair  
The Honorable Ruth Samuelson, Co-Chair  
The Honorable Mike Hager, Co-Chair

SOUTH CAROLINA GOVERNOR NIKKI HALEY

SOUTH CAROLINA GENERAL ASSEMBLY

VIRGINIA GOVERNOR TERRY MCAULIFFE

VIRGINIA GENERAL ASSEMBLY

FROM: Neal Robbins, Director of Legislative Affairs

SUBJECT: 2014 Roanoke, Catawba & Yadkin River Basin Report

DATE: October 29, 2014

Pursuant to N.C.G.S. §77-96, 77-98 and 77-117, the Catawba/Wateree River Basin Advisory Commission, the Roanoke River Basin Advisory Commission and the Yadkin/Pee Dee River Basin Advisory Commission shall report on accounts, records and recommendations. Please consider the 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 [neal.robbs@ncdenr.gov](mailto:neal.robbs@ncdenr.gov).

cc: Mitch Gillespie, Assistant Secretary for Environment, NC DENR  
Thomas A Reeder, Director, DWR, NC DENR

**North Carolina Department of  
Environment and Natural Resources**

**Division of Water Resources**

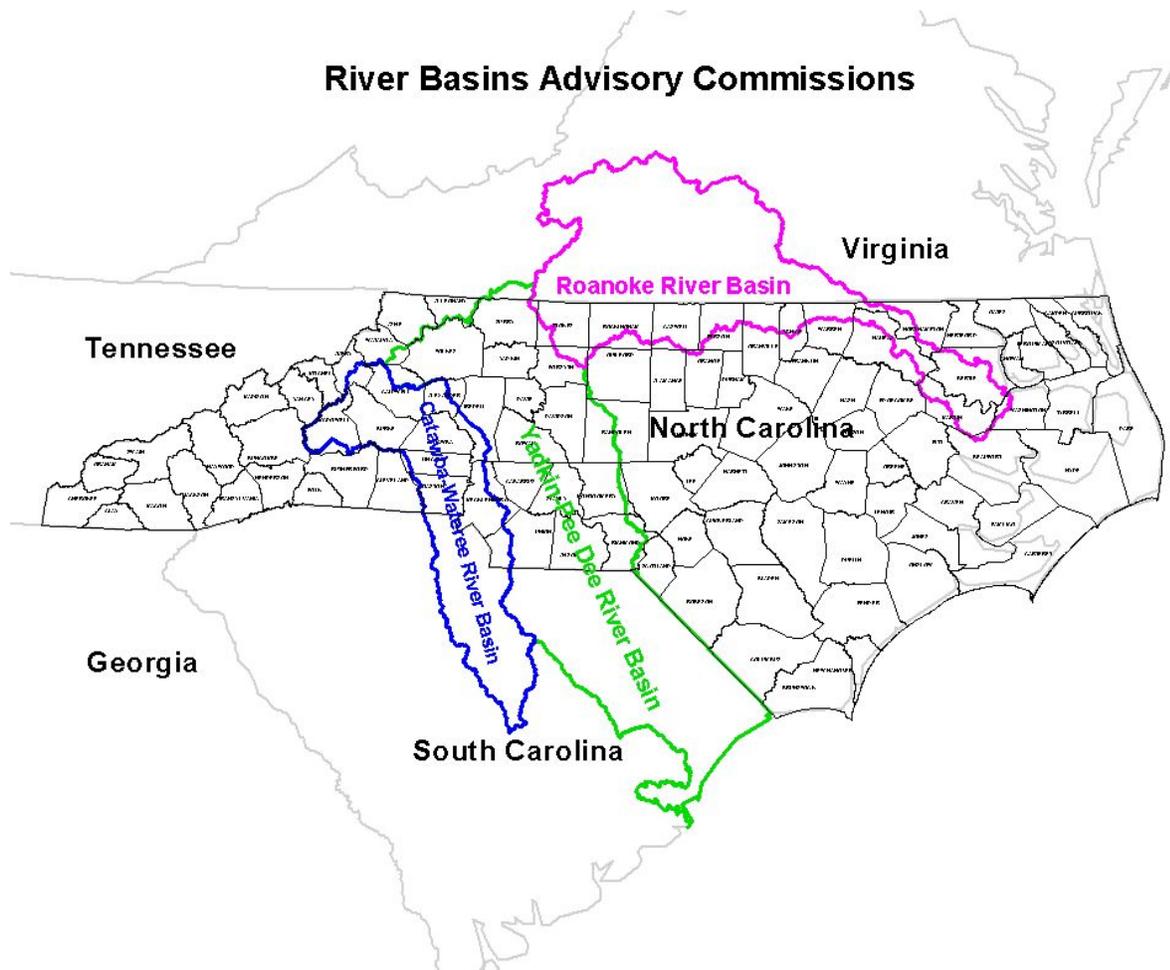
**STATUS REPORT TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
ON  
RIVER BASIN ADVISORY COMMISSIONS  
AUG. 1, 2013 THROUGH JULY 31, 2014**

## 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://portal.ncdenr.org/web/wq/river-basin-advisory-commissions>.

The Catawba/Wateree River Basin Advisory Commission met three times in the period from August 1, 2013 to July 31, 2014. Meeting topics included interbasin transfers, nutrient modeling, South Carolina's water availability study, South Carolina's fish tissue program, and the Catawba-Wateree Water Management Master Plan. The next meeting has not been scheduled.

The Roanoke River Basin Bi-State Commission met once during the period from August 1, 2013 to July 31, 2014. The next meeting has not been scheduled, but is anticipated to occur in mid to late-November 2014. The North Carolina delegation of the Roanoke River Basin Bi-State Commission met in December 2013, separate from the full Bi-State Commission meeting, to review on-going issues and activities in the basin.

The Yadkin/Pee Dee River Basin Advisory Commission did not meet in the period from August 1, 2013 to July 31, 2014. The commission members have not been appointed and, therefore, no meetings have been scheduled.

#### **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 August 1, 2013, the Catawba/Wateree Commission met three times:

- September 27, 2013 in Huntersville, N.C.: The agenda included operations of the Catawba lakes during high flows, N.C. interbasin transfer applications, nutrient modeling update, an update from the Riverkeeper, the Commission elected a new Chair and Co-Chair, and discussed the membership list and vacancies.
- March 21, 2014 in Rock Hill, S.C.: The agenda included a project update of the Water Management Groups Master Plan, update of S.C. fishing licensing, S.C. surface water availability study update, and a review of the S.C. Fish Tissue Program Operations.
- July 25, 2014 in Huntersville, N.C.: The agenda included a review of the final Catawba-Wateree Water Management Group Master Plan, and a presentation and discussion of comments and concerns submitted about the Master Plan. Just prior to the meeting, N.C. Senator David Curtis was assigned to the vacant seat.

The next meeting has not been scheduled.

The N.C. Division of Water Resources provides staffing and assistance to the commission. There were no meeting expenses or members' per diem expenses for the period of August 1, 2013 to July 31, 2014.

The division maintains 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://portal.ncdenr.org/web/wq/river-basin-avdisory-commission/catawbarbac>.

### **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.

The Roanoke River Basin Bi-State Commission met once during the period from August 1, 2013 to July 31, 2014. The topics at the meeting included the Duke Energy Dan River coal ash incident, Virginia uranium mining, Roanoke River Basin plan and hydrologic model, Kerr Lake water allocation study, and the Kerr Lake United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) 216 study. The next meeting has not been scheduled, but is anticipated to occur in mid to late-November 2014.

The North Carolina delegation of the Roanoke River Basin Bi-State Commission met in December 2013, separate from the full Bi-State Commission meeting, to review on-going issues and activities in the basin. The issues discussed included the Duke Energy Dan River coal ash incident, Virginia uranium mining, basin plan and hydrologic model, interbasin transfers, and the Kerr Lake USACE 216 study.

The N.C. Division of Water Resources provides staffing and assistance to the commission and the committee. There were no expenses for the period of August 1, 2013 to July 31, 2014. The division maintains 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/?page=186>.

### **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. There were no expenses for the period of August 1, 2013 to July 31, 2014. The division maintains a website for the commission. To see this information, go to <http://www.ncwater.org/?page=187>.