

**DOMINION VIRGINIA POWER /
NORTH CAROLINA POWER**

ROANOKE RAPIDS AND GASTON PROJECT

FERC NO. 2009

ARTICLE 423 RECREATION PLAN

September 30, 2005

**DOMINION VIRGINIA POWER / NORTH CAROLINA POWER
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**DOMINION GENERATION
ROANOKE RAPIDS AND GASTON PROJECT
FERC NO. 2009
RECREATION PLAN**

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Project Description

The Roanoke Rapids and Gaston Project is located on the Roanoke River in Virginia and North Carolina downstream of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) Kerr Dam. Kerr, Gaston, and Roanoke Rapids form a continuous chain of reservoirs used for flood control and power generation along the middle portion of the Roanoke River basin.

1.1.1 Gaston Development

The Gaston development is located approximately 34 miles downstream from the John H. Kerr dam and reservoir at river mile (RM) 145.5 (Figure 1). The development's principal, existing features consist of:

1. a concrete and earthen dam measuring 3,600 feet in length, with a maximum height of about 105 feet;
2. a concrete ogee-type spillway, measuring 550 feet in length, with 11 steel radial gates measuring 40 feet wide by 38 feet high;
3. a 34-mile long impoundment, with a total storage volume of 450,000 acre-feet (AF; 20,000 AF useable storage) and surface area of 20,300 acres at a normal water surface elevation of 200 feet mean sea level (msl);
4. intakes integral with the powerhouse, with trashracks having a clear bar spacing of 8½ inches;
5. a submerged rockfill and concrete weir with a total length of about 1,010 feet, located upstream of the intake and surrounding the intake on three sides;
6. a 294-foot-long concrete and masonry powerhouse, and an adjacent 80-foot-long service bay and 45-foot-long uploading bay;
7. three vertical shaft, fixed blade turbines and one vertical shaft Kaplan turbine, having a total installed capacity of 225 MW (225 MW dependable) and a maximum hydraulic capacity of 44,000 cubic feet per second (cfs);
8. four 14.4-kilovolt (kV) generators connected to two 230-kV transformers; and
9. appurtenant facilities.

The Gaston development was constructed between 1960 and 1962, with commercial operation beginning in February 1963. The development produces an average of 336,362,000 MWh annually. The Gaston development occupies all of the about 252 acres of federal land administered by the USACE.

1.1.2 Roanoke Rapids Development

The Roanoke Rapids development is located 42 miles downstream from the Kerr dam (7.5 miles downstream from the Gaston development) at RM 135 (Figure 2). The development's principal, existing features consist of:

1. a concrete gravity dam, measuring 3,050 feet long (includes powerhouse) and a maximum of 72 feet high;
2. a concrete ogee-type spillway, measuring 1,133 feet in length and having 24 spillway bays, each 44 feet wide with steel gates, one 25-foot-wide skimmer bay, and a 48-foot-wide non-overflow section;
3. an 8-mile long impoundment, with a total storage volume of 77,140 AF (20,640 AF useable storage) and surface area of 4,600 acres at a normal water surface elevation of 132 feet msl;
4. intakes integral with the powerhouse, with trashracks having a clear bar spacing of 6 inches;
5. a submerged rockfill weir, located upstream of the intake and surrounding the intake on three sides;
6. a 224-foot-long concrete and masonry powerhouse and an adjacent 182-foot-long service bay;
7. four Kaplan turbines (three fixed-blade propeller and one variable-pitch blade), having a total installed capacity of 104 MW (99 MW dependable) and a maximum hydraulic capacity of 20,000 cfs;
8. a 7,800-foot-long by 80-foot-wide tailrace channel, with variable depth (33 to 50 feet) and a normal water surface elevation of 55 feet msl;
9. four 14.4-kV generators connected to two 110-kV transformers; and
10. appurtenant facilities.

The Roanoke Rapids development was constructed between 1953 and 1955, with commercial operation beginning in September 1955. The development produces an average of 336,408 MWh annually. The Roanoke Rapids development does not occupy any federal lands.

1.2 Project Operation

The Roanoke Rapids and Gaston Project is operated in close coordination with the John H. Kerr Project. The Kerr Project is operated for flood control and power production. Generation of power is accomplished within the limits prescribed for flood control and minimum river flow regulation. The Kerr Project is operated in accordance with a reservoir guide curve and accompanying guidelines. Generally, whenever the reservoir is below the level of the guide curve, the power station is operated to meet the minimum power declaration per the Southeastern Power Administration (SEPA) contracts, which varies monthly. Water stored in the power pool and above the guide curve is generally released as timely as is practical to provide additional capacity for the control of floods.

During a typical week, the energy declaration for Kerr is usually proportioned and scheduled to meet load following system requirements (i.e., "peaking") during the 5 working days (Monday

through Friday). Generation from Kerr is normally not scheduled during the weekend days (Saturday and Sunday).

1.2.1 Gaston Power Station

During normal operation, Dominion operates the Gaston development in a load following mode, in close coordination with the USACE's operation of the Kerr Project. The Gaston development typically operates with less than 1-foot fluctuation in its power pool (between elevation 199 and 200 feet msl). During the weekends, the Gaston station generally does not operate.

Gaston Units 1, 2, and 3 have fixed-pitch turbine blades and are only operated at the maximum load point of 56 MW (at a flow of about 11,000 cfs each). Gaston Unit 4 has variable pitch (Kaplan) turbine blades, which allow efficient operation over a load range from 25 MW (at 5,000 cfs) to 56 MW (at 11,000 cfs). There is no continuous minimum flow requirement for the Gaston development, as it discharges directly into Roanoke Rapids Lake.

1.2.2 Roanoke Rapids Power Station

The Roanoke Rapids development is normally operated in a peaking (or load following) mode from Monday through Friday. Because of differences in the hydraulic capacity and storage volume (reservoir size) between the Gaston and Roanoke Rapids developments, the normal pool elevation of Roanoke Rapids Lake fluctuates more than that at Gaston, typically 3 feet during day-to-day operations and sometimes as much as 5 feet between elevations 127 and 132 feet msl.

Dominion operates at least one unit at Roanoke Rapids to maintain the required minimum flow. During the weekends when Gaston is not normally operated, the Roanoke Rapids Lake storage capacity is used to maintain the required minimum flow.

1.3 FERC License, Article 423, Recreation Plan

Within one year of the issuance date of this license, the licensee shall file, for Commission approval, a final recreation plan to enhance recreation resources at the Roanoke Rapids and Gaston Project, consistent with Settlement Agreement Article RC1. The licensee shall develop the plan after consultation with the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission (NC Wildlife Resources); the Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries; the Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation; the City of Roanoke Rapids, North Carolina; the Lake Gaston Association; and the Regional Partnership of Local Governments. In addition, the licensee shall develop the final plan in conjunction with the Historic Properties Management Plan required as part of the Programmatic Agreement under Article 425 of this license, so that recreational enhancements do not conflict with the Historic Properties in the project area.

The final recreation plan shall include, but not be limited to, the measures identified below.

1. Lake Gaston Day Use Area: (a) improvement to the existing fishing pier; (b) picnic tables; (c) trash cans; (d) two horseshoe pits; (e) a picnic pavilion with changing rooms; (f) a four-foot-wide paved path along the beach to the pier,

accessible to individuals with disabilities; (g) leased portable toilet(s); and (h) an information kiosk.

2. **Roanoke Rapids Day Use Area:** (a) an extension of the existing Roanoke Canal Trail; (b) a nature trail and fitness loops; (c) a gravel surface parking area for 100 vehicles; (d) renovation and expansion of the beach area; (e) trash cans; (f) two horseshoe pits; (g) picnic tables; (h) three single sheltered tables; (i) a covered picnic pavilion that accommodates up to 40 people; (j) a covered picnic pavilion that accommodates up to 100 people and includes a restroom area; (k) a fishing pier accessible to individuals with disabilities; and (l) an information kiosk.
3. **Roanoke Rapids Tailrace Fishing Area:** (a) public access to the Roanoke Rapids bypassed reach, including improvements to the existing tailrace fishing area; and (b) public safety signs.
4. **Bank Fishing and Water to Land Sites:** (a) a tailrace fishing area at the Lake Gaston Dam with an improved road to the area; (b) a bank fishing area at the north end of Lake Gaston Dam; (c) a bank fishing area at the NC Wildlife Resources boat landing at Stonehouse Creek; and (d) a bank fishing area where Route 615 crosses Miles Creek; and (e) a water to land recreation area near Nocarva peninsula.
5. **Lake Boating Enhancements:** (a) install and maintain mile marker buoys on Lake Gaston; and (b) at the six North Carolina boat landing sites on Roanoke Rapids Lake and Lake Gaston, (i) install lights, (ii) a description of the licensee's annual contribution to NC Wildlife Resources per boat landing for the operation and maintenance of the six boat landing sites, and (iii) install appropriate signs at the boat landing sites.

The recreation plan shall include the licensee's funding obligations for developing and enhancing each of the recreation enhancements listed above. The licensee's obligation for funding for each of the recreation enhancements is limited as follows:

1.	Lake Gaston Day Use Area:	\$84,000
2.	Roanoke Rapids Day Use Area:	\$420,000
3.	Roanoke Rapids Tailrace Fishing Area;	\$150,000
4.	Bank Fishing Sites (three-phase installation):	\$168,000
5.	Lake Boating Enhancements:	
	(a) Light Installation	\$6,300
	(b) Annual NC Wildlife Resources maintenance funding	\$30,000
	(c) Hawtree Creek Boat Landing	\$105,000
6.	Annual operation and maintenance of (1) and (2) above.	\$70,000

The final recreation plan shall also include: (1) a map(s) that clearly identifies all existing and proposed recreation sites and public access, in relation to the existing Roanoke Rapids and Gaston Hydroelectric Project boundary; (2) a provision for identifying any future need for camping platform(s) or other such recreational facilities along the Lower Roanoke River; (3) the length and width of any project-related recreation trails, paths, etc.; (4) a description of soil erosion and sediment control measures to be used during construction of the recreation facilities and public access; (5) a discussion of how the needs of the disabled were considered in the planning and design of the recreation facilities and public access; (6) a description of appropriate sign(s) to be placed at the recreation sites; (7) the entity or entities responsible for constructing, operating, and maintaining the facilities; (8) a description of the licensee's contribution to the Lake Gaston Virginia Day Use Area (licensee's obligation not to exceed \$472,500) and the Hawtree Creek Boat Landing; (9) a description of the community outreach program for the project and the licensee's monetary contribution to the program (licensee's obligation not to exceed \$1,000 annually); and (10) an implementation schedule.

The licensee shall include with the final recreation plan documentation of agency consultation, copies of comments and recommendations on the plan after it has been prepared and provided to the agencies and other entities, and specific descriptions of how the agencies' and other entities' comments and recommendations are accommodated by the plan. The licensee shall allow a minimum of 30 days for the agencies and other entities to comment prior to filing the plan with the Commission. In reporting the results of the consultation with the Commission, the licensee shall document its compliance with the consultation process and provide either the agreement reached or documentation of any dispute, including the positions taken by the parties.

The Commission reserves the right to require changes to the plan. Upon Commission approval, the licensee shall implement the plan. Any structure or facility built or installed in accordance with this plan shall be shown on the as-built drawings filed pursuant to Article 301 of this license.

1.4 Objective

The objective of the recreation plan is to develop individual plans to address the requirements of the various subarticles contained within Article 423 of the FERC license. The individual plans will describe the proposal; identify evaluation, monitoring, consultation and reporting requirements; and, include a schedule to complete the objectives of the respective plan. The objectives of the individual plans associated with Article 423 will be to:

1. Expand the Lake Gaston Day Use Area.
2. Develop a Roanoke Rapids Day Use Area.
3. Develop a Roanoke Rapids Tailrace Fishing Area.
4. Develop Bank Fishing and Water to Land Sites.
5. Enhance Lake Boating.

6. Annually operate the Lake Gaston and Roanoke Rapids Lake day use sites.

1.5 Current Recreation Facilities and Program

Recreation facilities at the Roanoke Rapids and Gaston Project (see Figures 1 and 2) include three boat access areas on Lake Gaston and three on Roanoke Rapids Lake maintained by the North Carolina Wildlife Resources. The Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries owns and manages four recreational access areas at Lake Gaston, including the Dick Cross Wildlife Management Area and three boating access areas. The 20-acre Gasburg Granite Flat Rocks site, located on Lake Gaston in Brunswick County, is a designated natural area under Virginia’s Natural Heritage Program. This natural area is managed by TNC.

Private sector for-profit and not-for-profit facilities provide important recreation opportunities at Lake Gaston and Roanoke Rapids Lake.

Easy access to a large population base and excellent recreation opportunities has made Lake Gaston a popular regional destination. Lake Gaston is a popular freshwater fishing and boating destination, but it also has other day use facilities for picnicking, hiking and swimming.

Tailrace Landing lies just downstream from the Kerr dam off of State Route 4 on the north shore of Lake Gaston. It was built and is managed by the USACE. The main part of the facility includes a nature center, a paved parking area, restrooms, maintained lawn areas, a gazebo and picnic sites. The upper part leads to a lower section near river elevation, which has a one-lane boat ramp, an observation deck overlooking the lake and undefined grass and gravel parking.

Just downstream from the Kerr Dam, on the south shore of Lake Gaston off of State Route 4, is the Liberty Hill Trail. This trail is a 1.6-mile-long, self-guided interpretive trail that leads from a small, gravel roadside parking area down to the river, where bank fishing is possible, along with views of the Buggs Island Reservoir and the Kerr dam.

The boat ramp sites on Lake Gaston are generally small (single and double ramps), and the facilities typically consist of the boat launch itself and associated parking (Table 1). Generally, these sites are developed and managed by the respective state’s game commissions. Other recreation activities are not encouraged but do occur at these sites.

Table 1. Public Boat Access Areas at Lake Gaston (Source: NCP, 1997e)

Facility	Size	Managed By
Tailrace Park	Single Lane	USACE
Steel Bridge Landing	Single Lane	VDGIF
Poplar Creek Landing	Double Lane	VDGIF
Stonehouse Creek Landing	Double Lane	NCWRC
Pea Hill Creek Landing	Double Lane	VDGIF
Henrico Landing	Double Lane	NCWRC
Summit Landing	Double Lane	NCWRC
Lake Gaston Public Access Area	Single Lane	Dominion

There are three large areas on Lake Gaston managed with specific recreation objectives: the special fishing area, the Dick Cross Wildlife Management Area and the Waterfowl Hunting Area. All are located on the upstream reaches of Lake Gaston, just downstream from Kerr Dam.

The special fishing area totaling 1,165 acres on Lake Gaston is managed by the VDGIF. It is a shallow, flat area adjacent to the main river channel where a number of small stumps and trees have been left in place to provide prime fish habitat. Signs in the area limit boating speed to less than 5 mph.

The Dick Cross Wildlife Management Area is approximately 992 acres and is managed by the VDGIF. It is a waterfowl refuge and, accordingly, waterfowl hunting is prohibited in this area. However, dove hunting is permitted during certain periods. Activities in this area include hunting, wildlife viewing, fishing, trapping, primitive camping, hiking and dog training. Facilities include an observation blind overlooking a wetland area, parking areas and a dog kennel used by sporting dog groups.

The 420-acre Waterfowl Hunting Area is located east of U.S. Route 1 on the north side of Lake Gaston. It is situated on a peninsula and wetland area. The primary activities here are waterfowl hunting and fishing.

There are a variety of commercial facilities on Lake Gaston, some of which allow the general public to use their facilities (primarily boat ramps) for a user fee. Most commercial facilities, however, do not allow the general public access to their facilities. Recreation opportunities available at the commercial facilities include camping, cabins, golf, swimming (in Lake Gaston and in swimming pools), boat launching, tennis and other activities. Table 2 lists the commercial recreation facilities at Lake Gaston available to the general public without restriction.

Table 2. Selected Commercial Recreation Facilities at Lake Gaston Available to the General Public without Restriction (Source: NCP, 1997e; NCP, 1995)

Facility	Public Landing	Picnic Area
Eaton's Ferry Marina	X	
Howell's Timber Lodge	X	
Lakeside Inn	X	X
Washburn's Marina	X	X

In addition to these facilities, there are other commercial developments in the immediate vicinity, offering a variety of ancillary services. Supply stores providing fuel, groceries, bait and other goods and services are found in many coves along the Lake Gaston shoreline and in nearby residential subdivisions. There are also several commercial campgrounds near Lake Gaston, including (NCP, 1997e; NCP, 1995):

<u>Facility</u>	<u>Number of Camping Units</u>
Lake Gaston Americamp	245
Eaton's Ferry Campground	80
Lake Gaston Resort	147

Outdoor World	225
Sherwood Forest	100

Most of the lake-oriented recreational facilities at Lake Gaston are privately owned. These facilities such as docks, boat ramps and beaches are located adjacent to many private parcels of land. Some of the facilities are used only by the adjacent landowners, while others may be shared by a group of landowners in a cooperative arrangement. In some subdivisions, developers have created facilities that are used by residents of the development. There are currently approximately 7,000 permitted docks, piers, boat shelters and boathouses on Lake Gaston (Dominion staff communication, Joseph Peterson, Reservoir Manager, Lake Gaston and Roanoke Rapids Lake, March 26, 1998).

2. PLAN DEVELOPMENT

2.1 Background

Discussions regarding recreational needs and possible enhancements at the Roanoke Rapids and Gaston Project began in 1995 during initial consultation meetings. Dominion and its consultants conducted studies on recreation facilities, current and projected use and on future trends and needs. Oversight was provided by the Recreation Technical Work Group. The Recreation Technical Work Group met many times during 1998 and 1999 to craft a package of recreational enhancements that met needs identified in the studies and were sensitive to the local and regional recreation community. Ultimately, the package of recreational enhancements was incorporated into final license negotiations for the comprehensive settlement agreement signed in 2003, and amended in early 2005.

Settlement Article RC1 and License Article 423 reflect the package of new facility enhancements negotiated for the License. Studies indicated that shore based recreation facilities (day use areas and bank fishing sites) would help meet future recreation needs and focus additional recreation use away from the lake areas and reduce the likelihood of overcrowding. Access to fishing opportunities for the disabled community was also addressed in the license. An additional boat ramp would facilitate access to Lake Gaston. Because of the developed character of the area, no additional campsites or trails were included in the settlement or license.

2.2 Consultation

This plan was developed in consultation with the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission (NC Wildlife Resources), the Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries (VDGIF), the Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation, the City of Roanoke Rapids, the Lake Gaston Association, and the Regional Partnership of Local Governments. Much of the consultation on the recreation plan components occurred prior to Dominion's submission of the Comprehensive Settlement Agreement (SA) to the Commission on July 15, 2003. The relicensing Recreation Enhancement Team developed Article RC1 of the SA and the SA was signed by each of the parties listed above.

In order to ensure cooperative development of this Plan, Dominion held a meeting on October 26, 2004 with the NC Wildlife Resources, City of Roanoke Rapids, VA Department of

Conservation and Recreation, Halifax County (NC) and the Lake Gaston Association. Subsequent informal discussions occurred with individual stakeholders to ensure the Plan development remained true to the agreed intent. Notes of the October 26, 2004 meeting and attendees are presented in Appendix 1. On August 2, 2005, all parties were provided a copy of the draft plan for a formal 30-day review.

NC Wildlife Resources provided minor editorial comments on the plan in a September 12, 2005 e-mail. Dominion has incorporated most of the editorial comments into the plan. VDGIF expressed support for the plan in a September 19, 2005 e-mail. The Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation stated that they had no comments on the draft plan (personal communication, Mr. Robert Munson, Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation, September 21, 2005). The City of Roanoke Rapids provided their comments in an August 31, 2005 E-mail to Dominion. Dominion subsequently met with the City of Roanoke Rapids on September 7 and 21. The City stated that Dominion has satisfactorily addressed two of the three concerns expressed in their August 31st E-mail. The City's third concern, a request for Dominion to keep the Roanoke Rapids Day Use Area open year-round, has not been resolved. However, even though the settlement agreement states that the Day Use Area is to be open from March 1 through the second full weekend in November, Dominion has agreed to continue discussions with the City in an effort to develop an operational agreement for the November through February period. The Lake Gaston Association and the Regional Partnership of Local Governments had no comments on the draft plan. Copies of the NC Wildlife Resources, VDGIF, and the City of Roanoke Rapids e-mails are included in Appendix 1.

2.3 Reporting

As various components of the license article requirements are completed, a report and applicable (as-built) drawings will be submitted to the Commission. Recreational use monitoring and reporting may also be completed as identified in Article 422 of the License. This report will satisfy the Commission's requirement for filing the FERC Form 80.

An Environmental and Public Use Inspection (EPUI) is conducted by FERC every three years and a report completed. The Roanoke Rapids and Gaston Project Public Safety Plan is reviewed annually, and submitted to the Commission when updated.

3. PLAN

3.1 Proposal

This plan addresses the various components required per Settlement Agreement Article RC1 and Article 423 of the Roanoke Rapids and Gaston License. Figures 3 and 4 depict all recreation sites specified in Settlement Agreement Article RC1. The master site plan has been completed for the Roanoke Rapids Day Use Area. All of the construction drawings and plans will require more detailing and minor modifications to prepare them for the bidding and permitting process. In addition, all plans are subject to approval and permitting by the appropriate governmental and regulatory agencies. The process to finalize all plans and construction drawings will commence after Commission approval of the Plan.

Key components including siting, Americans with Disability Act (ADA) elements, and general utility information are shown on the construction drawings included herein and are not expected to undergo significant conceptual changes. Additional construction plans such as grading, and detailed structural or utilities plans will be finalized upon Commission approval of the Plan. Minor detail revisions and modifications will not be rerouted for comment to the consulting agencies or the Commission. However, if significant changes are required that affect any of the major components detailed in this submittal, then the revised plans will be resubmitted to the consulting agencies for comment and to the Commission for review and approval.

The Cultural Resources Programmatic Agreement, the Historic Properties Management Plan (HPMP), and Article 425 will guide compliance with Dominion's cultural resource responsibilities. Any construction work associated with the Recreation Plan will require an archeological evaluation prior to any earth disturbing activities. A certified professional archeologist who meets the Secretary of the Interior's qualification standards for professionals will complete the evaluation. The archeologist's recommendations will be documented and implemented. In addition, requirements of the HPMP have been incorporated during the development of the Recreation Plan. If substantial siting or design changes are necessary as a result of cultural resources assessments, the consulting agencies and the Commission will be contacted. Applicable reports will be submitted to the appropriate State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) per the HPMP.

Work associated with the Recreation Plan will meet Federal, State, and local regulatory requirements, and work will not proceed without the applicable permits. Plans will be submitted for approval and permit applications will be submitted in a timely manner.

The proposed project schedules are dependent upon the receipt of necessary permits and Commission approval of the plans. If permits are delayed for any reason, the schedules will be modified accordingly.

Dominion will develop a Construction Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) prior to commencement of construction activities pursuant to the revised Roanoke Rapids and Gaston Project license. The SWPPP will conform to the North Carolina Division of Water Quality or Virginia Department of Environmental Quality requirements and guidelines, whichever is appropriate, for control of erosion and pollution during construction activities. The SWPPP will include plans to monitor the construction activities, evaluate Best Management Practices (BMP) effectiveness, and implement all necessary changes to minimize erosion and pollutant releases.

Other than the construction and maintenance items discussed in this plan, no additional major construction items are anticipated. However, if any new major construction items associated with Settlement Article RC1 are proposed, they will be submitted to the Commission for approval.

The Comprehensive Settlement Agreement does not contain a provision for identifying any future need for camping platforms or other such recreational facilities along the lower river. However, License Article 423 requires "a provision for identifying any future need for camping platform(s) or other such recreational facilities along the Lower Roanoke River". Dominion

responded to a request from the Roanoke River Partners on March 30, 2005 to partner in the development of an upstream canoe platform as part of the Roanoke River Canoe Trail. A copy of the web page for the “Tillary” campsite and Dominion’s letter accompanying the funding to the Roanoke River Partners is included as Appendix 2. Dominion will consult with the Roanoke River Partners during the Form 80 survey to determine usage of the Tillary platform.

Article 423 measure (5) (a) requires Dominion to “install and maintain mile marker buoys on Lake Gaston.” In an effort to enhance navigation, respond to emergency calls and per agreement with the Lake Gaston Association and NC Wildlife Resources Commission, Dominion installed the mile marker buoys during the summer of 2003. The NC Wildlife Resources Commission and the VA Department of Game and Inland fisheries approved the buoy placement. The buoys meet US Coast Guard standards and are 30” x 14” above water buoys equipped with a 2 mile solar powered 30-flash per minute lights. Miles are noted as 1 through 32 with marker 1 being the closest to the Gaston Dam (east to west). The mileage numerals are 6” tall and marked on two sides with reflective numbers. Dominion maintains the buoys in cooperation with the Lake Gaston Association, the Lake Gaston Coast Guard Auxiliary, and the Lake Gaston Water Safety Council. The three groups report missing, damaged or out of place buoys. During the recreation season Dominion responds by repairing or replacing prior to the next weekend. If maintenance is needed in the off season, the markers are repaired or replaced within 30 days.

3.2 Lake Gaston Day Use Area

This plan identifies the proposed activities and schedule necessary to construct a day use area near Lake Gaston dam. Final design and construction drawings will meet the current ADA regulations. Key design elements of this proposal include:

1. Swimming area
2. Fishing pier extension
3. Picnic tables
4. Picnic Pavilion
5. Circular drive
6. Handicapped path
7. Tree plantings
8. Entry sign and information kiosk
9. Horseshoe pits
10. Trash cans
11. Toilets

3.2.1 Proposal

Dominion has worked with the Regional Partnership of Local Governments, the NC Wildlife Resources, Halifax County Tourism, and the Lake Gaston Association to develop the Lake Gaston Day Use Area required in Settlement Article RC1. Dominion met with these organizations in October 2004 to initiate work on the day use plan. Additional consultation has been ongoing. Consultation is detailed in Appendix 1.

Several underlying principles for the design and construction of the day use area were identified during consultation and are supported by relicensing discussions.

1. The primary goals of the day use area are to provide swimming and fishing, picnicking, sporting (horseshoes), and child sand play opportunities.
2. The day use area will avoid sensitive habitat areas.
3. The day use area will meet current ADA requirements.
4. The day use area will be open daylight hours only.

3.2.1.1 Day Use Improvements

Day use improvements will be constructed as shown on the site master plan attached as Drawing No. GA-REC-0-1 and are listed as follows:

- Circular gravel drive with 49 wheel stops
- 25 new tree plantings
- New swimming area 30'x200'
- 15-foot extension to the existing fishing pier
- 12 new picnic tables
- 10 new trash cans
- 2 new horseshoe pits
- Construct picnic pavilion with changing rooms
- Install a small sand play area (no equipment) with timber border: \$420
- Handicapped path along beach to pier (4' wide paved sidewalk)
- Entry sign
- Information kiosk
- Toilets (leased portable toilets)

The entry sign shall include the following: Lake Gaston, Dominion North Carolina Power Day Use Area, FERC Project No. 2009, and required FERC public access language. The sign shall be placed at the completion of construction.

The day use area will include a kiosk, which will be a wood-framed design. Information to be installed on the kiosk will include interpretive and regulatory signage to be developed in consultation with the Lake Gaston Association, Halifax County Tourism and Regional Partnership of Local Governments. Interpretive signage will include a map of the area and Roanoke Rapids and Gaston Project FERC information. Regulatory signage will include any restrictions, and appropriate rule signs to limit activities which would be detrimental to wildlife and use of the day use area. Final regulatory signage will be prepared in cooperation with the NC Wildlife Resources, Regional Partnership of Local Governments, and Lake Gaston Association.

The leased portable toilets shall be ADA compliant.

3.2.1.2 Day Use Construction

General day use design has been based on minimizing impacts to vegetation and wildlife. The design has incorporated the existing physical features at the day use area. Facility locations have been sited to limit the possibility of conflict among day use users.

Prior to construction Dominion will engage the services of a DOI-qualified archeologist to conduct a Phase 1 survey. The investigations will entail a walkover inspection and mapping of any surface cultural resources followed by excavation of systematic subsurface shovel tests (STs) excavated at approximately 30-meter intervals within the Area of Potential Effect (APE). Soils from the STs will be screened through .25-inch mesh hardware cloth, and recovery of artifacts with provenience noted by ST and soil association within each ST. The results of these field and documentary investigations will be included within a report that Dominion will distribute to the NC SHPOs, the Tuscarora Nation and the Commission for review and comment prior to development of the day use area. Should potentially National Register of Historic Properties (NRHP)-eligible cultural resources be identified, Dominion will consult with the NC SHPO prior to development to determine if Phase II and possibly Phase III investigations may be appropriate. All investigations will be completed and their results reviewed by the consulting agencies prior to Dominion's development of the areas.

Dominion's design engineer will ensure that design criteria can be maintained and other environmental issues are addressed. All sensitive environmental areas will be marked in the field with flagging to clearly delineate them.

3.2.1.3 Erosion Control Measures

Land disturbance will be minimized to the extent possible. At a minimum, erosion and sediment control measures shall be implemented prior to clearing or any other work at the site. The contractor shall install measures including, but not limited to, silt fences, construction entrances, silt logs, and check dams. Clearing limits shall be shown on the drawings. Generally, a buffer zone of 100 feet will be left undisturbed between the construction area and the normal high water line. Materials will be maintained on-site to address heavy rainfall events, including silt fences and hay bales.

3.2.2 Schedule

Construction of the Lake Gaston Day Use area will begin in the fall of 2007 after the Regional Partnership of Local Governments receives grant funding or in fall 2008 if grant funding is not obtained.

The construction schedule is predicated on obtaining Commission approval by the end of 2006, which will allow for final design and permitting to begin in 2007 with planned design completion and permit receipt by the middle 2007. Dominion expects construction to commence in the fall of 2007 to avoid the summer recreation season. Unplanned permitting issues or weather conditions could delay construction.

3.2.3 Funding Obligations

Dominion will contribute \$84,000 for the construction of the Lake Gaston Day use area. Dominion will perform the design and engineering and provide an allowance for uncertainty and design refinements. Up to \$105,000 has been allotted for design and engineering and \$124,320 for uncertainty and design refinements, but these totals include all components of the recreation plan except for the Lake Gaston Virginia day use area and the Hawtree Creek boat landing. Costs are in 2002 dollars and will be adjusted for changes in the CPI.

The Regional Partnership of Local Governments will contribute up to \$91,350 in grant funding plus up to \$7,040 for uncertainty and design refinements.

3.2.4 Evaluation and Monitoring

Evaluation and monitoring shall be undertaken pursuant to License Article 422, Recreation Monitoring. Dominion shall conduct or provide for an entity to conduct, a recreation survey of the day use area and include the results on the survey with the filing of the FERC Form-80. Concurrent with filing the FERC Form 80, Dominion shall report to the Commission an evaluation to determine if the Gaston Day Use Area is meeting the goals of the recreational provisions. The evaluation shall include recreation use figures, the adequacy of the recreation facilities at the day use area to meet recreation needs, a description of the methodology used to collect all study data, and a discussion of the adequacy of, and need for, additional measures to enhance the Lake Gaston Day Use Area.

3.2.5 Consultation and Reporting

In developing the report to be filed with the Commission concurrent with the FERC Form 80 report, Dominion shall consult with the resource agencies and include in its filing with the Commission copies of comments and recommendations on the reports, and Dominion's accommodations of agency comments. Dominion will allow at least 30 days for the agencies to comment.

3.2.6 Operation and Maintenance Responsibilities

Dominion will be responsible for operation and maintenance of the Lake Gaston Day Use Area. Funds will be used from the annual operation and maintenance cap of \$70,000 for the Lake Gaston and Roanoke Rapids Day Use Areas. Approximately \$24,000 will be allocated for the Lake Gaston Day Use Area.

The Lake Gaston and Roanoke Rapids Day Use Areas shall be operated on a full time basis from Memorial Day through Labor Day. Hours of operation shall be 0900 to sunset, and shall be operated on a limited basis from March 1 to Memorial Day and from Labor Day through the second full weekend in November. Mowing and facility maintenance and repair will be performed by Dominion as part of ongoing operation of the Dam facilities.

3.3 Roanoke Rapids Day Use Area

This plan identifies the proposed activities and schedule necessary to construct a day use area near the Roanoke Rapids Lake dam. Final design and construction drawings will meet the current ADA regulations. Key design elements of this proposal include:

1. Two lane paved road
2. Extension of canal trail through woods
3. Nature trail and fitness loops
4. Gravel surface parking for 100 cars
5. Renovation/expansion of beach area
6. Information kiosks
7. 5 trash cans
8. Two horseshoe pits
9. Frisbee™ golf course
10. 14 new picnic tables
11. 3 single sheltered tables for family outing
12. Covered picnic pavilion
13. Restroom facility, changing area, and showers near beach area
14. Covered picnic pavilion with restroom area
15. Concession stand
16. Children's play equipment
17. Sanded volleyball court
18. Handicapped accessible fishing pier
19. Six-foot chain link fence
20. Security Lighting
21. Trailer/RV site (for summer day use area managers)

3.3.1 Proposal

Dominion has worked with the Regional Partnership of Local Governments, the NC Wildlife Resources, and the City of Roanoke Rapids to develop the Roanoke Rapids Day Use Area required in Settlement Article RC1. Dominion met with these organizations in October 2004 to initiate work on the day use plan. Additional consultation has been ongoing. Consultation is detailed in Appendix 1.

Several underlying principles for the design and construction of the day use area were identified during consultation and are supported by relicensing discussions.

1. The primary goals of the day use area are to provide hiking, swimming and fishing, picnicking, sporting (volleyball and horseshoes), and child sand play opportunities.
2. The day use area will avoid sensitive habitat areas.
3. The day use area will meet current ADA requirements.
4. The day use area is to be designed and constructed with the goal of the area remaining in as natural condition as possible.

3.3.1.1 Day Use Improvements

Day use improvements will be constructed as shown on attached Drawing No. RR-REC-0-1 and are listed as follows:

- Two lane paved road to site (this includes clearing & grubbing for road access and for peninsula and undergrowth clearing)
- Extension of canal trail through woods (6'-8' wide, mulched area)
- Nature trail and fitness loops
- Gravel surface parking for 100 cars
- Renovation/expansion of beach area
- Information kiosks
- 5 trash cans
- Two horseshoe pits
- Frisbee™ golf course
- 14 new picnic tables
- 3 single sheltered tables for family outings (includes slab, tables, covered shelter)
- Covered picnic pavilion for use by up to 40 people
- Restroom facility, changing area, and showers near beach area
- Covered picnic pavilion with restroom area, can accommodate up to 100 people and includes picnic tables, and tie-ins to county sewage and water
- Concession stand (does not include kitchen equipment)
- Children's play equipment with conventional and Modular playground equipment
- Sanded volleyball court
- Handicapped accessible fishing pier
- Six-foot chain link fence and additional fencing with gate to separate public area from NCP private area
- Security Lighting
- Trailer/RV site with electrical, water, and sewer hookup

The entry sign shall include the following: Roanoke Rapids Lake, Day Use Area, FERC Project No. 2009, and required FERC public access language. The sign shall be placed at the completion of construction.

The day use area will include a kiosk, which will be a wood-framed design. Information to be installed on the kiosk will include interpretive and regulatory signage to be developed in consultation with the City of Roanoke Rapids and Regional Partnership of Local Governments. Interpretive signage will include a map of the area and Roanoke Rapids and Gaston Project FERC information. Regulatory signage will include any restrictions, and appropriate rule signs to limit activities which would be detrimental to wildlife and use of the day use area. Final regulatory signage will be prepared in cooperation with the NC Wildlife Resources, Regional Partnership of Local Governments, and the City of Roanoke Rapids.

3.3.1.2 Day Use Construction

General day use design has been based on minimizing impacts to vegetation and wildlife. The design has incorporated the existing physical features at the day use area. Facility locations have been sited to limit the possibility of conflict among day use users.

Prior to construction Dominion will engage the services of a DOI-qualified archeologist to conduct a Phase 1 survey. The investigations will entail a walkover inspection and mapping of any surface cultural resources followed by excavation of systematic subsurface shovel tests (STs) excavated at approximately 30-meter intervals within the action APE (day use area). Soils from the STs will be screened through .25-inch mesh hardware cloth, and recovery of artifacts with provenience noted by ST and soil association within each ST. For the Roanoke Rapids Day Use Area, additional background research will be conducted prior to field inspection. The results of these field and documentary investigations will be included within a report that Dominion will distribute to the NCSHPO, the Tuscarora Nation, the Roanoke Canal Commission, and the Commission for review and comment prior to site development. Should potentially NRHP-eligible cultural resources be identified, Dominion will consult with the respective SHPO prior to development to determine if Phase II and possibly Phase III investigations may be appropriate. All investigations would be completed and their results reviewed by the consulting agencies prior to Dominion's development of the day use area.

Dominion's design engineer will ensure that design criteria can be maintained and other environmental issues are addressed. All sensitive environmental areas will be marked in the field with flagging to clearly delineate them.

3.3.1.3 Erosion Control Measures

Land disturbance will minimize to the extent possible. At a minimum, erosion and sediment control measures shall be implemented prior to clearing or any other work at the site. The contractor shall install measures including, but not limited to, silt fences, construction entrances, silt logs, and check dams. Clearing limits shall be shown on the drawings. Generally, a buffer zone of 100 feet will be left undisturbed between the construction area and the normal high water line. Materials will be maintained on-site to address heavy rainfall events, including silt fences and hay bales.

3.3.2 Schedule

Construction of the Roanoke Rapids Day Use area will begin in late fall 2005. The construction schedule is predicated on obtaining Commission approval in fall 2005. Design and permitting has been undertaken concurrently with development of the plan. Receipt of all permits is expected by the fall of 2005. Dominion expects construction to commence in late fall to avoid the summer recreation season. Unplanned permitting issues or weather conditions could delay construction.

3.3.3 Funding Obligations

Dominion will contribute \$420,000 for the construction of the Roanoke Rapids Day use area. Dominion will perform the design and engineering and provide an allowance for uncertainty and design refinements. Up to \$105,000 has been allotted for design and engineering and \$124,320 for uncertainty and design refinements, but these totals include all components of the recreation plan except for the Lake Gaston Virginia day use area and the Hawtree Creek boat landing. Costs are in 2002 dollars and will be adjusted for changes in the CPI.

The City of Roanoke Rapids will contribute \$317,000 in grant funding.

3.3.4 Evaluation and Monitoring

Evaluation and monitoring shall be undertaken pursuant to License Article 422, Recreation Monitoring. Dominion shall conduct or provide for an entity to conduct, a recreation survey of the day use area and include the results on the survey with the filing of the FERC Form-80. Concurrent with filing the FERC Form 80, Dominion shall report to the Commission an evaluation to determine if the Roanoke Rapids Day Use Area is meeting the goals of the recreational provisions. The evaluation shall include recreation use figures, the adequacy of the recreation facilities at the day use area to meet recreation needs, a description of the methodology used to collect all study data, and a discussion of the adequacy of, and need for, additional measures to enhance the Roanoke Rapids Day Use Area.

3.3.5 Consultation and Reporting

In developing the report to be filed with the Commission concurrent with the FERC Form 80 report, Dominion shall consult with the resource agencies and include in its filing with the Commission copies of comments and recommendations on the reports, and Dominion's accommodations of agency comments. Dominion will allow at least 30 days for the agencies to comment.

3.3.6 Operation and Maintenance Responsibilities

Dominion will be responsible for operation and maintenance of the Roanoke Rapids Day Use Area. Funds will be used from the annual operation and maintenance cap of \$70,000 for the Lake Gaston and Roanoke Rapids Day Use Areas. Approximately \$46,000 will be allocated for the Roanoke Rapids Day Use Area.

Dominion, in consultation with the City of Roanoke Rapids and the RPLG, will develop a long-term operation and maintenance plan for the Lake Gaston and Roanoke Rapids Day Use Areas. The plan shall be completed by the time the facilities are constructed pursuant to Technical Settlement Article RC1, Sections 2.1.5 and 2.2.6. This Long-term plan shall address the following:

1. Trash pick-up and removal;

2. Fees to be collected (if so determined);
3. General guidelines for a recreational contractor to be included in a RFQ for said contractor;
4. Guidelines for supervision for area activities and operation. Supervision shall include but not be limited to janitorial services, fee accounting and concession operation;
5. Mowing and facility maintenance and repair will be performed by Dominion as part of ongoing operation of the Dam facilities.

The Lake Gaston and Roanoke Rapids Day Use Areas shall be operated on a full time basis from Memorial Day through Labor Day. Hours of operation shall be 0900 to sunset, and shall be operated on a limited basis from March 1 to Memorial Day and from Labor Day through the second full weekend in November.

3.4 Lake Gaston Virginia Day Use Area

3.4.1 Proposal

This plan identifies, in concept, the planned future activities for a day use area on or near the Virginia side of Lake Gaston. The Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation (VDCR) is planning in the next 10 years to find a suitable location for a recreational facility on or near Lake Gaston within Brunswick or Mecklenburg counties, Virginia. However, if a suitable site cannot be developed along the lake shoreline, VDCR will locate the recreation site within Brunswick, Mecklenburg, Halifax and / or Charlotte counties, Virginia. The recreation area shall be developed in accordance with the *Virginia 2002 Outdoors Plan*, or plan updates

3.4.2 Day Use Construction and Operation

The Lake Gaston Virginia day use area shall be planned, engineered and developed by the VDCR. The VDCR will operate and manage the facility or ensure a management and operational entity is in place before the facility is developed.

If the Virginia Day Use area is located at Lake Gaston, Dominion will engage the services of a qualified DOI-archeologist to conduct a Phase 1 survey prior to construction. and the survey will entail a walkover inspection and mapping of any surface cultural resources followed by excavation of systematic subsurface shovel tests (STs) excavated at approximately 30-meter intervals within the day use area. Soils from the STs will be screened through .25-inch mesh hardware cloth, and recovery of artifacts with provenience noted by ST and soil association within each ST. The results of these field and documentary investigations will be included within a report that Dominion will distribute to the VA SHPO, the Tuscarora Nation and the Commission for review and comment prior to development of the enhancements. Should potentially NRHP-eligible cultural resources be identified, Dominion will consult with the SHPO prior to development to determine if Phase II and possibly Phase III investigations may be

appropriate. All investigations would be completed and their results reviewed by the consulting agencies prior to Dominion's development of the areas.

If the day use facility is located outside the project boundary, VCDR will be responsible for any cultural resources required.

3.4.3 Schedule

The VDCR agreed that the facility will be operational within 12 years of Dominion's acceptance of the new license – 2017.

3.4.4 Funding Obligations

Dominion will provide funding of \$472,000 (based on 2002 dollars adjusted by the CPI). VDCR has agreed to notify Dominion by June of the year before the funding is due so Dominion will be able to place the funding appropriately in its budgeting cycle.

3.4.5 Evaluation and Monitoring

Evaluation and monitoring shall be undertaken pursuant to License Article 422, Recreation Monitoring only if the day use area is constructed within the project boundary. After the facility is constructed, Dominion shall conduct or provide for an entity to conduct, a recreation survey of the day use area and include the results on the survey with the filing of the FERC Form-80. Concurrent with filing the FERC Form 80, Dominion shall report to the Commission an evaluation to determine if the Virginia Use Area is meeting the goals of the recreational provisions. The evaluation shall include recreation use figures, the adequacy of the recreation facilities at the day use area to meet recreation needs, a description of the methodology used to collect all study data, and a discussion of the adequacy of, and need for, additional measures to enhance the Roanoke Rapids Day Use Area.

3.4.6 Consultation and Reporting

In developing the report to be filed with the Commission concurrent with the FERC Form 80 report, Dominion shall consult with the resource agencies and include in its filing with the Commission copies of comments and recommendations on the reports, and Dominion's accommodations of agency comments. Dominion will allow at least 30 days for the agencies to comment.

3.5 Roanoke Rapids Tailrace Fishing Area

This plan identifies the proposed activities and schedule necessary to improve the bank fishing area and access for the Roanoke Rapids Tailrace.

3.5.1 Proposal

Dominion has worked with the Regional Partnership of Local Governments, the NC Wildlife Resources, Halifax County Tourism and the City of Roanoke Rapids to develop the Roanoke Rapids Tailrace Fishing Area required in Settlement Article RC1. Dominion met with these organizations in October 2004 to initiate work on the bank fishing plan. Consultation is detailed in Appendix 1.

3.5.2 Bank Fishing Area Improvements

(See site plan, Drawing No. RR-REC-0-2) Although the bank fishing area already exists, a number of improvements were agreed to in the Settlement Agreement:

1. Addition of three picnic tables
2. Addition of two trash cans
3. Improvement of path from parking area to tailrace
4. Addition of a bridge across the tailrace to the bypassed reach area
5. Entry and directional signage

The entry sign will be a kiosk, which will be a wood-framed design. The sign shall include the following: Roanoke Rapids Tailrace Fishing Area, Dominion North Carolina Power FERC Project No. 2009, and required FERC public access language. The sign shall be placed at the completion of construction. The Kiosk will include interpretive and regulatory signage to be developed in consultation with the City of Roanoke Rapids, Halifax County Tourism and Regional Partnership of Local Governments. Interpretive signage will include a map of the area and Roanoke Rapids and Gaston Project FERC information. Regulatory signage will include any restrictions, and appropriate rule signs to limit activities which would be detrimental to wildlife and use of the area. Final regulatory signage will be prepared in cooperation with the NC Wildlife Resources, Regional Partnership of Local Governments, and the City of Roanoke Rapids

3.5.3 ADA Considerations

The Tailrace Bank Fishing Area will not be developed as an ADA accessible site. In making this determination Dominion considered the proximity to the ADA pier fishing opportunity at the adjacent Roanoke Rapids Day Use Area and near-by Gaston Day Use Area and as well as the rugged nature of the topography in the area of the tailrace. All other bank fishing areas being developed other than the one at the Roanoke Rapids Tailrace will be ADA accessible.

3.5.4 Tailrace Fishing Area Construction

General day use design has been based on minimizing impacts to vegetation and wildlife.

Prior to construction Dominion will engage the services of a DOI-qualified archeologist to conduct a Phase 1 survey. The survey will entail a walkover inspection and mapping of any surface cultural resources followed by excavation of systematic subsurface shovel tests (STs) excavated at approximately 30-meter intervals within the action APE. Soils from the STs would

be screened through .25-inch mesh hardware cloth, and recovery of artifacts with provenience noted by ST and soil association within each ST. The results of these field and documentary investigations will be included within a report that Dominion will distribute to the NC SHPO, the Tuscarora Nation and the Commission for review and comment prior to development of the enhancements. Should potentially NRHP-eligible cultural resources be identified, Dominion will consult with the NC SHPO prior to development to determine if Phase II and possibly Phase III investigations may be appropriate. All investigations will be completed and their results reviewed by the consulting agencies prior to Dominion's development of the tailrace fishing area.

Dominion's design engineer will ensure that design criteria can be maintained and other environmental issues are addressed. The critical construction will be the path from the parking area (existing) to the tailrace.

3.5.5 Erosion Control Measures

Land disturbance will be limited to the access path from the parking lot to the bank fishing area and footbridge construction. At a minimum, erosion and sediment control measures shall be implemented prior to clearing or any other work at the site. The contractor shall install measures including, but not limited to, silt fences, construction entrances, silt logs, and check dams. Clearing limits shall be shown on the drawings. Materials will be maintained on-site to address heavy rainfall events, including silt fences and hay bales.

3.5.6 Schedule

Once the Commission approves the plan, Dominion will develop bid specifications for a construction scope of work. Dominion will complete construction in 2006 or one year after receiving approval from the Commission of this plan, whichever is later for all improvements except the bridge to the bypassed reach. The bridge will be engineered in 2007 for construction to be completed by the end of 2008.

3.5.7 Funding Obligations

Dominion will provide funding of \$150,000 (based on 2002 dollars adjusted by the CPI) for the Roanoke Rapids Tailrace Fishing area.

3.5.8 Evaluation and Monitoring

Evaluation and monitoring shall be undertaken pursuant to License Article 422, Recreation Monitoring. After the tailrace fishing area is constructed, Dominion shall conduct or provide for an entity to conduct, a recreation survey of the area and include the results on the survey with the filing of the FERC Form-80. Concurrent with filing the FERC Form 80, Dominion shall report to the Commission an evaluation to determine if the fishing area is meeting the goals of the recreational provisions. The evaluation shall include recreation use figures, the adequacy of the recreation facilities to meet recreation needs, a description of the methodology used to collect all

study data, and a discussion of the adequacy of, and need for, additional measures to enhance the Roanoke Rapids Tailrace Fishing Area.

3.5.9 Consultation and Reporting

In developing the report to be filed with the Commission concurrent with the FERC Form 80 report, Dominion shall consult with the resource agencies and include in its filing with the Commission copies of comments and recommendations on the reports, and Dominion's accommodations of agency comments. Dominion will allow at least 30 days for the agencies to comment.

3.5.10 Operation and Maintenance Responsibilities

Dominion will operate and maintain the facility. The tailrace bank fishing area will generally be open 24 hours per day year round. Ground maintenance will occur weekly during the peak fishing and summer seasons and monthly or as required by experience during the rest of the year.

3.6 Gaston Dam Tailrace Fishing Area

This plan identifies the proposed activities and schedule necessary to improve the bank fishing area and access for the Gaston Dam Tailrace.

3.6.1 Proposal

Dominion has worked with the Regional Partnership of Local Governments, the NC Wildlife Resources, and Halifax County Tourism to develop the Gaston Dam Tailrace Fishing Area required in Settlement Article RC1. Dominion met with these organizations in October 2004 to initiate work on the bank fishing plan. Consultation is detailed in Appendix 1.

3.6.2 Bank Fishing Area Improvements

(See site plan, Drawing No. GA-REC-0-5) Though the bank fishing area already exists, a number of improvements were agreed to in the Settlement Agreement:

1. Addition of 2 picnic tables
2. Addition of 2 trash cans
3. Opening the gate for automobile access
4. Upgrade of the access road (gravel) and addition of guard rails on the incline
5. Entry and directional signage
6. ADA parking spot and access to the shoreline.

The entry sign will be a wood-framed design. The sign shall include the following: Gaston Dam Tailrace Fishing Area, Dominion North Carolina Power FERC Project No. 2009, and required FERC public access language. The sign shall be placed at the completion of construction. The sign will include any regulatory restrictions, and appropriate rules to limit activities which would

be detrimental to fish and wildlife in the area. Final sign regulatory language will be prepared in cooperation with the NC Wildlife Resources, Regional Partnership of Local Governments, and Halifax County Tourism.

3.6.3 ADA Considerations

The tailrace bank fishing area will be developed to ensure compliance with ADA regulations. A designated handicap parking space will be placed in the parking area and ADA access will be provided to the tailrace shoreline.

3.6.4 Tailrace Fishing Area Construction

General day use design has been based on minimizing impacts to vegetation and wildlife. Prior to construction Dominion will engage the services of a DOI-qualified archeologist to conduct a Phase 1 survey. The survey will entail a walkover inspection and mapping of any surface cultural resources followed by excavation of systematic subsurface shovel tests (STs) excavated at approximately 30-meter intervals within the action APE. Soils from the STs will be screened through .25-inch mesh hardware cloth, and recovery of artifacts with provenience noted by ST and soil association within each ST. The results of these field and documentary investigations will be included within a report that Dominion will distribute to the NC SHPO, the Tuscarora Nation and the Commission for review and comment prior to development of the enhancements. Should potentially NRHP-eligible cultural resources be identified, Dominion will consult with the NC SHPO prior to development to determine if Phase II and possibly Phase III investigations may be appropriate. All investigations would be completed and their results reviewed by the consulting agencies prior to Dominion's development of the area.

Dominion's design engineer will ensure that design criteria can be maintained and other environmental issues are addressed. The critical construction will be the path from the parking area (existing) to the tailrace.

3.6.5 Erosion Control Measures

Land disturbance will be limited to addition of a guard rail on the access road, re-grading and improvements to the access road, creation of 5 car parking area and ADA access to the shoreline. At a minimum, erosion and sediment control measures shall be implemented prior to clearing or any other work at the site. The contractor shall install measures including, but not limited to, silt fences, construction entrances, silt logs, and check dams. Clearing limits shall be shown on the drawings. Materials will be maintained on-site to address heavy rainfall events, including silt fences and hay bales.

3.6.6 Schedule

Once the Commission approves the plan, Dominion will develop bid specifications for a construction scope of work. Dominion will complete construction in 2006 or one year after receiving approval from the Commission of this plan, whichever is later for all improvements

3.6.7 Funding Obligations

Dominion will provide funding of \$168,000 (based on 2002 dollars adjusted by the CPI) for bank fishing sites, excluding the Roanoke Rapids Tailrace Fishing area, and two water to land facilities. Additional bank fishing sites include the Miles Creek, Stonehouse Creek, North Side of Gaston Dam, Thelma, North Side of Roanoke Rapids Dam, Kerr Tailrace, and North Side of Roanoke Rapids Lake bank fishing areas.

3.6.8 Evaluation and Monitoring

Evaluation and monitoring shall be undertaken pursuant to License Article 422, Recreation Monitoring. After the tailrace fishing area is constructed, Dominion shall conduct or provide for an entity to conduct, a recreation survey of the area and include the results on the survey with the filing of the FERC Form-80. Concurrent with filing the FERC Form 80, Dominion shall report to the Commission an evaluation to determine if the fishing area is meeting the goals of the recreational provisions. The evaluation shall include recreation use figures, the adequacy of the recreation facilities to meet recreation needs, a description of the methodology used to collect all study data, and a discussion of the adequacy of, and need for, additional measures to enhance the Gaston Dam Tailrace Fishing Area.

3.6.9 Consultation and Reporting

In developing the report to be filed with the Commission concurrent with the FERC Form 80 report, Dominion shall consult with the resource agencies and include in its filing with the Commission copies of comments and recommendations on the reports, and Dominion's accommodations of agency comments. Dominion will allow at least 30 days for the agencies to comment.

3.6.10 Operation and Maintenance Responsibilities

Dominion will operate and maintain the facility. The tailrace bank fishing area will generally be open 24 hours per day year round. Ground maintenance will occur weekly during the peak fishing and summer seasons and monthly or as required by experience during the rest of the year.

3.7 Nocarva Water to Land Site

3.7.1 Proposal

Dominion will develop a water to land site in the area of Lake Gaston near the Virginia – North Carolina state line in an area on the south side of the lake known as Nocarva. The intention is to provide a place where watercraft can safely dock and have a land-based recreation site.

The Nocarva site will have a boat dock approximately 30' long with tie offs; two picnic areas, a viewing area and "rustic" restrooms. The restroom facilities will be of the self-composting style. Footpaths will be developed to connect the dock to the on-shore facilities. (See site plan, Drawing No. GA-REC-0-2)

3.7.2 Construction

The water to land facility design has been based on minimizing impacts to vegetation and wildlife. The design has incorporated the existing physical features at the site. Facility locations have been sited to limit the possibility of conflict among day use users.

Prior to construction Dominion will engage the services of a DOI-qualified archeologist to conduct a Phase 1 survey. The survey will entail a walkover inspection and mapping of any surface cultural resources followed by excavation of systematic subsurface shovel tests (STs) excavated at approximately 30-meter intervals within the action APE. Soils from the STs will be screened through .25-inch mesh hardware cloth, and recovery of artifacts with provenience noted by ST and soil association within each ST. The results of these field and documentary investigations will be included within a report that Dominion will distribute to the NC SHPO, the Tuscarora Nation and the Commission for review and comment prior to development of the water to land facility. Should potentially NRHP-eligible cultural resources be identified, Dominion will consult with the respective SHPO prior to development to determine if Phase II and possibly Phase III investigations may be appropriate. All investigations would be completed and their results reviewed by the consulting agencies prior to Dominion's development of the area.

Dominion's design engineer will ensure that design criteria can be maintained and other environmental issues are addressed. All sensitive environmental areas will be marked in the field with flagging to clearly delineate them.

3.7.2.1 Erosion Control Measures

Land disturbance will be minimized to clearing for paths and one picnic area (other already clear) and placement of the restroom. The builder contracted for the construction activities will be required to adhere to the *Virginia Erosion and Sediment Control Handbook (1992)* regulations and requirements. At a minimum, Erosion and sediment control measures shall be implemented prior to clearing or any other work at the site. The contractor shall install measures including, but not limited to, silt fences, construction entrances, silt logs, and check dams. Clearing limits shall be shown on the drawings. Generally, a buffer zone of 100 feet will be left undisturbed between the construction area and the normal high water line. Materials will be maintained on-site to address heavy rainfall events, including silt fences and hay bales.

3.7.2.2 Signage

The water to land use area will include a kiosk, which will be a wood-framed design. Information to be installed on the kiosk will include interpretive and regulatory signage to be developed in consultation with the Lake Gaston Association and Regional Partnership of Local Governments. Interpretive signage will include a map of the area and Roanoke Rapids and Gaston Project FERC information. Regulatory signage will include any restrictions, and appropriate rule signs to limit activities which would be detrimental to wildlife and use of the

day use area. Final regulatory signage will be prepared in cooperation with the NC Wildlife Resources, Regional Partnership of Local Governments, and the Lake Gaston Association.

3.7.3 Schedule

Once the Commission approves the plan, Dominion will develop bid specifications for a construction scope of work. Dominion will complete construction in 2006 or one year after receiving approval from the Commission of this plan, whichever is later.

3.7.4 Funding Obligations

Dominion will provide funding of \$168,000 (based on 2002 dollars adjusted by the CPI) for the bank fishing sites and two water-to-land facilities.

3.7.5 Evaluation and Monitoring

Evaluation and monitoring shall be undertaken pursuant to License Article 422, Recreation Monitoring. After the water to land fishing area is constructed, Dominion shall conduct or provide for an entity to conduct, a recreation survey of the area and include the results on the survey with the filing of the FERC Form-80. Concurrent with filing the FERC Form 80, Dominion shall report to the Commission an evaluation to determine if the water to land facility is meeting the goals of the recreational provisions. The evaluation shall include recreation use figures, the adequacy of the recreation facilities to meet recreation needs, a description of the methodology used to collect all study data, and a discussion of the adequacy of, and need for, additional measures to enhance the water to land facility.

3.7.6 Consultation and Reporting

In developing the report to be filed with the Commission concurrent with the FERC Form 80 report, Dominion shall consult with the resource agencies and include in its filing with the Commission copies of comments and recommendations on the reports, and Dominion's accommodations of agency comments. Dominion will allow at least 30 days for the agencies to comment.

3.7.7 Operation and Maintenance

The site will be maintained on a weekly schedule from Memorial Day to Labor Day and monthly during the remainder of the year. The site will be unstaffed, but signage will indicate the site is open only during daylight hours. Consultation will occur between Dominion and law enforcement authorities from Halifax County, NC and the NC Wildlife Resources Commission.

3.8 Hawtree Creek Boat Landing

3.8.1 Proposal

The North Carolina Wildlife Resource Commission (NCWRC) currently owns land on Hawtree Creek in the central/west area of Lake Gaston and plans to develop a boat landing at the site. Dominion in consultation with the NCWRC agreed to provide funding to assist in the development of the facility. With the exception of the ramp and pier(s), the facility will mostly be located outside the project boundary.

The site sill consists of a double boat ramp, a pier dividing the two ramps, parking and lighting. Parking will be a gravel area appropriate for vehicles with trailers.

The boat landing area will include a kiosk, which will be a wood-framed design. Information to be installed on the kiosk will include interpretive and regulatory signage to be developed in consultation with the NCWRC. Interpretive signage will include a map of the area and Roanoke Rapids and Gaston Project FERC information. Regulatory signage will include any restrictions, and appropriate rule signs to limit activities as directed by the NCWRC. Final regulatory signage will be prepared in cooperation with the NCWRC.

3.8.2 Construction

All engineering and construction will be performed by the NCWRC or its contractors and will be performed in accordance with all state and local regulations, including erosion control measures.

3.8.3 Schedule

Dominion will provide its funding to the NCWRC within one year of the Commission approving this plan. The NCWRC has agreed to construct and have the facility in operation within two years of the Commission approving the plan.

3.8.4 Funding Obligations

Dominion will contribute \$105,000 to the NCWRC (2002 dollars adjusted by the CPI at time of funding) to develop the site.

3.8.5 Evaluation and Monitoring

Evaluation and monitoring shall be undertaken pursuant to License Article 422, Recreation Monitoring. After the boat landing is constructed, Dominion shall conduct or provide for an entity to conduct, a recreation survey of the area and include the results on the survey with the filing of the FERC Form-80. Concurrent with filing the FERC Form 80, Dominion shall report to the Commission an evaluation to determine if the boat landing is meeting the goals of the recreational provisions. The evaluation shall include recreation use figures, the adequacy of the recreation facilities to meet recreation needs, a description of the methodology used to collect all

study data, and a discussion of the adequacy of, and need for, additional measures to enhance access.

3.8.6 Consultation and Reporting

In developing the report to be filed with the Commission concurrent with the FERC Form 80 report, Dominion shall consult with the resource agencies and include in its filing with the Commission copies of comments and recommendations on the reports, and Dominion's accommodations of agency comments. Dominion will allow at least 30 days for the agencies to comment.

3.8.7 Operation and Maintenance

All operation and maintenance of the site will be performed by the NCWRC. Dominion will provide the NCWRC \$5000 per year to assist in maintenance of the site per Article RC1 Section 2.6.2. Dominion will provide the funding annually by July 1. (See section 3.13 below)

3.9 Miles Creek Bank Fishing Area

3.9.1 Proposal

Dominion and the Regional Partnership of Local Governments agreed to develop a bank fishing area in Mecklenburg county in the western portion of Lake Gaston. The area will include parking, ADA access and access to the bank of Lake Gaston in the Miles Creek drainage.

Improvements will include a gravel parking area and ADA access to the bank of Miles Creek. The intent of the site is to leave the area in as natural a setting as possible while providing lake fishing access. (See site plan, Drawing No. GA-REC-0-6)

The Miles Creek site will include a kiosk, which will be a wood-framed design. Information to be installed on the kiosk will include interpretive and regulatory signage to be developed in consultation with the VDGIF and Regional Partnership of Local Governments. Interpretive signage will include a map of the area and Roanoke Rapids and Gaston Project FERC information. Regulatory signage will include any restrictions, and appropriate rule signs to limit activities as directed by the VDGIF. Final regulatory signage will be prepared in cooperation with the VDGIF.

3.9.2 Construction

The Miles Creek bank fishing area design has been based on minimizing impacts to vegetation and wildlife. The design has incorporated the existing physical features at the site. Construction will include a 4 – 5 car parking area (one of which will be ADA designated), an appropriate ADA access path and mulched paths for walking to bank areas on both sides of Redlawn road. Appropriate state Virginia Department of Transportation signage and cross-walk for pedestrians will be included.

Prior to construction Dominion will engage the services of a DOI-qualified archeologist to conduct a Phase 1 survey. The survey will entail a walkover inspection and mapping of any surface cultural resources followed by excavation of systematic subsurface shovel tests (STs) excavated at approximately 30-meter intervals within the action APE. Soils from the STs will be screened through .25-inch mesh hardware cloth, and recovery of artifacts with provenience noted by ST and soil association within each ST. The results of these field and documentary investigations will be included within a report that Dominion will distribute to the VA SHPO, the Tuscarora Nation and the Commission for review and comment prior to development of the enhancements. Should potentially NRHP-eligible cultural resources be identified, Dominion will consult with the respective SHPO prior to development to determine if Phase II and possibly Phase III investigations may be appropriate. All investigations would be completed and their results reviewed by the consulting agencies prior to Dominion's development of the area.

3.9.3 Erosion Control Measures

Land disturbance will be minimized to clearing and grading needed for the parking area. The builder contracted for the construction activities will be required to adhere to the *Virginia Erosion and Sediment Control Handbook (1992)* regulations and requirements. At a minimum, Erosion and sediment control measures shall be implemented prior to clearing or any other work at the site. The contractor shall install measures including, but not limited to, silt fences, construction entrances, silt logs, and check dams. Clearing limits shall be shown on the drawings. Materials will be maintained on-site to address heavy rainfall events, including silt fences and hay bales.

3.9.4 Schedule

Once the Commission approves the plan, Dominion will develop bid specifications for a construction scope of work. Dominion will complete construction in 2006 or one year after receiving approval from the Commission of this plan, whichever is later.

3.9.5 Funding Obligations

Dominion will provide funding of \$168,000 (based on 2002 dollars adjusted by the CPI) for the bank fishing sites and two water to land facilities.

3.9.6 Evaluation and Monitoring

Evaluation and monitoring shall be undertaken pursuant to License Article 422, Recreation Monitoring. After the bank fishing area is constructed, Dominion shall conduct or provide for an entity to conduct, a recreation survey of the area and include the results on the survey with the filing of the FERC Form-80. Concurrent with filing the FERC Form 80, Dominion shall report to the Commission an evaluation to determine if the water to land facility is meeting the goals of the recreational provisions. The evaluation shall include recreation use figures, the adequacy of the recreation facilities to meet recreation needs, a description of the methodology used to collect all study data, and a discussion of the adequacy of, and need for, additional measures to bank fishing.

3.9.7 Consultation and Reporting

In developing the report to be filed with the Commission concurrent with the FERC Form 80 report, Dominion shall consult with the resource agencies and include in its filing with the Commission copies of comments and recommendations on the reports, and Dominion's accommodations of agency comments. Dominion will allow at least 30 days for the agencies to comment.

3.9.8 Operation and Maintenance

The site will be maintained on a weekly schedule from Memorial Day to Labor Day and monthly during the remainder of the year. The site will be unstaffed, but signage will indicate the site is open only during daylight hours. Consultation will occur between Dominion and law enforcement authorities from Mecklenburg, VA sheriffs department and the Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries (VDGIF).

3.10 Stonehouse Creek Bank Fishing Area

3.10.1 Proposal

Dominion, the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission (NCWRC), the Regional Partnership of Local Governments (RPLG) and the Lake Gaston Association (LGA) agreed to develop a bank fishing area in Warren County in the central portion of Lake Gaston at an existing NCWRC boat launching facility on Stonehouse Creek. The area has existing parking but will need some minor improvement for ADA access.

Improvements will include a parking place for ADA access, an ADA access path to the bank fishing area and a "T" shaped pier for fishing access to the lake. The intent of the site is to leave the area in as natural a setting as possible while providing lake fishing access and not interfere with existing boat launch activities. (See site plan, Drawing No. GA-REC-0-4.)

The Stonehouse Creek site will include a kiosk, which will be a wood-framed design. Information to be installed on the kiosk will include interpretive and regulatory signage to be developed in consultation with the NCWRC, the RPLG and the LGA. Interpretive signage will include a map of the area and Roanoke Rapids and Gaston Project FERC information. Regulatory signage will include any restrictions, and appropriate rule signs to limit activities as directed by the NCWRC. Final regulatory signage will be prepared in cooperation with the NCWRC.

3.10.2 Construction

The Stonehouse Creek bank fishing area design has been based on minimizing impacts to vegetation and wildlife. The design has incorporated the existing physical features at the site. Construction will include improving a gravel area parking with an ADA designated parking space, an appropriate ADA access that descends to the pier, and addition of a pier that will be out into the lake about 10 feet and have a 30' wide "T" with hand railings

Prior to construction Dominion will engage the services of a DOI-qualified archeologist to conduct a Phase 1 survey. The survey will entail a walkover inspection and mapping of any surface cultural resources followed by excavation of systematic subsurface shovel tests (STs) excavated at approximately 30-meter intervals within the action APE. Soils from the STs will be screened through .25-inch mesh hardware cloth, and recovery of artifacts with provenience noted by ST and soil association within each ST. The results of these field and documentary investigations will be included within a report that Dominion will distribute to the NC SHPO, the Tuscarora Nation and the Commission for review and comment prior to development of the enhancements. Should potentially NRHP-eligible cultural resources be identified, Dominion will consult with the NC SHPO prior to development to determine if Phase II and possibly Phase III investigations may be appropriate. All investigations would be completed and their results reviewed by the consulting agencies prior to Dominion's development of the area.

3.10.3 Erosion Control Measures

Land disturbance will be minimized to clearing and grading needed for the ADA access path. At a minimum, erosion and sediment control measures shall be implemented prior to clearing or any other work at the site. The contractor shall install measures including, but not limited to, silt fences, construction entrances, silt logs, and check dams. Clearing limits shall be shown on the drawings. Materials will be maintained on-site to address heavy rainfall events, including silt fences and hay bales.

3.10.4 Schedule

Once the Commission approves the plan, Dominion will develop bid specifications for a construction scope of work. Dominion will complete construction in 2006 or one year after receiving approval from the Commission of this plan, whichever is later.

3.10.5 Funding Obligations

Dominion will provide funding of \$168,000 (based on 2002 dollars adjusted by the CPI) for the bank fishing sites and two water to land facilities.

3.10.6 Evaluation and Monitoring

Evaluation and monitoring shall be undertaken pursuant to License Article 422, Recreation Monitoring. After the bank fishing area is constructed, Dominion shall conduct or provide for an entity to conduct, a recreation survey of the area and include the results on the survey with the filing of the FERC Form-80. Concurrent with filing the FERC Form 80, Dominion shall report to the Commission an evaluation to determine if the bank fishing facility is meeting the goals of the recreational provisions. The evaluation shall include recreation use figures, the adequacy of the recreation facilities to meet recreation needs, a description of the methodology used to collect all study data, and a discussion of the adequacy of, and need for, additional measures to bank fishing.

3.10.7 Consultation and Reporting

In developing the report to be filed with the Commission concurrent with the FERC Form 80 report, Dominion shall consult with the resource agencies and include in its filing with the Commission copies of comments and recommendations on the reports, and Dominion's accommodations of agency comments. Dominion will allow at least 30 days for the agencies to comment.

3.10.8 Operation and Maintenance

The site will be maintained on a weekly schedule from Memorial Day to Labor Day and monthly during the remainder of the year. The site will be unstaffed, but signage will indicate the site is open only during daylight hours. Consultation will occur between Dominion and law enforcement authorities from Warren County, NC sheriffs department and the NCWRC.

3.11 North Side of Gaston Dam Bank Fishing Area

3.11.1 Proposal

Dominion, the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission (NCWRC), the Regional Partnership of Local Governments (RPLG) and the Lake Gaston Association (LGA) agreed to develop a bank fishing area in Northampton County, NC adjacent to the Gaston Dam on the north side of the dam with access to the lake. The area has informal existing access and parking but will need some improvement for ADA and non-truck access

Improvements will include:

Parking for six vehicles

1. Improvement to the access road
2. Directional signs from river road to the site
3. ADA access path to the lake
4. Two picnic tables

The intent of the site is to leave the area in as natural a setting as possible while providing lake fishing access. (See site plan, Drawing No. GA-REC-0-3).

The Gaston Dam bank fishing site will include a kiosk, which will be a wood-framed design. Information to be installed on the kiosk will include interpretive and regulatory signage to be developed in consultation with the NCWRC, the RPLG and the LGA. Interpretive signage will include a map of the area and Roanoke Rapids and Gaston Project FERC information. Regulatory signage will include any restrictions, and appropriate rule signs to limit activities as directed by the NCWRC. Final regulatory signage will be prepared in cooperation with the NCWRC. In addition, directional signs will be placed on River Road and at the entrance to the access road.

3.11.2 Construction

The design has incorporated the existing physical features at the site. Construction will include improving a gravel area parking, an ADA designated parking space, and an appropriate ADA access that allows access to the lake. A very minimum ground disturbance will be required, only minor grading.

Prior to construction Dominion will engage the services of a DOI-qualified archeologist to conduct a Phase 1 survey. The survey will entail a walkover inspection and mapping of any surface cultural resources followed by excavation of systematic subsurface shovel tests (STs) excavated at approximately 30-meter intervals within the action APE. Soils from the STs will be screened through .25-inch mesh hardware cloth, and recovery of artifacts with provenience noted by ST and soil association within each ST. The results of these field and documentary investigations will be included within a report that Dominion will distribute to the NC SHPOs, the Tuscarora Nation and the Commission for review and comment prior to development. Should potentially NRHP-eligible cultural resources be identified, Dominion will consult with the NC SHPO prior to development to determine if Phase II and possibly Phase III investigations may be appropriate. All investigations would be completed and their results reviewed by the consulting agencies prior to Dominion's development of the area.

3.11.3 Erosion Control Measures

Land disturbance will be minimized to clearing and grading needed for the ADA access path. At a minimum, erosion and sediment control measures shall be implemented prior to clearing or any other work at the site. The contractor shall install measures including, but not limited to, silt fences, construction entrances, silt logs, and check dams. Clearing limits shall be shown on the drawings. Materials will be maintained on-site to address heavy rainfall events, including silt fences and hay bales.

3.11.4 Schedule

Once the Commission approves the plan, Dominion will develop bid specifications for a construction scope of work. Dominion will complete construction in 2006 or one year after receiving approval from the Commission of this plan, whichever is later.

3.11.5 Funding Obligations

Dominion will provide funding of \$168,000 (based on 2002 dollars adjusted by the CPI) for the bank fishing sites and two water to land facilities.

3.11.6 Evaluation and Monitoring

Evaluation and monitoring shall be undertaken pursuant to License Article 422, Recreation Monitoring. After the bank fishing area is constructed, Dominion shall conduct or provide for an

entity to conduct, a recreation survey of the area and include the results on the survey with the filing of the FERC Form-80. Concurrent with filing the FERC Form 80, Dominion shall report to the Commission an evaluation to determine if the bank fishing facility is meeting the goals of the recreational provisions. The evaluation shall include recreation use figures, the adequacy of the recreation facilities to meet recreation needs, a description of the methodology used to collect all study data, and a discussion of the adequacy of, and need for, additional measures to bank fishing.

3.11.7 Consultation and Reporting

In developing the report to be filed with the Commission concurrent with the FERC Form 80 report, Dominion shall consult with the resource agencies and include in its filing with the Commission copies of comments and recommendations on the reports, and Dominion's accommodations of agency comments. Dominion will allow at least 30 days for the agencies to comment.

3.11.8 Operation and Maintenance

The site will be maintained on a weekly schedule from Memorial Day to Labor Day and monthly during the remainder of the year. The site will be unstaffed, but signage will indicate the site is open only during daylight hours. Consultation will occur between Dominion and law enforcement authorities from Northampton County, NC sheriffs department and the NCWRC.

3.12 Existing Recreation Area Enhancements

3.12.1 Signage

Each of the existing boat landing areas managed by either the Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries (VDGIF) or the NC Wildlife Resources Commission (NCWRC) will have a project sign added to the sites. The sign will be a kiosk, which will be a wood-framed design. Information to be installed on the kiosk will include interpretive and regulatory signage to be developed in consultation with the NCWRC or the VDGIF, the RPLG and the LGA. Interpretive signage will include a map of the area and Roanoke Rapids and Gaston Project FERC information. Regulatory signage will include any restrictions, and appropriate rule signs to limit activities as directed by the NCWRC. Final regulatory signage will be prepared in cooperation with the NCWRC or the VDGIF. Sites where signs will be added are:

- Steel Bridge Boat Landing (VDGIF)
- Poplar Creek Boat Landing (VDGIF)
- Stonehouse Creek Boat Landing (NCWRC)
- Pea Hill Creek Boat Landing (VDGIF)
- Summit Boat Landing (NCWRC)
- Thelma Boat Landing (NCWRC)
- Vulture Boat Landing (NCWRC)

- 5th Street Boat Landing (NCWRC)

3.12.2 Lighting

At each of the NCWRC boat landings listed above in 3.12.1, Dominion will add a street light in the area near the boat landing. The lighting will be maintained by the NCWRC.

3.12.3 Schedule

Lighting will be installed at the sites within one year of the Commission approving this plan or by the end of 2006, whichever is later. Signs will be installed within two years of the Commission approving this plan or by the end of 2007, whichever is later.

3.12.4 Funding Obligations

Dominion will provide funding of \$6,300 (based on 2002 dollars adjusted by the CPI) for the lighting and signage.

3.13 Maintenance Funding

Annually by July 1 Dominion will provide to the NCWRC \$5000 per boat landing (six boat landings \$30,000 annually) and escalated per the CPI (per Article GP 13.7.3 of the Settlement Agreement).

3.14 Future Enhancements

3.14.1 Proposal

Per the settlement agreement (Article RC1) Dominion will construct five additional recreation facilities during the life of the license. Facilities referenced in sections 3.14.2 – 3.14.4 below will be engineered and have construction completed by the end of 2016, and facilities referenced in sections 3.14.5 and 3.14.6 will be engineered and have construction completed by 2027.

3.14.1.1 Future Plan Amendments

By June 30 of the year prior to required completion, Dominion will submit to the Commission a plan that will include a site plan, construction plan and operation and maintenance plan.

3.14.1.2 Archeological Surveys

By December 31, 2007, Dominion will initiate the site surveys required by the Historic Properties Management Plan for each of the five areas. Dominion will engage the services of a DOI-qualified archeologist to conduct a Phase 1 survey. The survey will entail a walkover inspection and mapping of any surface cultural resources followed by excavation of systematic subsurface shovel tests (STs) excavated at approximately 30-meter intervals within the action

APEs. Soils from the STs will be screened through .25-inch mesh hardware cloth, and recovery of artifacts with provenience noted by ST and soil association within each ST. The results of these field and documentary investigations will be included within a report that Dominion will distribute to the NC and VA SHPOs, the Tuscarora Nation and the Commission for review and comment prior to development of the enhancements. Should potentially NRHP-eligible cultural resources be identified in any of the enhancement areas, Dominion will consult with the respective SHPO prior to development to determine if Phase II and possibly Phase III investigations may be appropriate. All investigations would be completed and their results reviewed by the consulting agencies prior to Dominion's development of the areas.

3.14.1.3 Erosion Control Measures

All applicable state and local erosion and sedimentation control measures in effect at the time of construction will be utilized. At a minimum, erosion and sediment control measures shall be implemented prior to clearing or any other work at the site. The contractor shall install measures including, but not limited to, silt fences, construction entrances, silt logs, and check dams. Clearing limits shall be shown on the drawings. Materials will be maintained on-site to address heavy rainfall events, including silt fences and hay bales.

3.14.2 Goat Island Water to Land Use Facility

The Goat Island Water to Land Use Facility will be located on an island about 3 miles west of the Lake Gaston Dam. It will be developed similarly to the Nocarva water to land use site (see section 3.7 above). Improvements will include picnic tables, a 30' boat dock and a restroom facility. In addition a grassy area currently exists that will be maintained for a sunbathing area. Appropriate signage will be installed per Commission regulations in effect at the time the enhancement is implemented.

3.14.3 Thelma Bank Fishing Area

The Thelma Bank Fishing Area will be an enhancement to the existing NC Wildlife Resources Commission Thelma Boat landing and developed similarly to the Stonehouse Creek bank fishing enhancement (see section 3.10 above). Parking already exists. An ADA accessible floating "T" shaped dock will be added at the site along with appropriate parking upgrade and designation. Signage will not be required since this is an area covered by 3.12 above.

3.14.4 North Side Roanoke Rapids Dam Area

The area on the north side of the Roanoke Rapids Dam will be developed to enhance fishing accessibility to the north east bank area of Roanoke Rapids lake and access the north side of the tailrace. Improvements will include an access road to the site, parking area, ADA accessible bank fishing in the lake and foot trails down to the bypass area. Appropriate signage will be installed per Commission regulations in effect at the time the enhancement is implemented.

3.14.5 Kerr Tail Race Bank Fishing Area

Currently the US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) Kerr Dam has parking at a trailhead that leads down to the south side of the Kerr Dam tailrace. Dominion will work with the USACE to place a floating “T” pier that will provide better fishing access than currently exists at the site. Dominion will work with the USACE to ensure proper signage is installed that satisfies regulations for both the USACE and the Commission.

3.14.6 North side of Roanoke Rapids Lake Near Gaston Dam

This area of the Roanoke Rapids offers a sporting environment unique to the project with a combination of dense forestation and wetland areas near the Roanoke Rapids Reservoir. The area in the north west section of the Roanoke Rapids portion of the project is undeveloped and will be placed into conservation easement per Settlement Agreement Article LK4 by the end of 2007. The area will be adjacent to the Gaston Dam Bank Fishing Area (section 3.11 above) and will use the access road and parking for the bank fishing site. A trail will be added down to the lake and an area cleared for fishing access. Dominion will consult with the NCWRC, LGA and RPLG to determine if a “T” pier is required at the site. Appropriate signage will be installed per Commission regulations in effect at the time the enhancement is implemented.

3.15 Community Outreach

3.15.1 Proposal

Dominion will provide \$1,000 annually to the NCWRC to assist in funding their community outreach program. The program is intended to educate the public in outdoor recreation availability, rules and regulations and outdoor recreation etiquette. The NCWRC partners with local fishing clubs and sportsmen’s groups around the project for fish for fun and similar events.

3.15.2 Funding

Dominion will provide the \$1,000 funding annually to the NCWRC by June 30. The funding shall be adjusted annually for the CPI per Article GP 13 section 13.7 of the Settlement agreement.

3.15.3 Typical Activities to be Funded

Activities typically performed or for which assistance is provided by the NCWRC:

- Fish for fun events held on Gaston and Roanoke Rapids Reservoirs. The NCWRC uses these opportunities to create a positive fishing experience for children. The NCWRC often provides rods, reels, tackle and bait for these events and the equipment periodically needs repair or replacement
- Aquarium Operation and Maintenance. The NCWRC has an mobile aquarium that is used at the fish for fun events and also other community events in the area

of the reservoirs. The aquarium is used to help children and interested adults to be able to identify aquatic species found within the project reservoirs.

- Kiosks at boating access areas. The NCWRC is in the process of placing informational Kiosks at boating access areas. The funding will assist in building the kiosks and once complete in the maintenance required.