



Maryland
Department of
the Environment

Public Informational Hearing Brookfield Renewable Deep Creek Hydro Station

Water Appropriation and Use Permit

GA1992S009/09

October 15, 2019



Stakeholder Process

- MDE identified stakeholders for Brookfield to invite to Stakeholder meetings
- The meetings were used for presentations and discussions, and, to seek consensus on the significant issues.



Stakeholders

Key stakeholders:

- Brookfield Renewable
- DCL Property Owners Association
- Deep Creek Watershed Foundation
- Commercial Whitewater Outfitters
- Town of Friendsville
- Garrett County Government
- Professional Fishing Guide
- Department of Natural Resources
- Deep Creek Lake Policy and Review Board
- Friends of Deep Creek Lake
- Garrett County Chamber of Commerce
- Trout Unlimited
- Youghiogheny River Watershed Association



Stakeholder Meetings

- Meetings were held on Feb 28, March 28, and April 25 in McHenry, Maryland
- Meeting summaries and most of the presentations made at each meeting are available on the MDE website at:
https://mde.maryland.gov/programs/Water/water_supply/Pages/DeepCreekLakeRenewalProcessFor09.aspx



Brookfield Permit – Special Conditions

- Rule Band (protects DCL recreational uses)
- DCL level monitoring/reporting
- Temp Enhancement (Brown Trout Fishery)
- Minimum Flow releases
- Dissolved Oxygen Mitigation and reporting
- Releases for Whitewater (schedule, special and rules)
- Announcement of Releases
- Zebra Mussel Monitoring
- Posting of Warning Notices
- Submission of Annual Report



Brookfield Permit – First Four Conditions

- Average Annual Quantity and Maximum Daily Quantity
- Use of the Water - Hydroelectric Generation, Temp Enhancement, Whitewater, Maint. of Minimum Flow in Youghiogheny River
- Source of the Water (DCL)
- Location of Withdrawal



Main Permit issues discussed with Stakeholders

- Use of the withdrawal
- Brookfield's operation of Deep Creek Hydro and Predictive Model
- Need for Permit increase
- Whitewater Schedule
- Rule Band
- Data on Fisheries in DCL and Youghiogheny River and survey results of Economic Benefits to region
- Temp Enhancement Releases – recommended changes by DNR



Conclusions of the Stakeholder Process

- Achieved consensus or near consensus on a number of issues that have no impact on lake level, such as the timing of some existing whitewater and temperature enhancement releases.
- Established a TER committee to consider proposed revisions of the temperature enhancement protocol.
- Had fruitful discussion of other issues, but were unable to achieve consensus on them.



Consensus (“Super Majority”) Achieved

- Increasing Average Annual Appropriation
- Moving Whitewater Releases to Saturday in April
- Changing the required time from 12:30 to 11:30 for 11:00 TER determination
- Not changing the Rule Band itself
- Leaving URB excursions at 21 days *
- Instituting TERs when above the LRB



Consensus Not Achieved

- Keeping Permit language regarding the Rule Band as it currently stands
- Extending the TERS into September, Keeping TERS independent of the LRB, Modifying the flow threshold for Running the TERS



Comments/Questions

- Thank you for your participation
- Comments can be emailed to:
john.grace@maryland.gov
- Comments can be mailed to: John Grace, Water Supply Program, MDE, 1800 Washington Blvd, Baltimore, MD
- Extension