

Electronically Filed

Dominion Energy South Carolina, Inc.
DESC Power Generation
220 Operation Way, MC B223, Cayce SC 29033
DominionEnergySC.com



February 9, 2026

William J. Brown, P.E., Regional Engineer
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
Division of Dam Safety and Inspections
Atlanta Regional Office

Subject: Dominion Energy South Carolina, Inc.
Saluda Hydroelectric Project P-516, NATDAM No. SC00224
Notification of Unit 1 Turbine Runner Replacement

Dear Mr. Brown:

As required by 18 CFR §12.11, Dominion Energy South Carolina, Inc. (DESC) hereby notifies you of DESC's intention to conduct a turbine runner replacement on Unit 1. The current Unit 1 runner will be replaced with a new aerating runner. DESC plans to replace the Unit 1 runner at this time due to its increasingly poor aeration performance, which limits the Project's ability to consistently meet state dissolved oxygen (DO) standards and necessitates tight unit dispatching constraints.

The new runner, like the current Unit 1 runner, will be a vertical Francis-type with a synchronous speed of 138.5 rpm. This new runner will be installed within the existing turbine pit inside the powerhouse and will require no structural modifications to the powerhouse or other water retaining structures. The hydraulic capacity of Unit 1 will remain 3,000 cfs after the new runner installation.

In addition to the aerating turbine runner, the proposed work also includes a refurbished turbine shaft, new head cover, new wicket gates, refurbished stay ring, new actuating servomotors, rehabilitated turbine guide bearing and guide bearing housing, rehabilitated turbine shaft packing box, rehabilitated generator combination thrust/guide bearing, and new high-pressure oil lift system.

Unit dewatering is anticipated to begin on April 13, 2026 with expected final commissioning by the start of Q2 2027. The upstream headgates will be lowered and tailrace stop logs installed to facilitate dewatering of the penstock and draft tube. The unit will remain dewatered until approximately March 3, 2027. DESC does not believe this outage will cause any detrimental impacts to dam safety, and will expeditiously provide any drawings, documentation, or plans requested by your staff if needed for your consideration. The runner replacement work will take place entirely within the powerhouse.

This turbine runner replacement was proposed and agreed upon by consulting agencies during the Saluda Hydro relicensing process as a measure to improve dissolved oxygen (DO) in the lower Saluda River. This agreement is documented in the Final Comprehensive Settlement Agreement¹ (CRSA) submitted to the Commission. In the Environmental Assessment² (EA), the proposal to conduct turbine runner replacements was reviewed and identified by the Commission as a recommended inclusion in the upcoming license. Though the Commission has not yet issued a license formally ordering this Article, DESC has consulted with agency stakeholders as part of its current license Article 31 Annual Water Quality Plan and Report consultation, and has received support to accelerate the turbine runner installation measure ahead of license issuance. DESC is separately engaging with the Commission's Division of Hydro Administration

¹ The Comprehensive Relicensing Settlement Agreement (filed July 31, 2009) Section 4.1. *The Upgrade of Unit Runners* outlines a plan for Licensee to systematically upgrade all turbine runners over a 25 year period following issuance of License.

² The Final Environmental Assessment (issued July 20, 2010) includes the provision: "Install new runners and upgrade all generating units to improve DO in flows released from the project into the lower Saluda River" in the section, *Measures Proposed by [DESC] and Recommended by Staff*.

and Compliance regarding authorization of this project pursuant to these aforementioned relicensing agreements. This notification filing is intended solely for construction authorization pertaining to dam safety and project works.

If you have questions regarding this submittal, please contact the undersigned at 803-217-7322 or raymond.ammarell@dominionenergy.com.

Sincerely,



Raymond R. Ammarell, P.E., Manager
Dam Safety and Hydro Compliance
Chief Dam Safety Engineer (South Carolina)
RRA/arr

c: J. W. Miller/H. E. Delk/I. N. Griffin/SH File
O. Brown/J. E. Brown, Jr./N. Tritapoe
A. I. Bresnahan/A. R. Rollins/O. E. Owen/N. Huffstetler/M. L. Howard
Corporate Records