

PMHarrisCOL PEmails

From: Donald Palmrose
Sent: Wednesday, March 18, 2009 10:41 AM
To: Snead, Paul
Cc: Douglas Bruner; Dirkes, Roger L; Matthews, Monte K SAW; Peyton Doub
Subject: Assumptions used for analysis of emergent wetlands

Paul,

The summary of this issue from Peyton Doub is the following:

With respect to "Shearon Harris Nuclear Power Plant Units 2 and 3 (HAR) Future Wetlands Impact Analysis", I am unclear as to what the technical criteria are for predicting where new wetlands will form once the Harris reservoir pool elevation is raised from 220 feet msl to 240 feet msl.

For most soils classified as "loams", including sandy loams, silt loams, silty clay loams, and other soils around the HAR reservoir, wetlands will generally form around the new raised shoreline only where the raised water level comes within about 12 inches of the land surface. This represents the upward extent of the "capillary fringe" extending upward from the new water level. Hence, areas at the edge of the lake below an elevation of about 241 feet should be expected to form new wetlands.

However, the report seems to imply that some areas between 241 and 260 feet will form wetlands once the water level is raised. This needs to be clarified. Above 241 feet, only those areas that are presently wetlands (while the lake remains at 220 feet) will be wetlands once the lake is raised.

Thanks,
Don

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Created By: Donald.Palmrose@nrc.gov

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Tracking Status: None

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