

Appendix D: Scoping Meeting Handouts

A decorative horizontal line with a wavy, undulating pattern. It consists of three overlapping layers of color: a light green outer layer, a medium green middle layer, and a dark teal inner layer. The line spans the width of the page and is positioned below the main title.

FACT SHEET

GLADES RESERVOIR EIS

FACT SHEET



PROJECT DESCRIPTION

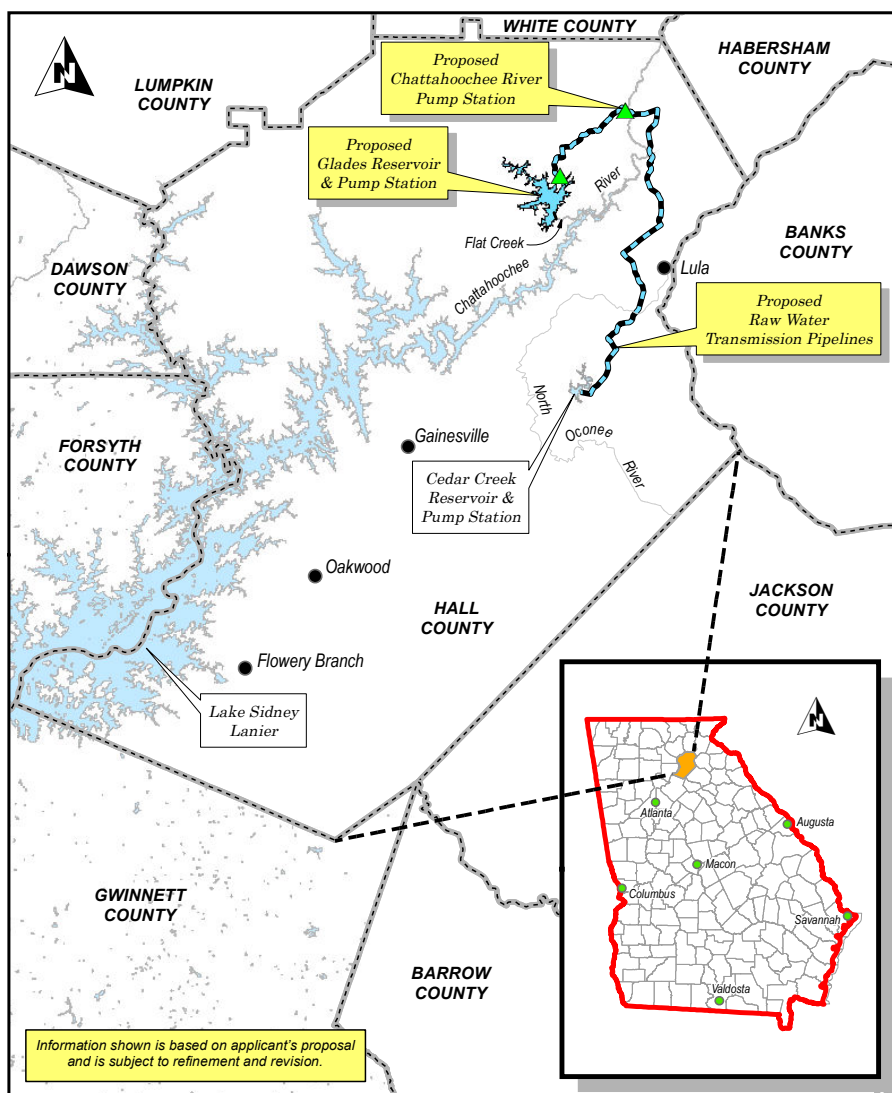
The Hall County Board of Commissioners has applied for a Department of the Army permit for a proposed water supply reservoir project to be located in Hall County, Georgia. The US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) Savannah District is reviewing this application (SAS-2007-00388) and is processing it pursuant to Section 404 of the Clean Water Act, which regulates the discharge of dredged or fill material into waters of the United States.

The proposed Glades Reservoir water supply project would be comprised of a new water supply reservoir, as well as pipelines and pumping stations for withdrawing water from the Chattahoochee River and for connecting with the existing Cedar Creek Reservoir. The proposed pumped-storage reservoir would be located on Flat Creek, a tributary to the Chattahoochee River upstream of Lake Sidney Lanier.

To evaluate the permit application, the USACE will prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) to fully assess the potential social, economic, and environmental impacts of the construction and operation of the Glades Reservoir water supply project. When the EIS is completed, the USACE will decide whether to issue a permit, issue a permit with modification, or deny a permit.

PURPOSE AND NEED

Hall County believes this project is necessary to meet projected water demand for Hall County's population through the year 2060.



VICINITY MAP

Proposed Glades Reservoir Water Supply Project

Hall County

March 2012

0 1 2 4 6 8 Miles

Glades EIS Overall 2.0.mxd #G209070.EIS

ALTERNATIVES

The USACE will evaluate a range of alternatives in addition to Hall County's preferred alternative. The alternatives that will be considered include a "No Action" alternative, alternatives that would avoid, minimize, and compensate for impacts to the aquatic environment, alternatives utilizing other practices, and other reasonable options. After evaluating the alternatives, the USACE will identify the least environmentally damaging practicable alternative.

SCOPING & PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT PROCESS

The purpose of the public scoping process is to give the public a chance to comment on the proposed action, recommend alternatives, and identify issues to be considered in the EIS analysis. The EIS process is being implemented so that the application can be fully evaluated and a permit decision can be made.

KEY AREAS FOR EVALUATION

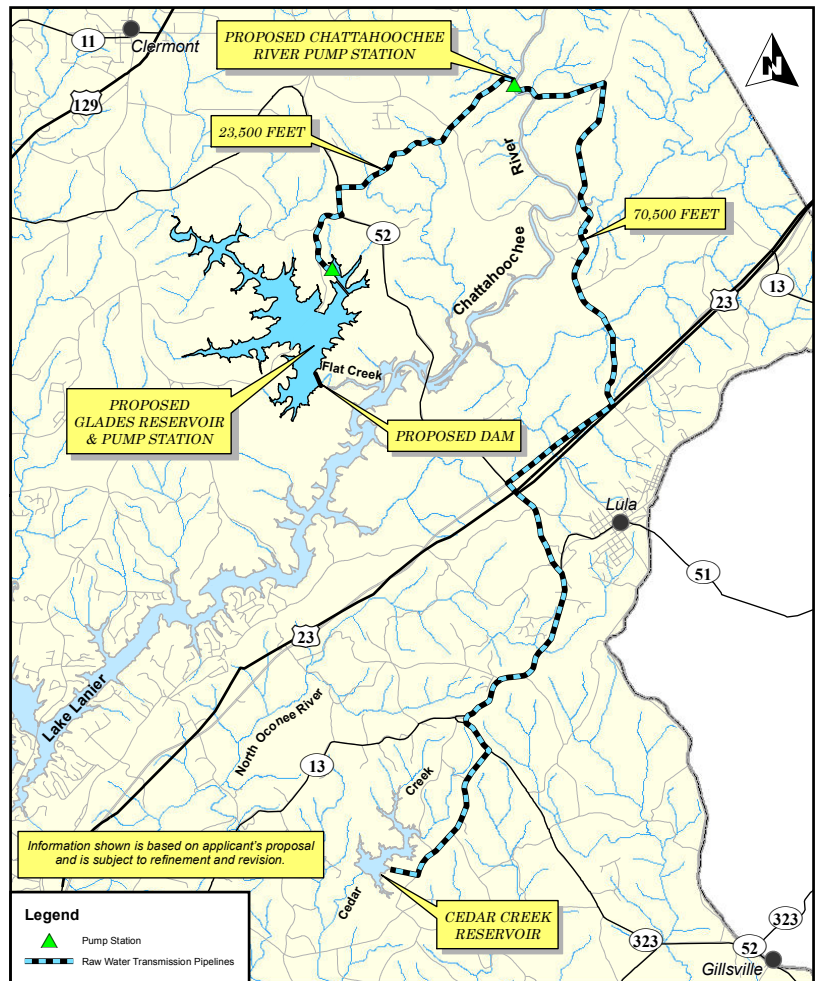
Key areas of focus in the EIS are listed as follows:

- a. Project Purpose & Need
- b. Range of Alternatives
- c. Air Quality
- d. Geology & Soils
- e. Water Quantity and Hydrology
- f. Water Quality
- g. Aquatic Ecology, Wildlife & Wetlands
- h. Threatened and Endangered Species
- i. Recreation
- j. Federal Navigation
- k. Cultural Resources
- l. Land Use & Aesthetics
- m. Socioeconomics & Environmental Justice
- n. Cumulative Effects
- o. Mitigation & Monitoring

HOW CAN I COMMENT?

The USACE invites comments from all interested parties on the proposed scope of study and alternatives to address in the Glades Reservoir EIS. Comments must be received by April 17, 2012, to be considered in defining the scope of the Draft EIS. Comments may be submitted in the following ways:

- Submit a comment form at the public scoping meetings
- Submit verbal comments (with the court reporter) at the public scoping meetings
- Mail comments to: Attention: Richard Morgan, US Army Corps of Engineers, 100 West Oglethorpe Avenue, Savannah, GA 31401
- Online at the project website: www.gladesreservoir.com



NEPA OVERVIEW

HOW TO COMMENT ON THIS PROJECT

GLADES RESERVOIR EIS

UNDERSTANDING THE NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY ACT (NEPA)

NEPA is a federal law that requires the identification and analysis of potential environmental effects of major proposed federal actions and alternatives before those actions take place. NEPA assures that environmental factors are considered equally with the technical and engineering components of a decision. NEPA requires federal agencies to identify all potential environmental effects and any adverse effects that cannot be avoided, and to evaluate alternatives to the proposed action.

NEPA is a “full disclosure” law with provisions for public access to and full participation in the federal decision-making process. The Act is provided to protect, restore, or enhance the environment through well-informed federal decisions.

An Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) is the public document that provides a detailed evaluation of the proposed action and alternatives. Agencies, organizations, and the public may provide input into the preparation of the EIS and comment on the Draft EIS and Final EIS when each is completed.

Participating in the NEPA process is an important way for you to express concerns and raise issues before a decision is made.

For more information on the NEPA process and public involvement, please visit the following websites:

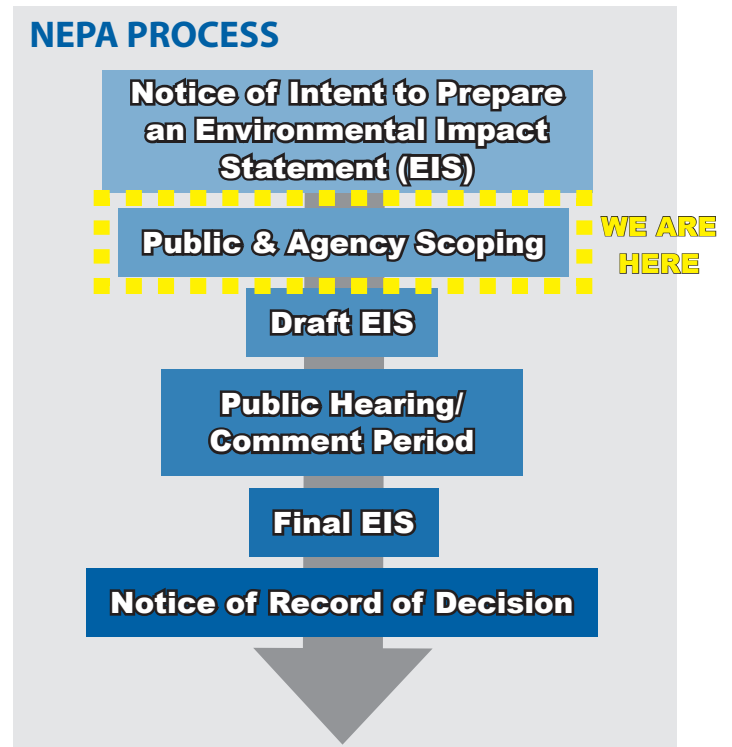
A Citizen’s Guide to NEPA:

http://ceq.hss.doe.gov/nepa/Citizens_Guide_Dec07.pdf

NEPA’s 40 Most Asked Questions:

<http://ceq.hss.doe.gov/NEPA/regs/40/40p3.htm>

NEPA PROCESS



HOW CAN I GET INVOLVED?

NEPA makes involvement by the public, agencies, and stakeholders an essential part of ensuring informed decision-making at the federal level. There are three opportunities for public comment during the EIS process:

1. **Scoping** - the stage of identifying the scope of issues and concerns related to the proposed action that the EIS should address, as well as alternative courses of action.
2. **Draft EIS Review** - the stage where the Draft EIS is available for review and comment. The public can provide feedback to the agency about gaps in the information provided or the quality of the analysis in the document, as well as impacts the document may not have addressed or measures needed to mitigate any adverse impacts.
3. **Final EIS Review** - public comments on the final document related to the agency decision.

THE USACE IS INTERESTED IN YOUR COMMENTS REGARDING THE GLADES RESERVOIR EIS. SCOPING COMMENTS ARE DUE BY APRIL 17, 2012

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TIPS FOR MAKING EFFECTIVE COMMENTS:

- Be brief so the point of your comment is not missed.
- Be as specific as possible in your comments.
- Focus your comments on specific topics, locations, or issues.
- State the facts and back them up where possible. Be sure to share your sources of information to help make your point.
- Please note that petitions and form letters are only counted as one comment.

THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION WOULD BE THE MOST USEFUL:

- Are there additional issues (not already identified) that the USACE should consider?
- Are there additional alternatives that the USACE should consider?

PRIVACY ACT STATEMENT

Authority: Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (33 USC 1344). **Principal Purpose:** To provide the USACE with information concerning comments received from members of the general public; businesses; municipal, state, Federal or other government agencies; non-governmental organizations; or other interested parties. The information provided will be used by the USACE to assist in its review, consideration of, and response to comments received. **Routine Uses:** The information provided may be shared with other Federal or state government agencies, and may be disclosed by the USACE in accordance with applicable Federal law. **Disclosure:** Providing information is voluntary.