



January 5, 2001

Mr. Doug Bellomo
Federal Emergency Management Agency
Room 423
500 "C" Street
Washington, DC 20472

Dear Doug:

I am writing to you in response to your primary concern regarding the operation during a flood at Saluda.

The Saluda Flow Forecasting model is a real-time model that takes input from a network of rainfall and streamflow gages spread over the entire Saluda River drainage basin upstream of the Saluda Dam. "Real-time" data can be retrieved every four hours (under normal circumstances – possibly more often during an emergency) from the USGS, and used to run the model, together with operating input from the upstream project (Lake Greenwood), and from Saluda Hydro. This allows SCE&G to make "real-time" decisions about operations of the Saluda Hydro plant and spillway. Based on the results of a number of model runs using different operating scenarios. The model has been calibrated using historical floods.

To input the specific hydrographs proposed by the FEMA will require manipulation of the model to operate in a mode other than its normal operating mode, and will therefore require additional time. Added to the time required to route the desired floods through Lake Murray, is the time needed for making contractual arrangements with the consultant to do the work.

If you have need any additional information, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

President & Chief Operating Officer

