

**STUDY PROGRESS REPORT
CULTURAL RESOURCES
MORGAN FALLS PROJECT (FERC NO. 2237)**

NOVEMBER 2005

1. INTRODUCTION

Georgia Power is conducting a study to survey the Morgan Falls Project shoreline for unknown archeological resources and to research recorded information of known archeological and historical sites at the project. The study is being conducted according to the study plan for the Morgan Falls Project approved by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (Commission) on November 26, 2004. The results of the study will be presented in two reports, a Historic Hydro-Engineering Study Report and a Historic Properties Study Report, which Georgia Power will distribute to participants and file with the Commission by April 1, 2006. Georgia Power will use the information generated by the study to evaluate environmental effects of its proposed project in the Preliminary Licensing Proposal, to be filed with the Commission by October 2, 2006.

Specific objectives of the Historic Hydro-Engineering Study are to:

- Conduct research at Georgia Power and other relevant archives to recover historical information on planning and development of the Morgan Falls Project.
- Conduct on-site documentation of the hydroelectric facility.
- Prepare a detailed report documenting results of research and providing a definitive National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) recommendation for the facility.

Specific objectives of the Historic Properties Study are to:

- Identify and delineate the area of potential effect.
- Identify known historic resources through literature review.
- Identify presently unknown archeological resources through a terrestrial survey within the project boundary.
- Determine if any historic resources are eligible for listing on the NRHP.
- Evaluate the potential for effects on historic properties by the operation of the project or by activities conducted along the shoreline of the project reservoir.
- Prepare a detailed report documenting the results of background research, field work, and data analysis.

2. STUDY PROGRESS

2.1 Historic Hydro-Engineering Study Activities Completed

- August-September 2005 – Background research at Georgia Power archives and State of Georgia Library and Archives.
- August 2005 – Developed detailed facility history for Historic Hydro-Engineering Study Report.
- September 2005 – On-site documentation of hydroelectric facilities, including interviews with facility staff and detailed photographs.
- September 2005-November 2005 – Preparation of draft report, including detailed history of facility, photographic documentation, and NRHP considerations.

2.2 Historic Properties Study Activities Completed

- March 2004 – Consultation with American Indian tribes that had historic presence in Morgan Falls Project area to obtain information and concerns of tribes.
- Consultation with Georgia Historic Preservation Division (HPD) regarding known historic properties information in project area.
- June 2004 – Conducted background research and submitted report on previous archaeological investigations (1959, 1974, 1994, and 1995) at or near Morgan Falls.
- February 2005 – Consultation with the Chattahoochee River National Recreation Area staff regarding information available from previous historic properties investigation in the project area by the National Park Service (NPS).
- June 2005 – Conducted reconnaissance of project area to define field survey areas and review current conditions.
- August 2005 – Developed survey plan and preliminary schedule for field work (November-December 2005).
- November 2005 – Conducted terrestrial archeological site investigations at sites deemed “High Probability” sites around project shoreline areas.

2.3 Historic Properties Study Preliminary Findings

- Locations of previously recorded archaeological sites cannot be definitively placed within the Morgan Falls project boundary because of original mapping quality; field investigation required.

3. VARIANCE FROM STUDY PLAN AND SCHEDULE

- No variance from Historic Hydro-Engineering Study plan and schedule.
- No variance from Historic Properties Study plan and schedule.

4. REMAINING ACTIVITIES

4.1 Historic Hydro-Engineering Study

- Complete the Historic Hydro-Engineering Study Report.

4.2 Historic Properties Study

- Conduct detailed terrestrial archaeological survey of selected project area segments.
- Evaluate archaeological sites for eligibility to the NRHP.
- Evaluate the potential for effects on historic properties by the operation of the project or by activities conducted along the shoreline of the project reservoir.
- Prepare the Historic Properties Study Report for review by Georgia HPD, NPS, Indian Tribes, and the Commission.
- Prepare a Historic Properties Management Plan, if required.