

**NORTHWEST GEORGIA REGIONAL COMMISSION
DEVELOPMENT OF REGIONAL IMPACT REPORT**

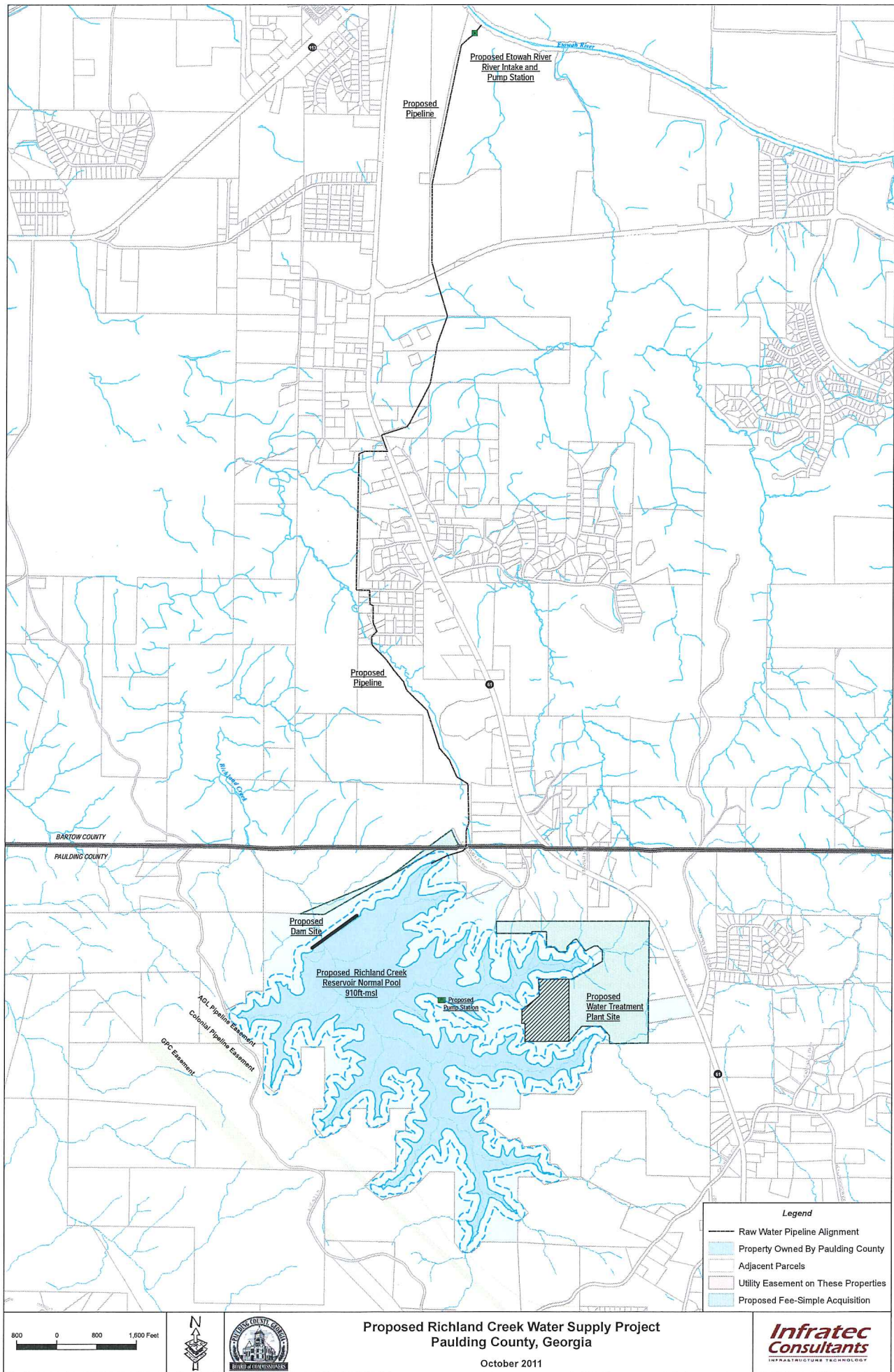
FOR

**PAULDING COUNTY RICHLAND CREEK RESERVOIR
DRI # 2444**

October 24, 2014

The Northwest Georgia Regional Commission finds that "The proposed local government action is in the best interest of the Region and therefore of the State".

The proposed project appears to be consistent within the *Northwest Georgia Regional Commission Regionally Important Resource Plan* (January 19, 2012). The proposed project appears to be consistent with the policies, programs and projects contained in the *Northwest Georgia Regional Commission Regional Comprehensive Plan* (January 16, 2014).



COMMENTS FROM AFFECTED PARTIES

David Howerin

From: Goodloe, Robin <robin_goodloe@fws.gov>
Sent: Monday, September 29, 2014 9:28 AM
To: David Howerin
Cc: Allen Poole; Ann Lippmann; Barnett Chitwood; Becky Champion; Bob Jones; Boyd Austin; Chris Robinson; Curtis DeWayne Comer; Dan Reuter; David Austin; David Hankerson; Doris Devey; Doug Hooker; Elizabeth Shirk; Eric Linton; Glenn M. Page; Irwin Bagwell; Jamie Doss; Jamie McCord; Jim Ussery; Jon West; Judson Turner; Kendall Smith; Kevin Clark; Lanier Boatwright; Laura Beall; Leigh Ross; Lloyd Frasier; Marshelle Thaxton; Marty Smith; Matt Denton; Matt Santini; Mayor of Braswell; Michael Carter; Mike Jones; Peter Olson; Robert Rokovitz; Sam Grove; Sammy Rich; Steve Taylor; Steve Walker; Tim Lee; Tom Worthan; US COE - Mobile
Subject: Re: Paulding County Development of Regional Impact - Richland Creek Reservoir

The Paulding County Board of Commissioners proposes to dam Richland Creek, a tributary to the Etowah River, to create a 305-acre pump storage water supply reservoir. Storage will be augmented by daily uptake of up to 47 million gallons (mgd) pumped from a new intake in the Etowah River below Lake Allatoona through new raw water transmission lines to the reservoir. The water yield for the project would be 35 mgd based on the proposed minimum in-stream flow criteria.

Richland Creek provides habitat for the Cherokee darter, a fish listed as threatened under the Federal Endangered Species Act. Working with the Fish and Wildlife Service, Paulding County incorporated the following measures into project design (as described in their Clean Water Act Section 404 permit application):

- Maintain temperature of waters releases from the reservoir that are suitable for survival of Cherokee darters in downstream reaches.
- Release waters from the reservoir with dissolved oxygen concentrations above 6 mg/L.
- Install a continuous-monitoring gauge station in Richland Creek to monitor discharge, temperature, dissolved oxygen, turbidity, and pH below the dam.
- Implement best management practices during construction and inundation of the reservoir to minimize mobilization of sediment into streams.

In addition, the Corps, as part of the Endangered Species Act Section 7 consultation process, mandated three other Service requirements:

- Upload real-time data on withdrawal rates from the Etowah River, pool elevation in the reservoir, and all water quality and quantity data collected in Richland Creek below the reservoir to a website accessible to all stakeholders beginning at least 2 years before reservoir construction begins so water quality can be monitored at baseline levels and through the construction process.
- To the maximum extent practicable, limit land clearing activities and dam/intake construction to times outside the suspected Cherokee darter spawning period (April 1-June 15).
- Establish two biological monitoring stations in Richland Creek: one below the proposed dam and one below the SCS lake to collect data on fish community diversity and density. The stations are to be monitored the year the permit is issued (baseline), biannually until reservoir

construction begins (baseline), and annually during years when land is being cleared, the dam constructed, and the reservoir filled. Monitoring should be conducted annually for the first 5 years of operation, and at 3 year intervals thereafter.

We appreciate the opportunity to provide information on the project,

Robin Goodloe

Robin Goodloe, Supervisory Fish and Wildlife Biologist, North Georgia Office

Georgia Ecological Services

US Fish and Wildlife Service

105 West Park Drive, Suite D, Athens, GA 30606

706-613-9493 X221



706-613-6059 fax

On Mon, Sep 29, 2014 at 8:09 AM, David Howerin <dhowerin@nwgrc.org> wrote:

Good Morning:

The proposed Paulding County Richland Creek Reservoir has been submitted to the Northwest Georgia Regional Commission for review as a Development of Regional Impact (DRI # 2444). Please review the information about the project and give us your comments on the attached "Request for Comments Form" by October 14, 2014.

Paulding County's Richland Creek Reservoir Project is being planned to fulfill the long-term water supply needs of the County through the year 2060. Paulding County currently owns and operates the public water system infrastructure within the County; however, the County purchases all of its water supply from Cobb County-Marietta Water Authority (CCMWA) through a long-term Intergovernmental Agreement. The new reservoir will supplement the existing water supply in order to fulfill the projected 50-year need of 53.2 million gallons per day (MGD). Richland Creek Reservoir is estimated to provide 35 MGD of the total water supply need. Richland Creek Reservoir will be a pumped storage reservoir located in northern Paulding County on the upper reaches of Richland Creek. Its primary water source will be pumped from the Etowah River at a site located four miles to the north in Bartow County as illustrated on the attached map. The project includes all phases needed to deliver water from river to tap.

Thank you.

David M. Howerin

Planning Director

Northwest Georgia Regional Commission

P.O. Box 1798

Rome, Georgia 30162-1798

Tel: 706-295-6485

Fax: 706-295-6665



MEMORANDUM

TO: Jon Tuley, Land Use Division

FROM: Daniel Studdard, Transportation Access and Mobility Division

DATE: October 14th, 2014

SUBJECT: **Transportation Division Review of DRI # 2444**
Project: Paulding County Richland Creek Reservoir
County: Paulding
Location: Northern Paulding County on the upper reaches of Richland Creek
Analysis:
Expedited ☐
Non-Expedited ☒

cc: David Haynes
TAMD

The Transportation Access & Mobility Division has reviewed the DRI - Request for Comments from submitted by the Northwest Georgia Regional Commission. The following input is provided for the Infrastructure section of the DRI Report.

The planned Paulding County Richland Creek Reservoir is located in northern Paulding County near the Bartow County line, west of Cartersville Highway/SR 61. It is also on the upper reaches of Richland Creek.

After completion, the Paulding County Richland Creek Reservoir is expected to generate 25 vehicle trips per day. Based on these low projected traffic volumes, the transportation impact to the surrounding area is expected to be negligible. Therefore, no additional transportation comments are necessary for this development.

David Howerin

From: Jonathan Tuley <JTuley@atlantaregional.com>
Sent: Monday, October 13, 2014 9:26 AM
To: David Howerin
Subject: FW: Outer County DRI - Richland Creek Reservoir (Paulding County)
Attachments: Out or Region - Richland Creek Reservoir - Paulding.docx

David,

See attached comments from the Metropolitan North Georgia Water Planning District. Other than the attached, ARC has no further comments.

Thank you for the opportunity to review and comment on this development.

Jon Tuley, AICP
Principal Planner
Atlanta Regional Commission
regional impact + local relevance
40 Courtland Street, NE
Atlanta, Georgia 30303-2538
P | 404.463.3307
F | 404.463.3254
jtuley@atlantaregional.com
atlantaregional.com

From: Jim Santo
Sent: Monday, October 13, 2014 7:55 AM
To: Jonathan Tuley
Subject: RE: Outer County DRI - Richland Creek Reservoir (Paulding County)

Jon,

NRD and District comments are attached.

James M. Santo
Principal Planner

Natural Resources Division
Atlanta Regional Commission
regional impact + local relevance
40 Courtland Street, NE
Atlanta, Georgia 30303-2538
P | 404.463.3258
F | 404.463.3254
jsanto@atlantaregional.com
atlantaregional.com

Connect with ARC

Like us on [Facebook](#) »

OUT OF REGION DRI

RICHLAND CREEK RESERVOIR

Paulding County

Natural Resources Division Review Comments

October 9, 2014

The proposed Richland Creek Reservoir in Paulding County is currently listed as a future water source for Paulding County in the Metropolitan North Georgia Water Planning District's 2009 Water Supply and Water Conservation Management Plan. The proposed construction time frame and proposed capacity are consistent with the information provided in the District Plan. The Water District and the Natural Resources Division fully support the proposal.

CONFIDENTIALITY NOTICE: This e-mail and any attachments are intended solely for the use of the named recipient or recipients. Any dissemination of this e-mail by anyone other than an intended recipient is strictly prohibited. If you are not a named recipient, you are prohibited from any further viewing of the e-mail or any attachments or from making any use of the e-mail or attachments. If you believe you have received this e-mail in error, notify the sender immediately and permanently delete the e-mail and any attachments, and all copies.

From: Jonathan Tuley

Sent: Tuesday, October 07, 2014 9:16 PM

To: Dan Reuter; Jared Lombard; Allison Duncan; David Haynes; Daniel Studdard; Katherine Zitsch; Jim Santo; Mike Alexander; Jim Skinner

Subject: Outer County DRI - Richland Creek Reservoir (Paulding County)

Importance: High

Outer County DRI Request for Comments

The proposed Paulding County Richland Creek Reservoir has been submitted to the Northwest Georgia Regional Commission (NWGRC) for review as a Development of Regional Impact (DRI # 2444). Please review the information about the project and send me your comments by October 14, 2014. If you have additional questions, you may send them to me or directly to David Howerin with the NWGRC at dhowerin@nwgrc.org.

Paulding County's Richland Creek Reservoir Project is being planned to fulfill the long-term water supply needs of the County through the year 2060. Paulding County currently owns and operates the public water system infrastructure within the County; however, the County purchases all of its water supply from Cobb County-Marietta Water Authority (CCMWA) through a long-term Intergovernmental Agreement. The new reservoir will supplement the existing water supply in order to fulfill the projected 50-year need of 53.2 million gallons per day (MGD). Richland Creek Reservoir is estimated to provide 35 MGD of the total water supply need. Richland Creek Reservoir will be a pumped storage reservoir located in northern Paulding County on the upper reaches of Richland Creek. Its primary water source will be pumped from the Etowah River at a site located four miles to the north in Bartow County as illustrated on the attached map. The project includes all phases needed to deliver water from river to tap.

Thanks,

Jon Tuley, AICP

Principal Planner

Atlanta Regional Commission

regional impact + local relevance

40 Courtland Street, NE

Atlanta, Georgia 30303-2538

P | 404.463.3307

F | 404.463.3254

jtuley@atlantaregional.com

atlantaregional.com

David Howerin

From: Waldrop, Grant <gWaldrop@dot.ga.gov>
Sent: Thursday, October 16, 2014 4:48 PM
To: 'dhowerin@nwgrc.org'
Subject: RE: Paulding County Development of Regional Impact - Richland Creek Reservoir

David,

I know I am a couple of days late, but I lost track of this in my inbox. Our only comment would be that you will need to get a permit for any construction within State Right of Way. That includes the driveway which we would like to see line up with Douthit Bridge Rd.

Thanks,

W. Grant Waldrop, P.E.
District Traffic Engineer
District 6
500 Joe Frank Harris Pkwy
Cartersville, Ga 30120
Office: (678) 721-5286
Cell: (404) 520-8427

From: Comer, DeWayne
Sent: Monday, September 29, 2014 9:25 AM
To: Ray, David; Waldrop, Grant; Bonner, Kerry
Subject: FW: Paulding County Development of Regional Impact - Richland Creek Reservoir

From: David Howerin [<mailto:dhowerin@nwgrc.org>]
Sent: Monday, September 29, 2014 8:10 AM
To: 'Allen Poole'; 'Ann Lippmann'; Barnett Chitwood; Becky Champion; Bob Jones; 'Boyd Austin'; 'Chris Robinson'; Comer, DeWayne; 'Dan Reuter'; 'David Austin'; 'David Hankerson'; 'Doris Devey'; 'Doug Hooker'; 'Elizabeth Shirk'; 'Eric Linton'; Glenn M. Page; Irwin Bagwell; Jamie Doss; Jamie McCord; 'Jim Ussery'; 'Jon West'; Judson Turner; 'Kendall Smith'; 'Kevin Clark'; 'Lanier Boatwright'; 'Laura Beall'; Leigh Ross; 'Lloyd Frasier'; Marshelle Thaxton; 'Marty Smith'; 'Matt Denton'; 'Matt Santini'; 'Mayor of Braswell'; Michael Carter; 'Mike Jones'; 'Peter Olson'; Robert Rokovitz; 'Robin Goodloe'; 'Sam Grove'; Sammy Rich; 'Steve Taylor'; Walker, Steven; 'Tim Lee'; 'Tom Worthan'; US COE - Mobile; US COE - Savannah
Subject: Paulding County Development of Regional Impact - Richland Creek Reservoir

Good Morning:

The proposed Paulding County Richland Creek Reservoir has been submitted to the Northwest Georgia Regional Commission for review as a Development of Regional Impact (DRI # 2444). Please review the information about the project and give us your comments on the attached "Request for Comments Form" by October 14, 2014.

Paulding County's Richland Creek Reservoir Project is being planned to fulfill the long-term water supply needs of the County through the year 2060. Paulding County currently owns and operates the public water system infrastructure within the County; however, the County purchases all of its water supply from Cobb County-Marietta Water Authority (CCMWA) through a long-term Intergovernmental Agreement. The new reservoir will supplement the existing water supply in order to fulfill the projected 50-year need of 53.2 million gallons per day (MGD). Richland Creek Reservoir is estimated to provide 35 MGD of the total water supply need. Richland Creek Reservoir will be a pumped storage

reservoir located in northern Paulding County on the upper reaches of Richland Creek. Its primary water source will be pumped from the Etowah River at a site located four miles to the north in Bartow County as illustrated on the attached map. The project includes all phases needed to deliver water from river to tap.

Thank you.

David M. Howerin
Planning Director
Northwest Georgia Regional Commission
P.O. Box 1798
Rome, Georgia 30162-1798
Tel: 706-295-6485
Fax: 706-295-6665

Georgia DOT partners with Georgia Commute Options to promote commute alternatives in metro Atlanta. Get more by driving less. Save money, reduce stress and have time to work, rest or relax while someone else drives. Find out more at 1-877-9GA-OPTIONS (1-877-942-6784) or visit us at <http://www.dot.ga.gov>; follow us on <http://www.facebook.com/GeorgiaCommuteOptions>, or <http://www.facebook.com/GeorgiaDOT> and <http://twitter.com/gadeptoftrans>

**DEVELOPMENT OF REGIONAL IMPACT
DRI - REQUEST FOR COMMENTS**

Instructions:

The project described below has been submitted to this Regional Commission for review as a Development of Regional Impact (DRI). A DRI is a development project of sufficient scale or importance that is likely to have impacts beyond the jurisdiction in which the project is actually located, such as adjoining cities or neighboring counties. We would like to consider your comments on this proposed development in our DRI review process. Therefore, please review the information about the project included on this form and give us your comments by completing the Comments from Affected Parties section of this form. The completed form should be returned to the Regional Commission on or before the indicated date.

PAULDING COUNTY - RICHLAND CREEK RESERVOIR (DRI # 2444) (9/29/14)

Preliminary Findings and Comments of the RC:

The proposed Paulding County Richland Creek Reservoir project is planned to fulfill the long-term water supply needs of the county through the year 2060. The Richland Creek Reservoir will be a 305 acre pumped storage reservoir located in northern Paulding County on the upper reaches of Richland Creek. Its primary water source will be pumped from the Etowah River at a site located four miles to the north in Bartow County. The Richland Creek Reservoir will supplement the existing water supply provided by the Cobb County-Marietta Water Authority. The Richland Creek Reservoir is estimated to provide 35 MGD of the projected 50-year need of 53.2 MGD. The estimated value at build-out of the reservoir is \$106 million. The average daily traffic during construction is expected to be 100 vehicle trips per day. During operation, the project is expected to generate 25 vehicle trips per day. Paulding County indicates that watershed wetland and stream mitigation will be included in the overall scope of the project.

Comments from Affected Party (attach additional sheets as necessary):

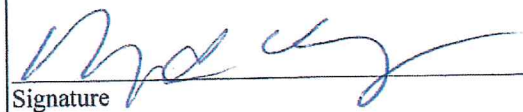
The City of Dallas supports this project as it is a vital component of the future water supply needs for this county and region.

Individual completing form: Boyd L. Austin Jr.

Agency: City of Dallas

Department: _____

Telephone: (770) 443-8110


Signature

10/10/14
Date

Please Return This Form To:

David Howerin
Northwest Georgia Regional Commission
P.O. Box 1798
Rome, GA 30162-1798
Tel: (706) 295-6485
Fax: (706) 295-6665
E-Mail: dhowerin@nwgrc.org

RETURN FORM BY: 10/14/14

**DEVELOPMENT OF REGIONAL IMPACT
DRI - REQUEST FOR COMMENTS**

Instructions:

The project described below has been submitted to this Regional Commission for review as a Development of Regional Impact (DRI). A DRI is a development project of sufficient scale or importance that is likely to have impacts beyond the jurisdiction in which the project is actually located, such as adjoining cities or neighboring counties. We would like to consider your comments on this proposed development in our DRI review process. Therefore, please review the information about the project included on this form and give us your comments by completing the Comments from Affected Parties section of this form. The completed form should be returned to the Regional Commission on or before the indicated date.

PAULDING COUNTY - RICHLAND CREEK RESERVOIR (DRI # 2444) (9/29/14)

Preliminary Findings and Comments of the RC:

The proposed Paulding County Richland Creek Reservoir project is planned to fulfill the long-term water supply needs of the county through the year 2060. The Richland Creek Reservoir will be a 305 acre pumped storage reservoir located in northern Paulding County on the upper reaches of Richland Creek. Its primary water source will be pumped from the Etowah River at a site located four miles to the north in Bartow County. The Richland Creek Reservoir will supplement the existing water supply provided by the Cobb County-Marietta Water Authority. The Richland Creek Reservoir is estimated to provide 35 MGD of the projected 50-year need of 53.2 MGD. The estimated value at build-out of the reservoir is \$106 million. The average daily traffic during construction is expected to be 100 vehicle trips per day. During operation, the project is expected to generate 25 vehicle trips per day. Paulding County indicates that watershed wetland and stream mitigation will be included in the overall scope of the project.

Comments from Affected Party (attach additional sheets as necessary):

After reviewing the information submitted for our review, the ThreeRivers Regional Commission (TRRC) recommends that the DRI is in the best interest of the Region, and therefore, of the State.

Individual completing form: James A. Abraham, Sr.

Agency: ThreeRivers Regional Commission

Department: Planning

Telephone: (678) 692-0510

Signature _____

10-7-2014

Date

Please Return This Form To:

David Howerin
Northwest Georgia Regional Commission
P.O. Box 1798
Rome, GA 30162-1798
Tel: (706) 295-6485
Fax: (706) 295-6665
E-Mail: dhowerin@nwgrc.org

RETURN FORM BY: 10/14/14

DEVELOPMENT OF REGIONAL IMPACT

DRI - REQUEST FOR COMMENTS

Instructions:

The project described below has been submitted to this Regional Commission for review as a Development of Regional Impact (DRI). A DRI is a development project of sufficient scale or importance that is likely to have impacts beyond the jurisdiction in which the project is actually located, such as adjoining cities or neighboring counties. We would like to consider your comments on this proposed development in our DRI review process. Therefore, please review the information about the project included on this form and give us your comments by completing the Comments from Affected Parties section of this form. The completed form should be returned to the Regional Commission on or before the indicated date.

PAULDING COUNTY – RICHLAND CREEK RESERVOIR (DRI # 2444) (9/29/14)

Preliminary Findings and Comments of the RC:

The proposed Paulding County Richland Creek Reservoir project is planned to fulfill the long-term water supply needs of the county through the year 2060. The Richland Creek Reservoir will be a 305 acre pumped storage reservoir located in northern Paulding County on the upper reaches of Richland Creek. Its primary water source will be pumped from the Etowah River at a site located four miles to the north in Bartow County. The Richland Creek Reservoir will supplement the existing water supply provided by the Cobb County-Marietta Water Authority. The Richland Creek Reservoir is estimated to provide 35 MGD of the projected 50-year need of 53.2 MGD. The estimated value at build-out of the reservoir is \$106 million. The average daily traffic during construction is expected to be 100 vehicle trips per day. During operation, the project is expected to generate 25 vehicle trips per day. Paulding County indicates that watershed wetland and stream mitigation will be included in the overall scope of the project.

Comments from Affected Party (attach additional sheets as necessary):

Cobb County has no concerns with the proposed reservoir. This will assist the region in managing our water resource needs. Thank you for the ability to comment on this DRI.

Individual completing form: Dana Johnson

Agency: Cobb County Community Development Agency

Department: _____

Telephone: (770) – 528-2018

Please Return This Form To:

David Howerin
Northwest Georgia Regional Commission
P.O. Box 1798
Rome, GA 30162-1798
Tel: (706) 295-6485
Fax: (706) 295-6665
E-Mail: dhowerin@nwgrc.org

Dana R. Johnson, AICP
Signature

09.29.2014
Date

RETURN FORM BY: 10/14/14

