



Relicensing Brief: VALUE OF HYDROPOWER

- Hydropower provides a low-cost energy source. With no fuels to transport or burn, hydropower is cost competitive with other power resources. Its operating and maintenance costs are low and predictable.
- Hydropower is 100 percent renewable. In fact, hydro generation accounts for a major percentage of the nation's total renewable electricity generation.
- Hydropower is a clean, efficient, low-emission resource that generates no wastes for disposal. The use of hydropower to produce electricity avoids the release of carbon emissions, sulfur dioxides, and nitrogen oxides from the combustion of other fuels.
- As a purely domestic energy source, hydropower supports U.S. energy security by increasing our energy independence. The greater use of hydropower means less reliance on foreign energy sources.
- Hydropower can provide many non-power benefits as well. Non-power benefits include water supply, grid stability, and recreation. Hydropower projects also provide habitat for fish and wildlife, as well as natural view sheds and wildlife viewing opportunities.
- Hydropower is capable of being “turned-on” at the flip of a switch much more quickly than other generation sources.
- Lloyd Shoals Dam produces average annual generation of 63,139 megawatt hours per year based on the last 20-year period from 1997-2016. This is enough power to supply over 5000 homes per year.

Bottom Line Take Away: Hydropower is a valuable domestic, low-cost, efficient, and low-emission electric power resource for this century and beyond. Lloyd Shoals Dam is a valuable asset to Georgia Power and an important component of the state's generation mix.

Issue Contact: Courtenay O'Mara and Melissa Crabbe