

## Why create a Stakeholder Working Group?

Santee Cooper is committed to creating a robust Integrated Resource Planning (IRP) process and to continually engage stakeholders to solicit feedback, as per our mission. For the 2023 IRP, Santee Cooper and Vanry Associates facilitated a stakeholder process that led to improvements to the IRP and planning processes through feedback received from participants. Santee Cooper intends to build on this foundation to continue to improve and extend its stakeholder engagement for its future IRPs. As part of this commitment, Santee Cooper is forming a working group and inviting participants who represent a wide range of interests and perspectives. The working group will play an essential role in developing IRPs.

## What is the mission and what are the objectives of the working group?

The working group's mission is to provide a wide range of perspectives and expertise to inform the development of IRPs that are in the best interest of Santee Cooper's customers and the State of South Carolina. The objectives of the working group are to:

- Create an open dialogue around Santee Cooper's IRP.
- Provide the opportunity to share wide-ranging and diverse opinions on the planning process, analysis, and the contents of the IRP.
- Provide a forum for deep and technical discussion of the analysis, and the tradeoffs inherent to integrated resource planning.
- Collaborate and discuss how diverse perspectives and approaches could advise and benefit Santee Cooper's IRP.

## Who will participate in the working group?

Santee Cooper desires to create a composition that represents a full range of interests. The working group will have a set membership and invite list of organizations representing diverse interests and perspectives including government, regulatory agencies, environmental, social, customer classes, etc. Each organization involved in the working group will assign a primary contact whose consistent involvement will benefit the process and lead to overall success in meeting the mission and objectives. In their absence and inability to attend a scheduled meeting, each primary contact is responsible and encouraged to identify someone from their organization to attend in their place.

## What is the timeline for the working group?

The working group is envisioned as a continual process that does not currently have a set end date. Organizations and the individuals identified as the primary contact will continually evaluate their ability to effectively participate. If an organization chooses to no longer participate in the working group, Santee Cooper will work to find a replacement organization that represents similar interests.

## How will the working group operate?

The working group will largely engage through virtual meetings hosted by Vanry Associates, the stakeholder facilitator hired by Santee Cooper, and be held at least every three to four months. Meetings will include technical presentations from Santee Cooper subject matter experts and consultants and allow for presentations from working group members who desire to share their thoughts and opinions. Santee Cooper will provide public webpages and an Input and Feedback Forum for the working group to share feedback and relevant documents and data for the sake of transparency with all stakeholders and the interested public.

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