

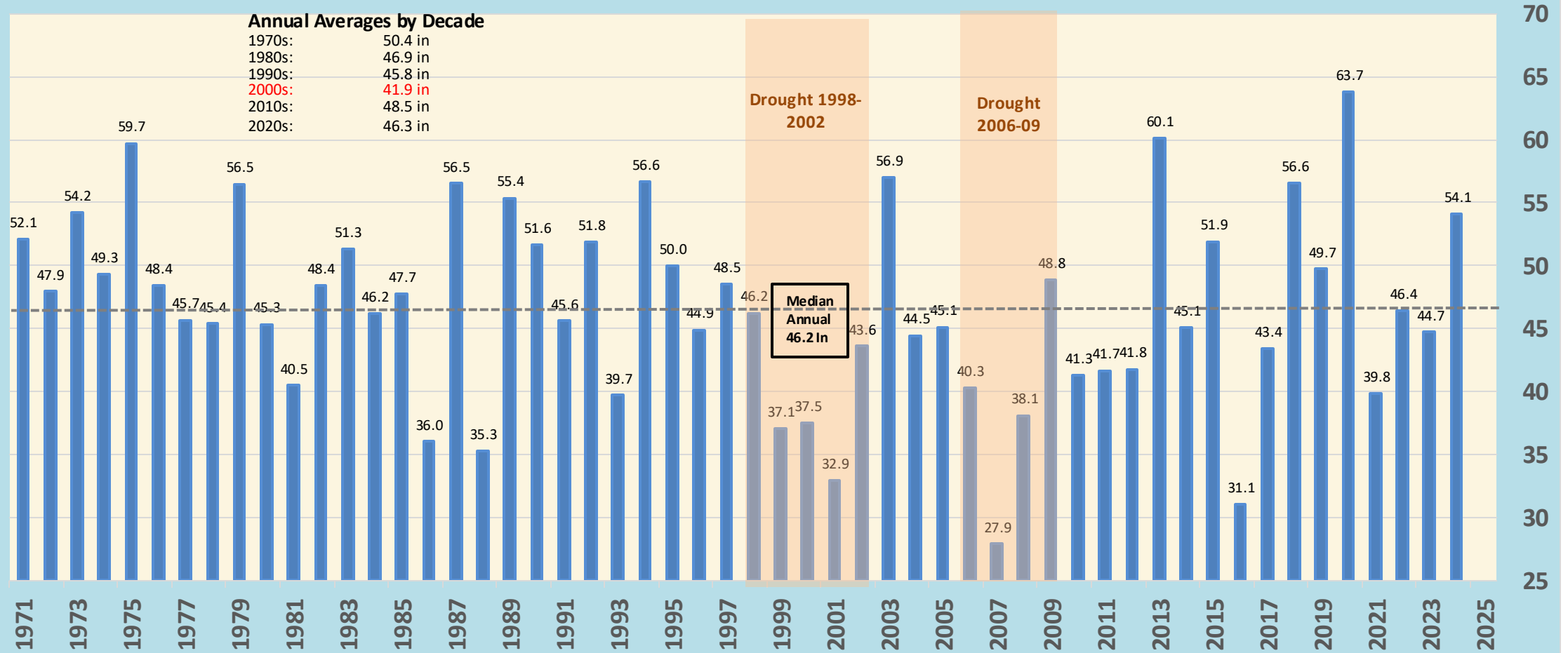
Regional Importance of a Current Drought Plan

Drought and Aquatic Ecosystems in the Southeast US
January 7, 2025

Presented by:
Jeff Lineberger, PE
General Manager, Water Strategy, Hydro Licensing & Lake Services
Duke Energy



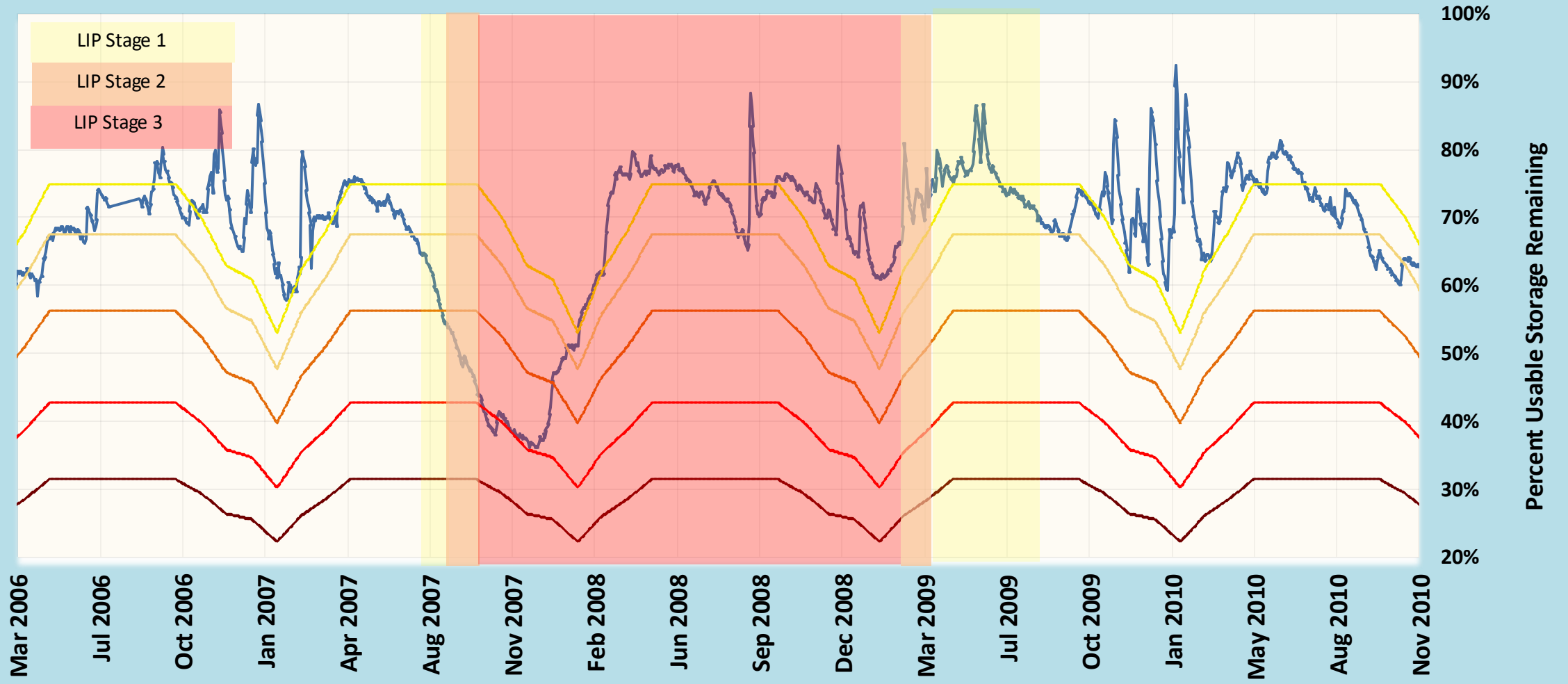
Duke Energy Hydro System Annual Rainfall in Inches 1971-2024



Catawba-Wateree Storage Index

2006-09 Drought

LIP = Low Inflow Protocol



Key Take-Aways

1. Have a Good Plan ***BEFORE*** Drought Strikes

- Can't conserve way out of drought
- Aggressive early actions will buy time for rain
- Extended drought with no plan = chaos, winners/losers, blame game

2. Essentials for a Good Drought Plan

- Science-based (*fish and human factors*)
- Stakeholder-driven with buy-in
- Stages based on objective criteria requiring action
 - ❖ No political decisions to be made about (1) stages, (2) water use reduction goals, (3) big-picture actions
 - ❖ Mandatory water use restrictions must be a tool
- Impacts are balanced (pain sharing)
- Over communicate
- Process for recovery is equally important
- Incorporate lessons-learned each time

3. Long-Range Water Supply Planning with Water Use Efficiency Focus is Invaluable

- Catawba-Wateree Water Management Group – Provide water for human needs while protecting ecological health of the waterway
- Yadkin-Pee Dee Water Management Group
- River Basin Councils in South Carolina



www.catawbawatereewmg.org

Water is a Shared Resource with Shared Responsibility

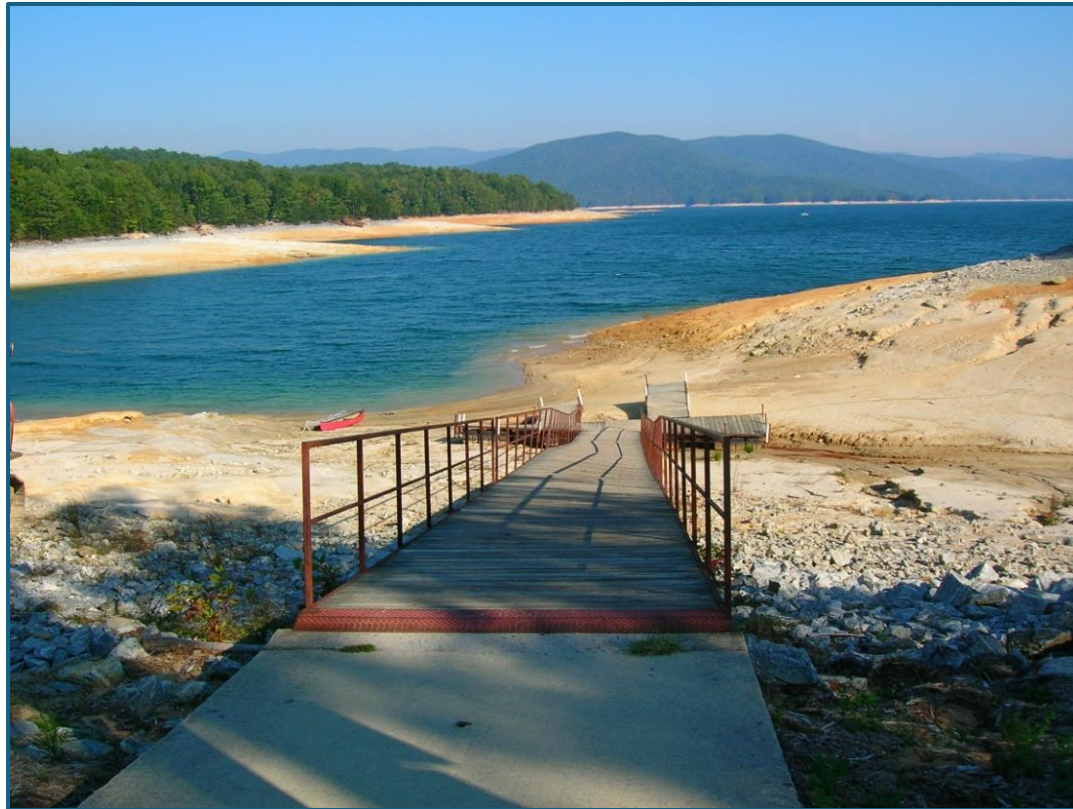
www.duke-energy.com/community/lakes



www.ypdwater.org

What Happens when Drought Plans Aren't Updated?

(Drought of Record at Lake Jocassee)



*Lake Jocassee 26.3 ft
below full pond –
10/6/2008*