

1980 S.C. Op. Atty. Gen. 105 (S.C.A.G.), 1980 S.C. Op. Atty. Gen. No. 80-55, 1980 WL 81938

Office of the Attorney General

State of South Carolina

Opinion No. 80-55

May 19, 1980

*1 Honorable Robert L. McFadden
Chairman
Judiciary Committee
House of Representatives
Post Office Box 11867
Columbia, South Carolina 29211

Dear Mr. McFadden:

Your letter of May 15, 1980, recites that the South Carolina Legislative Committee to Study the Catawba Indian Land Claims, a work group composed of representatives from the Governor's Office, the Attorney General's Office, Congressman holland' Office, the County Councils of Lancaster, Chester and York Counties, the Catawba Indians, the Tricounty Landowners's Association and the Study Commission, plans to meet at an early date. You inquire if this meeting will be open to the public pursuant to the provisions of the Freedom of Information law of this State.

I advise that the items of the Freedom of Information Act noted in your letter are applicable and I am in agreement with your conclusion that these discussions may be conducted in executive session. The sections to which you refer are:

'§ 30-4-40. Matters exempt from disclosure.

'(7) Correspondence or work products of legal counsel for a public body and any other material that would violate attorney-client relationships.'

'§ 30-4-70. Meetings which may be closed; procedure; circumvention of chapter; disruption of meeting, executive sessions of General Assembly.

'(2) Discussion of negotiations incident to proposed contractual arrangements —, the receipt of legal advice, settlement of legal claims, or the position of the public agency in other adversary situations involving the assertion against said agency of a claim.'

I am, therefore, of the opinion that the discussions to which you refer may be held in executive session.

Very truly yours,

Daniel R. McLeod
Attorney General

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