The Choice On The New River

The choice on the New River s simple: Will the New River alley remain under the control f North Carolina people, or will t be controlled by bureaucrats n Washington and power comp-ny officials in New York?

If Appalachian Power Co. uilds the dam, North Carolina eople will lose control of the lew River valley.

Control will then be in the ands of Appalachian's parent ompany, American Electric ower, in New York, and the ederal Power Commission in Washington

Experience has shown that merican Electric Power can get what it wants from the FPC. And xperience has also shown that he FPC cares nothing for the eople of the New River valley.

Let's always bear in mind that merican Electric Power and ppalachian are not North Caro-ina companies. North Carolina eople have no way to put press-re on them. The state govern-nent in Raleigh, the N .C. Utili-ies Commission, the N. C. Gene-al Assembly cannot touch them.

Neither can our state govern-ment influence the FPC. Even our representatives in Congress have been slapped in the face by the FPC every time they tried tc get the Commission to consider the interests of the people in the New River valley.

So the meaning of the dam is clear: high-handed public utility officials in New York and the bureaucrats they control in Washington would have a free-hand along the New River.

Now consider the other choice: The New River valley can be kept under the control of North Carolina people by putting it in the state scenic rivers system.

This would be done by our own General Assembly. And the people and representatives of the mountain counties would help write the terms.

The mountain people and their representatives could also make their voice heard at any time in the future if they didn't like the way the state was carrying out the scenic river plan.

Let's save the New River from outsiders in New York and Washington. Let's keep the New River for North Carolina people.

Wallace Carroll