



Dam Safety Program

U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS

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Location

Rock Island District, Nationwide

State(s)

IA,IL,MO,WI

Congressional District(s)

IA-1, IA-2, IA-3, IL-1, IL-11, IL-13, IL-16, IL-17, IL-18, IL-2, IL-3, MO-6, WI-3

Status

"Federal Guidelines for Dam Safety" was first published in June 1979 with the most recent update in 2004. The purpose of these guidelines is to enhance national dam safety and to encourage high safety standards in the management procedures and technical activities of Federal agencies. The guidelines require the head of each Federal agency having responsibility for design, construction, operation and regulation of dams to establish a dam safety office (officer), which reports directly to the head of the agency. The Interagency Committee on Dam Safety (ICODS) was established in 1980 to promote and monitor Federal and State dam safety programs. The Corps of Engineers is the Department of Defense representative on ICODS. The Rock Island District Dam Safety Program is administered and monitored by the District Dam Safety Committee, comprised of Division and Branch Chiefs including the Dam Safety Officer and Dam Safety Program Manager. The Rock Island District Dam Safety Program presides over 28 Corps and 8 Non-Corps structures. Dam failure hazard categories of the 28 federal locations are; 10 high, 17 significant, and 1 low. Of the 8 non-Federal locations, 5 are high and 3 are low hazard. The program is implemented by quarterly committee meetings to discuss and resolve issues. Meeting minutes are composed by the Dam Safety Program Manager, approved by the Dam Safety Officer, reviewed by the District Commander, and submitted to Division. The Rock Island District has no authority to modify, improve, or enforce repairs on dams outside of the Federal Dam Safety Program.

Description

Dam safety is the art and science of ensuring the integrity and viability of dams such that they do not present unacceptable risks to the public, property, and the environment. It requires the collective application of engineering principles and experience, and a philosophy of risk management that recognizes that a dam is a structure whose safe functioning is not explicitly determined by its original design and construction. It also includes all actions taken to routinely monitor, evaluate, identify or predict dam safety issues and consequences related to failure, and to document, publicize, and reduce, eliminate, or remediate any unacceptable risks. The purposes of a dam safety program are to protect life, property, and the environment by ensuring that all dams are designed, constructed, operated, and maintained safely and effectively. This is accomplished by routine inspection of projects, periodic assessment of risks of each project, emergency planning which includes exercises that involve stakeholders, agencies, local and state government, and emergency responders, interim risk reduction measures, detailed technical evaluation of potential issues, and monitoring of instrumentation.

Summarized Project Costs

Updated on 2016-Aug-31

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FY17 Budget: \$1,466,000; FY18 Budget: \$1,616,500, FY19 Budget: \$1,548,500

Major Work Item (This Fiscal Year)

Emergency Action Plan Updates/Dam safety exercises Periodic Inspections/Periodic Assessments – T.J. O'Brien Lock and Dam, Brandon Road Lock and Dam, Lock and Dam 17, Lock and Dam 18, Red Rock Dam and Remedial Works Interim/Annual Inspections - Lock and Dam 13, Lock and Dam 14, Locks and Dam 15, Lock 19, Lockport Lock and Dam, Saylorville/Big Creek Dams, Coralville Dam, Farmdale/Fondulac Dams Dam Safety Instrumentation Operation and Maintenance

Major Work Item (Next Fiscal Year)

Emergency Action Plan Updates/Dam safety exercises Periodic Inspections/Periodic Assessments – Marseilles Lock and Dam, Lock 19, Lock and Dam 21, Lock and Dam 22, Saylorville Dam and Big Creek Dams Interim/Annual Inspections - Lock and Dam 16, Lock and Dam 20, Peoria Lock and Dam, LaGrange Lock and Dam, Brandon Road Lock and Dam, Lockport Lock and Controlling Works, Coralville Dam, Farmdale/Fondulac Dams, Red Rock Dam Dam Safety Instrumentation Operation and Maintenance

Authority Details

Interagency Committee on Dam Safety (ICODS), WRDA 1996, Federal Guidelines for Dam Safety published June 1979, Executive Order 12148

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