

NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION

Division of Water, Bureau of Flood Protection and Dam Safety

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www.dec.ny.gov

Certified Letter, Return Receipt Requested

October 15, 2018

Chris E. Wheland
Superintendent of Public Utilities
25 Water Plant Road
Troy, NY 12182

Patrick Madden, Mayor
City of Troy
433 River Street, City Hall
Troy, NY 12180

Re: Ida Lake Dam, DEC ID# 226-1391
Troy (C), Rensselaer County
Class A – Low Hazard Dam
Condition Rating: “Unsound – Deficiency Recognized”

Dear Mr. Wheland and Mayor Madden:

Mr. Tom Blanchard and I conducted an emergency inspection of the Ida Lake Dam, a low hazard dam, on September 28, 2018 as part of the Department of Environmental Conservation’s (Department) ongoing Dam Safety program. I am writing you as it is my understanding that you represent the owner of this structure. A copy of the Visual Observations Report is enclosed.

Inspection

The left/right nomenclature used in this letter and in the enclosed Visual Observation Report is based on looking downstream from the center of the service spillway at the dam’s crest.

Condition Rating

The September 19, 2018 letter report (Letter Report) by Schnabel Engineering (Schnabel) indicates that structural failure of spanning timbers will progress over the next twelve months within Bays F-13 and F-14, likely resulting in dam failure. As such, the Department hereby assigns a Condition Rating of “Unsound – Deficiency Recognized” to the Ida Lake Dam in accordance with 6 NYCRR Part 673.16. The owner of a dam with a condition rating of "Unsound – Deficiency Recognized" is in violation of ECL Article 15, Section 0507 and 6 NYCRR Part 673.16. As per Part 6 NYCRR Part

673.16(j) a dam owner may contest the Department's assignment of a condition rating within 30 days of the date of the Department's notice.

As per the Letter Report Schnabel is currently developing a controlled breaching plan to lower the impoundment and reduce the downstream hazard. You may breach the dam by means of an emergency authorization in accordance with 6 NYCRR Part 621.12. If you choose this route you will need to submit to the Regional Permit Administrator at the Department's Region 4 – Schenectady Office ((518) 357-2459) a description of the proposed action; a location map and plan of the proposed project; the reasons why the situation is an emergency based on the immediate protection of life, health, general welfare, property or natural resources; actions to be taken to minimize environmental impacts; and any additional information requested by the Department necessary to make a finding of emergency.

Please keep in mind that any repair or construction activities related to the dam may require permits from Department. Well before beginning work on the dam, please check with the Regional Permit Administrator at the Department's Region 4 – Schenectady office at (518) 357-2459 to see if any permits are required.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me by phone at 518-408-0338, or by e-mail at john.smith@dec.ny.gov.

Sincerely,



John Smith, P.E.
Assistant Engineer (Environmental)
Dam Safety Section

cc w/encl: Derek Thorsland, NYSDEC, Region 4 Water Engineer,
Schenectady Office
Tom Blanchard, NYSDEC, Water, Region 4, Schenectady Office
Peter Connery, P.E., NYSDEC Dam Safety, Central Office
Kate Kornak, NYSDEC, Environmental Permits, Region 4,
Schenectady Office
Jay Wilson, Director, Rensselaer County Bureau of Public Safety

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Patrick Madden, Mayor
City of Troy
433 River Street, City Hall
Troy, NY 12180
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Rensselaer County Bureau of Public Safety
Attention: Jay Wilson, Director
127 Bloomingrove Drive
Suite 209
North Greenbush, NY 12180



Visual Observations

<i>DAM NAME</i>	Ida Lake Dam				
<i>STATE ID</i>	226-1391	<i>SECTION</i>	A	<i>HAZARD CODE</i>	A
<i>COUNTY</i>	Rensselaer			<i>INSPECTION DATE</i>	9/28/2018
<i>NEAREST DS CITY/TOWN</i>	Troy			<i>INSPECTOR(S)</i>	TEB/JZS
<i>OWNER'S NAME</i>	CITY OF TROY				
<i>DOWNSTREAM HAZARD</i>	Low			<i>TOWNSHIP</i>	City of Troy

WATER LEVEL BEHIND DAM 5 inches over the spillway crest, by eye

DRAIN OPERATION Unknown

DEFICIENCIES

- | | | |
|--|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1) Seepage | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 4) Maintenance | <input type="checkbox"/> 7) Cracking |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 2) Slope Stability | <input type="checkbox"/> 5) Surficial Deterioration | <input type="checkbox"/> 8) Movement/Misalignment |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 3) Undesirable Growth | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 6) Voids | <input type="checkbox"/> 9) Data |

Masonry Section:

–Voids in the left and right abutment walls and right wing wall. Vegetative growth within and around the right masonry section. The left side was not accessed for inspection.

Downstream:

–Rip-rap on the right downstream side.

Service Spillway:

–A few logs on the crest.



Photo 1 Dam ID# 226-1391 Ida Lake Dam 09/28/2018
Dam crest looking toward the left abutment



Photo 2 Dam ID# 226-1391 Ida Lake Dam 09/28/2018
Left abutment wall



Photo 3 Dam ID# 226-1391 Ida Lake Dam 09/28/2018
Right downstream abutment wall looking downstream



Photo 4 Dam ID# 226-1391 Ida Lake Dam 09/28/2018
Right downstream wing wall