

North Carolina Department of Environment and Natural Resources

Pat McCrory Governor

John E. Skvarla, III Secretary

Date: November 6, 2014

NOTICE OF CHANGE IN DAM SAFETY ACT THAT MAY AFFECT YOUR DAM, REQUIRE ACTION

The Coal Ash Management Act of 2014, signed into law on September 20, 2014, requires all owners of <u>high</u> and intermediate hazard dams to submit Emergency Action Plans (EAPs) to the N.C. Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) and the N.C. Department of Public Safety (DPS) no later than March 1, 2015.

We are pleased to announce the launch of a web-based EAP Development Tool for dams that will assist dam owners in complying with the new statutory requirement. The EAP Development Tool is now available for all North Carolina dam owners at <u>https://staging.ncem.org/DamEAP/Default.aspx</u> Please note that once you enter this site for the first time, you will be directed to create a "NCID" which will allow you secure access the EAP Development Tool.

DPS's Division of Emergency Management (NCEM) and the Division of Energy, Mineral, and Land Resources (DEMLR) of DENR have worked in close partnership on the EAP Development Tool through which dam owners can develop EAPs by direct internet portal access using the provided template. The intent of this effort is to create an affordable, secure, statewide repository for EAPs that can be accessed by local and state emergency management personnel and dam safety program engineers for real-time access to information in the event of a dam safety emergency and to review and approve EAPs as they are submitted. The EAP Development Tool will also allow dam owners to easily update their EAPs on an annual basis as required by the new law.

Additionally, local emergency management agencies and DENR staff that respond to emergency conditions at dams will have access to the particular EAPs in their county and will be notified automatically via email when a change is made to the EAP via the EAP Development Tool.

High or intermediate hazard dam EAPs must include a downstream inundation map to be approved in the EAP Development Tool. Inundation maps must depict areas affected by a dam failure and a sudden release of the impoundment. According to the N.C. Board of Engineers and Land Surveyors, all inundation maps must be sealed by a professional engineer. An inundation map sealed by a professional engineer may be provided by the dam owner and saved within the EAP Development Tool. NCEM, through professional engineers under contract, may also offer this mapping service for dam owners in the near future at a reasonable cost. In addition, workshops to provide training on the use of this EAP Development Tool will be announced soon.

Please visit the web link periodically for updates. For questions regarding access or use of the EAP Development Tool, please contact Mr. Ken Ashe, PE, CFM of the Division of Emergency Management at <u>Ken.Ashe@ncdps.gov</u> or by phone at (919) 825-2297. If you have questions regarding the components of an EAP, please contact Mr. Roger King of the Division of Energy, Mineral, and Land Resources' Dam Safety Program at <u>roger.king@ncdenr.gov</u> or by phone at (919) 707-9220.

Division of Energy, Mineral, and Land Resources Energy Section • Geological Survey Section • Land Quality Section

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