

North Carolina Department of Environment and Natural Resources

Division of Energy, Mineral and Land Resources

Tracy E. Davis, PE, CPM Director

Land Quality Section

Pat McCrory, Governor John E. Skvarla, III, Secretary

NOTICE OF INSPECTION

March 11, 2014

CERTIFIED MAIL RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

7003 2260 0001 3551 2812

Duke Energy Corporation Attention: Kimberlee Hutchinson 526 South Church Street, ECI-013 Charlotte, North Carolina 28202

RE: Marshall Active Ash Basin Dam

CATAW-054 - High Hazard Potential

Catawba County

Dear Ms. Hutchinson:

The "Dam Safety Law of 1967," as amended, provides for the certification and inspection of dams in the interest of public health, safety, and welfare, in order to reduce the risk of failure of such dams; to prevent injuries to persons. damage to property; and to insure the maintenance of stream flows.

Our records indicate that you are the owner and/or responsible for the referenced dam, which is located off NC HWY 150 in Catawba County. The dam was inspected on February 25, 2014 and March 1, 2014 by personnel of the Land Quality Section. This inspection revealed the conditions outlined below. Please note that references to "right" and "left" in descriptions of the dam structure are referenced while looking in the downstream direction.

1. Several areas of non-uniformity, equipment damage, bare areas and steep slope were observed on the upstream and downstream slopes. It is recommended that you maintain a ground cover sufficient to restrain accelerated erosion on all earthen portions of the dam.

On March 6, 2013, our Division issued a request for additional information or revision to a repair plan for multiple anticipation erosion (washout) areas of the downstream embankment with a typical repair procedure. The letter was issued in response to your submittal received on February 15, 2013. To date, this

office does not have record of a response or approval of the proposed repair plan.

Please submit a written response as quickly as possible, but no later than ten (10) days following receipt of this letter of your intended actions in this matter. This response must include a written response with an anticipated date by which we can expect the additional information and revisions to the repair plan.

2. The second slope drain from the east side of the dam was filled with sediment. Please perform maintenance to the slope drain and associated catch basin so that this drain may function as intended.

Additionally, the following general maintenance procedures are recommended:

- 1. Maintain a ground cover sufficient to restrain accelerated erosion on all earthen portions of the structure.
- 2. Periodically remove undergrowth, woody vegetation, and trees less than six inches in diameter from the slopes and crest of the dam and establish a good grass cover. This will serve to:
 - a. prevent the formation of a root system which might significantly increase seepage through the dam which could ultimately result in failure of the structure;
 - b. reduce the possibility of damage to the dam due to the uprooting of trees by wind or other natural causes; and
 - c. facilitate ease of inspection and increase the likelihood of early detection of more serious problems connected with the dam.

Additional information on the problems associated with undesirable vegetation on dams can be found in free publications such as FEMA 534, *Impacts of Plants on Earthen Dams*. This document can be viewed online at http://www.damsafety.org/media/Documents/PDF/fema-534.pdf.

- 3. Periodically remove all trees from the emergency spillway. This will minimize the possibility of its capacity being reduced by the entrapment of debris, should the emergency spillway become active.
- 4. Periodically check the operation of all drain valve facilities. This will ensure satisfactory operation of the drains should an emergency situation arise.
- 5. Periodically monitor the subject dam and appurtenant works with respect to elements affecting its safety. This is in light of the legal duties, obligations, and liabilities arising from the ownership and/or operation of a dam.

During this inspection we also investigated the potential for property damage and loss of life in the event that your dam fails. This investigation determined that failure of your dam could result in possible interruption of utility service and significant environmental damage to Lake Norman. Therefore, we are listing your dam in the "High

Duke Energy Corporation Notice of Inspection March 11, 2014 Page 3 of 3

Marshall Active Ash Basin Dam CATAW-054

Hazard Potential". Note that all hazard classifications are subject to change due to downstream conditions and/or plant operating procedures.

Please be advised that the Division of Energy, Mineral and Land Resources must approve any excavation, modification, or major repair work to this dam before the work commences. Also, note that this dam may not be breached, meaning the dam may not be drained by cutting a notch in the dam, without prior engineered breach plans being submitted to and approved by the Division of Energy, Mineral and Land Resources.

The "Dam Operation Maintenance and Inspection Manual" published by this Division provides inspection guidelines and recommended routine dam maintenance activities for the owner as well as emergency procedures in the event of possible dam failure. This document may be viewed online at http://portal.ncdenr.org/web/lr/dams.

Although every reasonable effort is made to determine the safety of each dam, our resources generally limit us to a surficial inspection of the dam and its appurtenant structures. This letter carries no implication regarding the internal stability of the dam. Dams, and especially their spillways and conduits, deteriorate with age. You are therefore advised to keep a close watch on the dam and notify us if you detect any changes, especially cracks, ground movements, or changes in seepage rate or color.

Please notify this office in writing if you wish to assert that you have no ownership or otherwise are not responsible for maintenance or repairs to the subject dam. If you have an emergency situation during non-office hours, you should notify 911 and the State Emergency Operations Center at 1 (800) 858-0368. They will notify the appropriate personnel in this Office of the situation.

Your cooperation and consideration in maintaining a safe dam is appreciated. Should you have any questions concerning our inspection, please contact me at (704) 663-1699.

Sincerely,

Zahid S. Khan, CPM, CPESC, CPSWQ

Regional Engineer
Land Quality Section

Zalid S. Km

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cc:

Steven M. McEvoy, PE, State Dam Safety Engineer

DAM SAFETY INSPECTION REPORT

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See file		HAZARD CLASS Improvedate (B)			
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Scott Parks, Alex Ripp Scott Nordacen Kim Hutchinson, Maintenance Renotes Periodic reinspection					
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DAM SAFETY INSPECTION REPORT

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