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Via Electronic Mail

December 22, 2025

Mr. Alexander Carli-Dorsey
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, New England Region
Five Post Office Square
Suite 100
Boston, MA 02109

**Re: GE-Pittsfield/Housatonic River Site
Rest of River (GECD850)
Revised Operation, Monitoring, and Maintenance Plan for Rising Pond Dam**

Dear Mr. Carli-Dorsey:

On December 19, 2024, GE submitted to EPA a Revised Operation, Monitoring, and Maintenance (OM&M) Plan for Rising Pond Dam in accordance with the requirements of the previously approved OM&M Plan. On October 21, 2025, EPA provided conditional approval of that Revised OM&M Plan and directed GE to submit a further revision of that plan addressing EPA's conditions. Enclosed for EPA's review and approval is that further Revised OM&M Plan for Rising Pond Dam, prepared for GE by GZA GeoEnvironmental, Inc. This revised plan includes as appendices an updated Emergency Action Plan, the latest (2025) topographic and bathymetric survey map, further revised inspection checklists, and a report on the 2020 dive inspection of the dam. A report on the 2025 dive inspection of the dam will be included in the upcoming report on the November 2025 Phase 1 inspection/evaluation of the dam (to be submitted in February 2026).

Please let me know if you have any questions about the enclosed Revised OM&M Plan or its appendices.

Very truly yours,

Kevin G. Mooney
Senior Project Manager

Enclosure

Cc: (via electronic mail)

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OPERATION, MONITORING, AND MAINTENANCE PLAN RISING POND DAM – MA00250

Great Barrington, MA

Revised December 2025
GZA File No.: 01.0019896.81



PREPARED FOR:
General Electric Company
Pittsfield, Massachusetts



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1.0 INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

1.1 INTRODUCTION

This revised Operation, Monitoring, and Maintenance (OM&M) Plan for Rising Pond Dam (the “Dam”) has been prepared for the General Electric Company (GE) by GZA GeoEnvironmental, Inc. (GZA). It describes the operation, inspection, and maintenance procedures that GE will implement for Rising Pond Dam, which is located on the Housatonic River in Great Barrington, Massachusetts, and which is owned and operated by GE.

This OM&M Plan constitutes a revision of the prior OM&M Plan, which was submitted on August 14, 2019 and approved by the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) on August 27, 2019 and the subsequent amendment to it dated September 14, 2020, which was approved by EPA on October 6, 2020. An earlier version of this revised OM&M Plan was submitted to EPA on December 19, 2024 and conditionally approved by EPA in a letter dated October 21, 2025, which required this further revision of the Plan to address the conditions in EPA’s letter.

This revised OM&M Plan is submitted pursuant to Section II.H.21 of the Revised Permit issued by EPA on December 16, 2020 under the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) for the Rest of River portion of the GE-Pittsfield/Housatonic River Site. It presents GE’s plan to comply with Sections II.B.2.j.(1)(a) and (2)(a) of the Revised Permit insofar as those requirements apply to Rising Pond Dam. Section II.B.2.j.(1)(a) requires GE to minimize the releases of polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) from the Rising Pond impoundment by “ensuring inspection, monitoring, and maintenance” of the Dam and impoundment. Section II.B.2.j.(2)(a) similarly requires GE to “operate, inspect, monitor, and maintain” Rising Pond Dam. It specifies that such activities “shall include, (i) maintaining the integrity of the dam to contain contaminated sediments and (ii) conducting materials handling and off-site disposal and engineering controls related to dam maintenance, repair, upgrades, and enhancement activities (including, but not limited to, addressing sedimentation in sluiceways, conveyances, and other channels that transport water over, through or around the dam); and (iii) . . . all other related activities.”

The procedures described herein have been developed in consideration of those requirements, as well as the guidance provided in the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) publication entitled *Dam Safety: An Owner’s Guidance Manual* (FEMA, 1987) and the Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation (MassDCR) regulations in 302 CMR 10 on dam safety.

In addition, GE’s program for monitoring the releases of PCBs from Rising Pond Dam was and will continue to be included in GE’s general plans for surface water monitoring in the Rest of River, including GE’s Second Revised Baseline Monitoring Plan (submitted by GE on January 30, 2023 and conditionally approved by EPA on February 16, 2023) and future monitoring plans for the Rest of River, as approved by EPA.

Elevations used in this OM&M Plan are referenced to the National Geodetic Vertical Datum of 1929 (**NGVD29**).

1.2 PURPOSE

The purpose of this OM&M Plan is to describe the procedures to be followed by GE to operate, monitor, and maintain Rising Pond Dam. The overall objective of the OM&M program is to minimize releases of PCBs in sediments and surface water in Rising Pond that could be prevented by appropriate inspection, monitoring, and maintenance activities for the Dam.



The responsibility for maintaining a safe dam rests with the dam owner. The MassDCR regulations state in 302 CMR 10.13 that “the owner shall be responsible and liable for damage to property of others or injury to persons, including but not limited to loss of life, resulting from the operation, failure of or misoperation of a dam.”

Definitions of commonly used terms associated with dams and/or used in this OM&M Plan are provided in **Appendix A**. This plan also contains visual inspection checklists for the quarterly and biennial inspections discussed in **Section 3.0**. The current Emergency Action Plan (EAP) addressing emergency dam safety conditions is provided in **Appendix B**. Note that the attached EAP represents the current EAP as of the date of this revised OM&M Plan. Updates to the EAP are made annually.

1.3 DESCRIPTION OF THE RISING POND DAM

1.3.1 Dam Location

Town: Great Barrington

County: Berkshire

The left (north) abutment of Rising Pond Dam is on Route 183 (at 285 Park Street, the Hazen Paper Mill) near the intersection of Park Street and Mountain Street. To access the right (south) abutment from Route 183, one turns west onto Division Street, continues for 0.9 mile and proceeds north on Van Deusenville Road for about 1.1 miles to a railroad access gate on the right. On the east, a 0.3-mile path, capable of passing vehicular traffic, leads to the right side of the Dam.

The location of the Dam is shown on the United States Geological Survey (USGS) Great Barrington, MA topographic map (see **Figure 1**). The approximate coordinates are:

Latitude: 42.2424 N Longitude: 73.3577 W

1.3.2 Owner/Caretaker, Dam Safety Engineer, and Dam Contractor

GE is the owner of the Rising Pond Dam and is responsible for overseeing the operations and maintenance of the Dam. The current caretaker on GE's behalf is:

Kevin Mooney
GE Aerospace
1 Plastics Avenue
Pittsfield, MA 01201
Daytime Phone: (413) 448-6610
Cell Phone: (413) 441-4619

The current alternate caretaker on GE's behalf is:

Matthew Calacone
GE Aerospace
1 Plastics Avenue
Pittsfield, MA 01201
Daytime Phone: (413) 553-6614
Cell Phone: (413) 822-0082



GE has retained a professional engineer experienced in dam safety and engineering to perform routine inspections of the Dam, including inspections following flooding or storm events as needed, conduct biennial Phase 1 inspections/evaluations, and review other dam issues on an as-needed basis. The current consulting dam safety engineer is:

GZA GeoEnvironmental, Inc. (Jonathan D. Andrews, P.E., or other qualified dam safety engineer)
249 Vanderbilt Avenue
Norwood, Massachusetts 02062
Office: (781) 278-5808
Cell: (781) 983-2881

GE has also retained a licensed contractor experienced with operation and maintenance of dams to perform routine maintenance and operation activities at the Dam, as well as to respond to dam safety issues on an as-needed basis. The current contractor is:

LB Corporation (Steve Garrity)
95 Marble Street
Lee, Massachusetts 01238
Office: (413) 243-1072
Cell: (413) 441-1412

In the event that the caretaker, alternate caretaker, consulting dam safety engineer, or dam contractor changes, GE will advise EPA of those changes.

1.3.3 Purpose of the Dam

The original construction date, details, and purpose of the Rising Pond Dam are not known, but it is likely that Rising Pond Dam was constructed in the 1800s. The impoundment formerly provided water to power machinery in the adjacent mill complex. Sometime after 1934, the dam was used for power generation, which likely ceased in 1953, but certainly prior to 1979. The right embankment of the dam was previously used as a railroad embankment/bridge abutment. The purpose of the current Dam is to impound Rising Pond, including impounding existing sediments that are impacted by PCBs.

1.3.4 Description of the Dam and Appurtenances

The Rising Pond Dam is a run-of-the-river structure and currently consists of left and right earth embankments, with a spillway and outlet works. The outlet works consists of a low-level outlet controlled by a gate, an underground penstock pipe, a surge chamber, and a diversion channel. An aerial photograph of the Dam and its appurtenances is shown below. A site plan is included as **Figure 2**.



Source: GZA ArcGIS Mapper Tool

The right earthen embankment is approximately 38 feet high, with upstream and downstream slopes of approximately two horizontal to one vertical (2H:1V). Slope protection at the waterline consists of a combination of steel sheetpiles and riprap. A shed for instrumentation leads has been installed at the crest near the right spillway training wall.

The spillway consists of a concrete facing with steel crest plate. The spillway is approximately 127 feet wide and 30 feet high, with a crest elevation of approximately 716.7 feet on the left side to 716.1 feet on the right side, with an average elevation of about 716.4 feet. The approximate 0.6-foot difference in elevation across the spillway crest is likely an as-built condition; there are no records of past settlement and no indications of active settlement of the spillway. Spillway training walls are a combination of concrete, grouted stone masonry, and steel sheetpile.

The low-level outlet is located directly to the left of the spillway. The low-level outlet works consist of a grouted stone masonry forebay with a steel trash rack, a concrete-walled gate chamber with sluice gate and a 14-foot diameter steel penstock that extends approximately 220 feet downstream to a surge chamber next to the mill. The surge chamber is drained by an open diversion channel reinforced concrete tailrace that discharges to the Housatonic River approximately 250 feet downstream. The penstock invert elevation is 699 feet. In the past, gate chamber drainage was provided by a 12-inch-diameter well drain that discharged through the left downstream training wall. Well drain flow was controlled by a valve located in a covered pit between the gate chamber and



left training wall. The well drain is no longer needed because the diversion channel now provides gravity drainage for the penstock and the valve has not been operated in years. A fire protection pumphouse which services the mill building is located on the left embankment crest to the left of the forebay.

A wide embankment/fill area is present on the left side of the spillway and outlet structures. The upstream slopes are steep and have some riprap protection near the low-level outlet. The downstream slope is poorly defined and consists of the mill.

The shores of Rising Pond are generally wooded. Route 183 extends parallel to the east bank of the impoundment/river. An abandoned railroad bridge abutment and center pier are located immediately upstream of the dam. The western railroad bridge pier was formerly integral with the right embankment. The immediate downstream area includes the mill and wooded riverbanks. A USGS gaging station is located on the Division Street Bridge approximately one mile downstream of the Dam.

Active instrumentation at the Rising Pond Dam includes three staff gages installed at the spillway, and five observation wells (OWs) and 23 vibrating wire piezometers (VWPs) installed in the left embankment, spillway, and right embankment. GE is in the process of installing automated pond water sampling equipment at the right and left training walls. The sampling equipment serves no dam-related function.

1.3.5 MassDCR Size Classification

Rising Pond Dam has a height of dam of approximately 40 feet and a maximum storage capacity of 710 acre-feet. Refer to **Appendix A** for definitions of height of dam and storage. In accordance with the classification procedures of the MassDCR Office of Dam Safety (ODS), under the Massachusetts dam safety regulations in 302 CMR 10.00, Rising Pond Dam is an **Intermediate** size structure based on maximum storage between 50 and 1,000 acre-feet.

1.3.6 MassDCR Hazard Potential Classification

In accordance with MassDCR ODS classification procedures, under the Massachusetts dam safety regulations, Rising Pond Dam is classified as a dam with **Significant Hazard** potential. This hazard class assessment is consistent with the hazard class for the Dam on record with the MassDCR ODS.

1.4 PERTINENT ENGINEERING DATA

1.4.1 Drainage Area

The drainage area for Rising Pond Dam is approximately 279 square miles and encompasses a large portion of western Massachusetts along the New York border. The drainage area includes large areas of agricultural and residential development, wooded mountainous terrain, and several small urban areas.

1.4.2 Reservoir Storage Volume

Reservoir storage volume data presented below are based on previous analyses, as well as data presented in a 1979 U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Phase I Inspection Report. They are:



Condition	Elevation (feet)	Storage Volume (acre-feet)
Normal Pool	716.4	195
Maximum Pool	726.2	710
Spillway Design Flood (SDF) Pool	724.4	±600

1.4.3 Discharges at the Dam Site

Rising Pond Dam's run-of-the-river spillway constantly discharges water unless the low-level sluice gate is opened to reduce the level of the impoundment.

1.4.4 General Elevations (feet, NGVD29)¹

- A. Top of Dam Embankment 728.0 (right side); 727.0 (left side)
- B. SDF Pool 724.4 (100-year flood)
- C. Normal Pool 716.4 ±
- D. Spillway Crest 716.6 (left side), 716.3 (middle), 716.0 (right side)
- E. Low Level Outlet Invert 699 ± (Foresight, 1990)
- F. Streambed at Toe of the Dam 692 ±

1.4.5 Main Spillway Data

- A. Type: Concrete and steel-faced rock filled timber crib, ogee-shaped
- B. Weir Length: 127.0 feet
- C. Weir Crest Elevation: 716.6 feet (left side), 716.3 feet (middle), 716.0 feet (right side), NGVD29
- D. Upstream Channel: Housatonic River/Rising Pond
- E. Downstream Channel: Housatonic River
- F. Channel Bottom Elevation: 692.0 ± feet, NGVD29

1.4.6 Intake/Outlet Works

- A. Intake Type: Slide gate-controlled penstock
- B. Outlet Size: 14-foot-diameter
- C. Intake Invert Elevation: 699 ± NGVD29 (Foresight, 1990)

¹ These elevations have been updated based on the July, October, and November 2025 topographic and bathymetric surveys conducted by Hill Engineers, Architects, Planners.



1.4.7 Key Elevations to be Monitored

The following list is a table of elevations at key points that are required to be monitored by topographic survey. Locations are shown on the most recent topographic and bathymetric plan (based on a July 2025 survey with supplemental surveys conducted in October 2025 and November 2025), which is presented in **Appendix C**.

Point	Location	Elevation, feet NGVD29
A	Right side top of spillway training wall at top of dam	728.4
B	Right side spillway training wall at angle	703.8
C	Right side top of spillway training wall at bottom of slope	702.2
D	GZ-2-OW top of casing	732.2
E	GZ-5-OW/PZ top of casing	727.7
F	GZ-7-OW top of casing	715.7
G	Right end of right side sheetpile wall	726.2
H	Upstream, right corner of left side forebay sheetpile wall	723.2
I	Center gate mount	729.2
J	Centerline downstream end of concrete spillway	695.5
K	Left side corner of downstream end of concrete spillway	695.5
L	Right end downstream end of concrete spillway	695.5
M	Centerline spillway crest	716.3
N	Right end spillway crest (at wall)	716.0
O	Left end spillway crest (at wall)	716.6
P	Rebar monitoring point at low area	700.6
Q	Monitoring Well D-9 top of casing at the ground	726.9

1.4.8 Dam Construction History

The Dam was originally constructed in the 1800s. The embankment was constructed of alluvial sand and gravel excavated from the west riverbank. Original upstream slopes ranged from 1.5H:1V to 4H:1V, and downstream slopes ranged from 1H:1V to 1.5H:1V. The original embankment height was about 17 feet. The spillway and railroad bridge abutment were reportedly constructed on rock-filled timber cribbing over grouted cobbles in timber cribbing laid on the original river bottom. The original spillway was about 17 feet high and was faced with wooden planks laid at a 1H:1V slope.

In 1934, the embankments and spillway were reportedly raised by about 10.5 feet and spillway flashboards were added. Rock-filled timber cribbing was placed above the original structure and new wooden facing was placed on the spillway.

In 1953, the Dam was reportedly raised to elevation 716.5 feet. The stone masonry outlet channel training walls were replaced with a headgate and 14-foot diameter steel penstock. The downstream timber plank spillway facing was demolished and replaced with a concrete slab. The spillway crest was rebuilt with a concrete slab faced with a steel plate. The upstream timber plank facing was covered with sand and gravel fill covered by a new concrete apron slab and an upstream concrete wall was added.



Between 1991 and 1993, the Dam was significantly rehabilitated. The rehabilitation generally included: installation of an upstream steel sheetpile cutoff wall; removal of the upstream timber plank spillway facing; filling of voids in the timber cribbing with peastone and sandy gravel; flowable fill placement in voids below the crest and upstream slab; installation of tiedowns and passive H-pile shear keys in the downstream apron; replacement of deteriorated areas of spillway training wall concrete; repointing of the forebay walls and floor; replacement of forebay trash racks; construction of a concrete tailrace outlet channel and plugging of the former penstock where it entered the mill; placement of riprap slope armor; and raising of the right embankment to elevation 727.0 feet. In addition, piezometers and observation wells were installed in and below the embankment and spillway. In 2002, the forebay walls and right downstream training wall were repaired, and riprap was placed and reworked at the upstream slope and downstream toe of the right embankment.

By the early 2000s, the 14-foot sluice gate stem had become inoperable due to a broken gate stem. A replacement slide gate was installed in 2005. In 2010, new steel plate covers, fencing, bollards, and ladders were installed for the gate platform and well drain platform.

In 2011 through 2013, the Dam underwent repairs and rehabilitations to address embankment depressions that had formed behind the right downstream training wall and to address undermining of the downstream spillway apron and downstream right training wall. During this rehabilitation, sheetpiles were installed along the upstream edge of the right embankment crest. The new sheetpiles overlapped the existing crest sheetpiles and extended the line of sheeting approximately 60 feet westward (right). The right embankment was regraded, including levelling the crest to a uniform elevation 728.0 feet. The right training wall at the top of the embankment was extended upward by two feet to accommodate the crest levelling.

As part of the 2011 through 2013 repairs, a row of sheetpiles was installed at the downstream end of the spillway apron and a new two-foot-thick reinforced concrete downstream spillway apron was constructed. The timber cribbing and rubble fill underneath the apron slab was filled with un-reinforced, high-slump concrete. Concrete energy dissipaters were constructed on the downstream end of the apron. Riprap was refreshed in the discharge channel adjacent to the spillway apron. The downstream portion of the right training wall was refaced and raised by up to two feet. Voids under the downstream portion of the right training wall were filled with diver-placed grout bags and a two-phase program of cementitious grouting was performed within the embankment adjacent to the training wall. Riprap was placed behind (right of) the right training wall, including placement of geomembrane within the riprap to help convey training wall splash-over downstream. Right training wall splashover occurs adjacent to the energy dissipators during high flow events. Lexan panels were placed in the fence (in lieu of chain-link fabric) to mitigate the splash-over and help reduce ice formation during winter months. Areas of the left side stone masonry training wall were repointed. Piezometers were rewired to the instrument shed and anchors for warning buoys were installed upstream of the spillway.

At EPA's direction, GE installed warning signs at Rising Pond Dam in November and December of 2020, with one installed at a temporary location and later moved to its permanent location in October 2021. The format, wording, and locations of those signs were approved by EPA.

In August 2021, the penstock slide gate underwent inspection, repairs, and rehabilitation to address gate leakage. This work included the installation of new gate seals, which was completed with the gate removed. During the rehabilitation, a gap was observed between the gate and sill where leakage had previously been observed. A stainless-steel shim was fabricated and welded onto the bottom of the gate to help match the gate bottom to the sill. The gate was reset, and the leakage rate was found to be reduced by an order of magnitude or two. After



repair, personnel could approach the gate for close inspection, probing, and measurements. This was a marked improvement over the 2015 condition, which prevented the inspector from getting within four feet of the gate.

In the fall of 2021, the left embankment was raised (by about 1.2 feet next to the fire protection pumphouse and tying into natural ground about 25 feet to the east) to bring the top elevation of the embankment above the 500-year flood pool level.

In November 2021, deteriorated railings around the forebay were replaced, along with steel plates to provide forebay overtopping protection during a 500-year flood event. The concrete walking surface was also replaced in November 2021. In November 2021, the impoundment was lowered, and low-flow conditions were present at the dam, allowing for the removal of debris stuck on the spillway and cleaning of the weepholes. In 2023, repairs were made to deteriorated brick masonry on the left forebay wall.

A low area in the penstock was observed during a visual inspection conducted by GZA in October 2021, indicating a possible settled area or “belly.” The area of possible settlement was observed about 110 feet upstream of the tailrace. As a result, penstock investigations were conducted in 2023 and 2024 to determine the potential cause of the possible settled area and whether there is active movement or settlement of the penstock.

As of the end of 2025, a series of penstock investigations had been performed. The investigations included topographic surveys of the area above the penstock and the invert, crown and springlines of the penstock; penstock ovality measurements; a ground penetrating radar (GPR) survey of the area above the penstock; a dive inspection in the forebay upstream of the intake gate / penstock; test borings; test pits; ultrasonic thickness (UT) testing; and internal visual inspections.

The 2023 penstock investigations were documented in a report entitled *2023 Penstock Investigations End-of-Year Report*, submitted to EPA on May 24, 2024. The 2024 penstock inspections were documented in a report entitled *2024 Penstock Investigations End-of-Year Report*, submitted to EPA on December 19, 2024. The 2025 penstock inspections will be documented in a 2025 Penstock Investigations End-of-Year Report, which will be submitted to EPA shortly.

1.4.9 Most Recent Inspection

The most recent prior Phase 1 engineering inspection/evaluation of Rising Pond Dam was conducted by GZA on November 15, 2023 and was described in GZA’s revised July 23, 2024 *Rising Pond Dam Phase 1 Inspection/Evaluation Report* (GZA, 2024a). Based on the results of that inspection, Rising Pond Dam was found to be in **Satisfactory Condition** and in compliance with the MassDCR dam safety regulations. On November 20, 2025, GZA conducted another biennial Phase 1 engineering inspection/evaluation of Rising Pond Dam. A Phase I Inspection/Evaluation Report on that inspection is currently being prepared and will be submitted in February 2026. That inspection again found the Dam to be in **Satisfactory Condition**.



2.0 OPERATIONS

This section describes the operation of Rising Pond Dam under normal and flood conditions. It also discusses the potential for dewatered conditions for dam inspection and maintenance.

2.1 PRIOR HYDROLOGIC ANALYSIS, DAM RAISING, AND RIVER FLOW INFORMATION

Hydrologic and hydraulic (H&H) analyses had previously been performed by GZA as part of the Phase II evaluation in 2012.² The conclusion of the Phase II evaluations was that the spillway has sufficient capacity to safely pass the 100-year Spillway Design Flood (SDF).³ An evaluation of the 500-year return period flood was also performed. The results of that evaluation indicated that the spillway has sufficient capacity to safely pass the 500-year flood without overtopping the embankments (even assuming that the penstock was closed). Specifically, the evaluation indicated that the maximum 500-year flood pool elevation is 726.2 feet, which would allow 0.8 foot of freeboard at the left embankment (El. 727.0 feet) and 1.8 feet of freeboard at the right embankment (El. 728.0 feet). However, the evaluation also indicated that the 500-year flood would overtop the existing concrete forebay section and berm immediately adjacent and to the left of the structure by about 0.2 foot (El. 726.0 feet vs. El. 726.2 feet). A summary of the previous H&H evaluations is presented in the following table.

Flood Return Period	Estimated Peak Flow at Dam (in cubic feet per second [cfs])	Estimated Peak Water Surface Elevation at Dam (ft NGVD)
100-Year	11,220 cfs	724.4
500-Year	15,130 cfs	726.2

Note: Analysis conservatively assumed no gate operations (i.e. that the penstock gate remained closed).

As a result of the latter finding regarding the 500-year flood, the elevation of the left earthen berm adjacent to the concrete forebay section and the forebay section itself were raised to elevation of 727.0 feet, allowing 0.8 foot of freeboard above the 500-year flood. This raising project for the concrete forebay and left earthen berm was conducted in October and November 2021. The raising project is documented in a GZA letter report titled “Summary of Penstock Gate Inspection/Rehabilitation and Left Embankment/Forebay Dam Raising Activities,” dated February 16, 2022 and attached as Appendix I to the February 17, 2022 report on the November 2021 Phase 1 inspection.

There is a USGS stream gage near Rising Pond Dam in Great Barrington, USGS No. 01197500 gage about 0.9 river mile downstream of the Dam at Division Street. The flood of record at that gage is 12,200 cfs.

Current, historical, and predicted Housatonic River flows at the USGS Great Barrington gage can be found at the National Water Prediction Service (NWPS) [website](#). The NWPS-predicted flows can be compared to the estimated peak flows for the 100-year and 500-year flood return periods to help plan flood operations and responses.

² Refer to the July 2012 Phase II Engineering Evaluation (GZA 2012) for additional detail.

³ The SDF criteria for an Intermediate sized dam with a Significant Hazard classification are specified in the Massachusetts dam safety regulations (302 CMR 10.14(6)).



2.2 NORMAL OPERATIONS

No operator action is required for normal dam operations. The uncontrolled run-of-the river overflow spillway conveys flow downstream.

2.3 FLOOD OPERATION

No operator action is required for river flow corresponding to a 100-year to 500-year return period flood event. As a routine matter, as discussed in Section 4.0, GE will keep the spillway approach and discharge areas clear of debris that could hinder flow during such an event. For operational flexibility, GE will also keep the trash racks clear of debris that could also hinder flow. Given the 2021 dam raising project, floods on the order of a 500-year return period flood event will not result in overtopping of the project structures. Actions during an actual or potential emergency are set forth in the Rising Pond Dam EAP provided in **Appendix B** (or subsequent versions of the EAP).

2.4 DEWATERED OPERATIONS

Lowering the reservoir to dewater the spillway may be required to allow for an unobstructed view of the downstream face of the spillway during a dam safety inspection (see Section 3.0) or to perform maintenance or repair activities of the project structures. At least one week before any planned lowering of the water level in the impoundment, GE will provide a plan to EPA for doing so and diverting flow off the spillway. That plan will include following information:

- The timing for opening of the sluice gate and drying out the spillway;
- Details regarding the operation of the sluice gate;
- Procedures for monitoring the outflow after the sluice gate has been opened, including who will conduct the monitoring and what will be monitored; and
- The length of time that the sluice gate is anticipated to be open.

2.5 EQUIPMENT OPERATION

All equipment operations will be performed by GE's dam contractor unless otherwise noted. Details on how to operate the equipment at Rising Pond Dam are as follows:

1. Penstock Slide Gate

The penstock controls are padlocked and access to the forebay gate operator platform is via a padlocked gate through the chain-link fencing. The dam caretaker maintains control of the padlock keys. In order to operate the penstock slide gate, the padlocks must be removed. The gate is operated by turning the electric actuator switch. Gate position is shown on a display next to the actuator switch. Gate position can also be confirmed by observation of the rising stem position. A padlocked manual operator wheel can also be used to raise or lower the gate, and to hand-seat the gate in the closed position.



2. Gate Chamber Drain

The drain valve is no longer needed as the penstock drains via gravity. No operation is necessary.

3. Trash Rack Cleaning

The trash rack can be cleaned, when needed, by personnel with rakes and shovels standing on the forebay training walls. When possible, the debris should be immediately removed from the site so that it does not re-enter the forebay.

4. Instrumentation

See Section 3.5 for instruction on instrumentation operation.



3.0 MONITORING PROGRAM

This section describes GE's monitoring program for Rising Pond Dam. The monitoring program includes visual inspections, topographic and bathymetric surveys, dive inspections, penstock inspections, and instrumentation and monitoring. Refer to Section 4.0 for maintenance and repair requirements. Monitoring activities will be documented and reported to EPA as described in Section 7.2.

3.1 VISUAL INSPECTIONS

3.1.1 Quarterly Maintenance Inspections

Maintenance inspections will be conducted by GE's dam safety engineer once every quarter (e.g., four times per year). The purpose of quarterly maintenance inspections is to observe the performance of the Dam between the biennial Phase 1 inspections/evaluations (described below) and to identify maintenance activities required to maintain the Dam in proper working order. Quarterly inspections are tentatively scheduled as follows:

Inspection	Timeframe	Target Inspection Month
First Quarterly Inspection	January through March	February
Second Quarterly Inspection	April through June	May
Third Quarterly Inspection*	July through September	August
Fourth Quarterly Inspection	October through December	November

* Note: The third quarterly inspection will be replaced by the biennial inspection when scheduled.

Prior to performing a quarterly maintenance inspection, the inspector(s) will review the most recent Phase 1 Inspection/Evaluation Report as well as past recent quarterly inspection reports to be familiar with the overall condition of the Dam and any conditions of note that should be observed during the inspection.

During the inspection, the inspector will visually observe the primary project structures listed in Section 1.3 of this OM&M Plan, including the right embankment, spillway, left abutment, low-level outlet, penstock and surge chamber/diversion channel (external only, see Section 3.4 for additional penstock inspections/evaluations). In general, the structures will be observed for signs of movement, misalignment, sloughing, settlement, leakage, seepage, erosion, and deterioration. Observations at material interfaces (e.g., earthen embankment/concrete wall interface) and of the condition of the existing warning signage will be included in the inspections. Obstructions preventing full observation of a project feature (e.g. snow, vegetation, spillway flow, etc.) will be noted. Known conditions of note, based on past inspections, will be observed for any change in condition. New conditions of note will also be recorded. The inspector(s) will also take and record water level measurements of the reservoir and tailwater, and will collect instrumentation readings for the observation wells, piezometers, and grout bags, as discussed in Section 3.5.2 of this OM&M Plan.

As part of the quarterly inspections, the inspector(s) will also take physical measurements in at least two fixed locations within the forebay to help evaluate the presence of accumulating sediments. Measurements will be taken using a graduated survey rod, weighted tape, or other readily available item of known length at (1) the



upstream end of the forebay near the trashracks, and (2) the downstream end of the forebay near the penstock gate. Measurements will be recorded from the top of the concrete walkway/deck on the right side of the forebay (El. 726.23 feet) to the top of the sediment. Efforts will be made to take measurements from the same location during each quarterly inspection. Measurements and the locations of the measurements will be recorded on the quarterly maintenance inspection checklist.

The results of the quarterly maintenance inspections will be documented on the quarterly maintenance inspection checklist included in **Appendix D**. These checklists will also be accompanied by monitoring and maintenance tracking tables (included in Appendix D), which list the conditions requiring follow-up monitoring or maintenance that were observed at the Dam during any of the prior inspections and that had not been addressed as of the date of the last prior inspection and which summarize the status of any such follow-up activities.

3.1.2 Biennial Engineering Phase 1 Inspection/Evaluations

The Massachusetts dam safety regulations (302 CMR 10.00) require owners of dams to retain a qualified engineer to inspect their dams and report the results every two years for High Hazard Potential dams, every five years for Significant Hazard Potential dams, and every 10 years for Low Hazard Potential dams. These inspections are referred to as Phase 1 inspections/evaluations.

Since Rising Pond Dam is classified as a dam with **Significant Hazard** potential (reference Section 1.3.6 of this OM&M Plan), Phase 1 inspections/evaluations are required to be performed every five years. However, GE has previously proposed, and EPA has approved, the performance of Phase 1 inspections/evaluations of Rising Pond Dam on a biennial basis – i.e., every two years. Therefore, Phase 1 inspections/evaluations of this Dam will be conducted by GE's dam safety engineer every two years. Phase 1 inspections/evaluations will typically take place during the third quarter of the year, replacing the third quarterly inspection as noted above.

The purpose of the Phase 1 inspections/evaluations is to verify and supplement the results of the quarterly maintenance inspections. The Phase 1 inspections/evaluations will be conducted in accordance with the MassDCR requirements.

Prior to performing the Phase 1 inspection/evaluation, the inspecting engineer will review the previous Phase 1 Inspection/Evaluation Report and prior quarterly inspection reports along with any additional inspection information or observations collected by GE since the previous Phase 1 inspection/evaluation.

To aid in observations of the spillway under both normal-flow and dry conditions, the biennial Phase 1 inspections/evaluations of Rising Pond Dam will be conducted on a schedule that alternates between normal-flow and low-flow conditions, with each occurring every four years. During the inspections conducted under normal-flow conditions, the inspecting engineer will look for seepage and other conditions with a full operating pool. During the inspections under low-flow conditions, the impoundment water level will be lowered and flow diverted off the spillway prior to the inspection to allow visual observation of the dewatered downstream face of the spillway and apron in the dry.⁴ During these inspections, the inspecting engineer will be able to observe conditions and defects (if any) in the spillway that would be obscured by flow during normal-flow conditions, along with the

⁴ As described in **Section 2.4**, at least one week before a planned low-flow inspection, GE will provide a plan to EPA for lowering the water level in the impoundment and diverting flow off the spillway. The information to be included in the plan is listed in **Section 2.4**.



condition of the downstream riprap, grout bags, and sheetpiles. In addition, the inspecting engineer or a contractor will clear the weepholes while the spillway is dewatered, as described in Section 4.2.

The results of the Phase 1 inspection/evaluation will be documented in a Phase 1 Inspection/Evaluation Report. That report will follow the standard MassDCR Phase I Inspection/Evaluation Report format. It will include an inspection checklist, which has been developed, and is regularly updated, by MassDCR. The latest iteration of the checklist, which is available on the MassDCR website, will be used by the inspecting dam safety engineer. This latest version of the checklist, updated in June 2021, is included as **Appendix E** to this OM&M Plan. The report will also include monitoring and maintenance tracking tables similar to the ones included with the quarterly inspection reports (see Section 3.1.1).

3.1.3 Post-Storm Inspections

Inspections of the dam will be performed after high-flow events. For this purpose, a high-flow event is defined as a flow event with a measured peak river flow at or above 3,650 cfs at the Great Barrington Gage at the Division Street Bridge (USGS Gage No. 01197500), which corresponds to the “Action Stage” of seven feet above streambed at the Great Barrington gage, as determined by the National Water Prediction Service (NWPS).⁵

Post-storm inspections will be conducted when flood water conditions have subsided, and conditions allow safe access to the dam. Post-storm inspections will follow the procedure for quarterly maintenance inspections, as described in Section 3.1.1. When appropriate based on timing, a post-storm inspection may replace the quarterly maintenance inspection for the quarter in which the high-flow event occurs.

3.1.4 Ice-Out Observations

Ice-out observations will be made during the second quarterly inspection. During these inspections, particular attention will be paid to concrete/masonry structures and the trash rack. Particular care will be taken to look for damage to the concrete of the spillway, training walls, and forebay, as well as debris that may reduce spillway, penstock, or diversion channel flow capacity. The results of this inspection will be recorded on the second quarterly inspection checklist.

3.1.5 Post-Earthquake Inspections

Inspections of the Dam will be performed after significant seismic events. For these purposes, a significant seismic event is defined as an earthquake with reported damage in Berkshire County.

Post-earthquake Inspections will be conducted when conditions allow safe access to the Dam. Post-earthquake inspections will follow the procedure for quarterly maintenance Inspections, as described in Section 3.1.1. When appropriate based on timing, a post-earthquake inspection may replace the quarterly maintenance Inspection for the quarter in which the earthquake occurs.

⁵ The previous requirement to conduct a specific additional inspection prior to forecasted large storms so as to identify debris in the spillway has been deleted given that the quarterly inspections will identify such debris. However, GE has retained the requirement in Section 4.1 to make best efforts to remove debris from the spillway, if present and if practicable, when a high-flow event is forecasted. In addition, the previous requirement to conduct dam observations during major storms has been deleted for safety reasons.



3.2 TOPOGRAPHIC AND BATHYMETRIC SURVEYS

GE will conduct periodic topographic and bathymetric surveys of the Dam to monitor for signs of movement, settlement, erosion, and scour at the Dam.

The surveys will be conducted every five years. GE will retain a licensed Professional Surveyor to perform the topographic and bathymetric surveys. A baseline topographic and bathymetric survey was conducted in 2020, with the results provided to EPA by letter dated January 8, 2021 and in the February 2022 Phase 1 Inspection/Evaluation Report on the November 2021 biennial inspection. The latest topographic and bathymetric survey was conducted in July 2025 by Hill Engineers, Architects, Planners, with supplemental surveys conducted in October 2025 and November 2025. The resulting survey plan is provided in **Appendix C** to this revised OM&M Plan. The next topographic and bathymetric survey will be conducted in 2030.

The results of the topographic and bathymetric surveys will be reviewed by GE's dam safety engineer and documented in a topographic and bathymetric survey memorandum or in the next Phase 1 Inspection/Evaluation Report (if that inspection was conducted in the same year). The results of post-2020 surveys will be compared to the baseline (2020) survey by comparing the "Key Elevations to be Monitored" to help evaluate changed conditions such as potential structure settlement or deformation, or bedrock scour downstream of the spillway. Engineering judgment will be used to determine whether any observed changes in the "Key Elevations to be Monitored" require further investigation or increased monitoring. This evaluation will be included in the survey memorandum or the next Phase 1 Inspection/Evaluation Report, as previously noted. In the case of the 2025 surveys, this evaluation will be included in the forthcoming Phase 1 Inspection/Evaluation Report on the November 2025 biennial inspection.

3.3 DIVE INSPECTIONS

GE will conduct periodic dive inspections of the Dam to visually observe underwater portions of the Dam for signs of erosion, scour, deterioration, or other conditions of note. Dive inspections will be conducted upstream of the spillway and in the forebay area upstream of the low-level outlet, as well as along the downstream toe of the spillway and along the base of the downstream spillway training walls. Reference **Figure 2** for the extents of the dive inspections.

The dive inspections will be conducted every five years. GE will hire a qualified dive contractor to perform the dive inspections and document conditions observed. The dive inspector will have equipment available to measure and define the extent of observed corrosion damage. The type, extent, severity and potential cause(s) of the corrosion will be reported, along with quantitative determination of specific location(s) and severity (e.g., amount of thinning) of observed areas of severe corrosion. Documentation by the dive contractor will include photographs, videos, and sketches of observed conditions of note (if any). GE's dam safety engineer will oversee the dive inspections to help ensure that a thorough inspection is performed, and that appropriate data are collected to make engineering conclusions and recommendations.

The last prior dive inspection was conducted in 2020 (by Seaway Diving and Salvage Co.) and is documented in a memorandum titled "Revised Underwater Dive Inspection Summary, Rising Pond Dam" (GZA) dated August 14, 2020, which is included as **Appendix F** to this OM&M Plan. An updated dive inspection was conducted by Seaway Diving and Salvage Co. in July 2025. The results of that dive inspection will be included in the next Phase 1 Inspection /Evaluation Report, to be submitted in February 2026.



The results of the dive inspections will be reviewed by GE's dam safety engineer and documented in a dive inspection memorandum or in the next Phase 1 inspection/evaluation report (if the inspection was conducted in the same year). The results of post-2020 dive inspections will be compared to the baseline dive inspection (2020) by comparing documented conditions of note to help evaluate changed conditions. Engineering judgement will be used to determine whether any observed changes in condition require further investigation or increased monitoring. This evaluation will be included in the dive inspection memorandum or the next Phase 1 Inspection/Evaluation Report, as previously noted. In the case of the 2025 dive inspection, this evaluation will be included in the forthcoming Phase 1 Inspection/Evaluation Report on the November 2025 biennial inspection.

3.4 PENSTOCK INSPECTIONS AND EVALUATIONS

As discussed in Section 1.4.8, a low area in the penstock was observed during a visual inspection conducted by GZA in October 2021, indicating a possible settled area or “belly.” The area of possible settlement was observed about 110 feet upstream of the tailrace. As a result, penstock investigations were conducted in 2023 and 2024 to determine the potential cause(s) of the low area and whether there is active movement or settlement of the penstock.

In 2023, the investigations included: topographic surveys of the area above the penstock and the invert, crown and springlines of the penstock; penstock ovality measurements; a ground penetrating radar (GPR) survey of the area above the penstock; a dive inspection in the forebay upstream of the intake gate/penstock; test borings; test pits; ultrasonic thickness (UT) testing; and internal visual inspections. The 2023 penstock investigations were documented in a report entitled *2023 Penstock Investigations End-of-Year Report* (GZA 2024b), submitted to EPA on May 24, 2024.

In 2024, the investigations included: a topographic survey of the area above the penstock and the invert, crown and springlines of the penstock; UT testing; internal visual inspections of the penstock; and collection of samples of the apparent interior penstock coating for material identification testing in order to better understand the nature and composition of the coating. The 2024 penstock investigations were documented in a report entitled *2024 Penstock Investigations End-of-Year Report* (GZA 2024c), submitted to EPA on December 19, 2024; and the results of the material identification testing were submitted to EPA on January 3, 2025. The latter was approved by EPA on February 19, 2025, and the former was approved by EPA on March 17, 2025.

Annual penstock investigations were again conducted in October 2025. The findings report from these investigations will be presented in a 2025 Penstock Investigations End-of-Year Report, which will be submitted to EPA shortly. That report will also include a discussion of GE's plans to address the penstock going forward, including plans for additional investigations or evaluations, as well as potential repairs to improve the current condition of the penstock.

3.5 INSTRUMENTATION

Active instrumentation at the Rising Pond Dam includes three staff gages installed near the spillway, five observation wells (OWs), and 23 vibrating wire piezometers (VWPs) installed in the left embankment, spillway, and right embankment. There are also grout bag monitoring points established along the right downstream training wall. See Section 4.2.3 for instrumentation maintenance and repair requirements.



3.5.1 Staff Gages

The three staff gages at Rising Pond Dam are located (1) on the right upstream spillway training wall, (2) on the left side of the forebay, and (3) on the right downstream spillway training wall. The zero elevation for the staff gages installed upstream of the Dam is the left end of the spillway crest (El. 716.6 feet). Elevation markings are painted on the right downstream training wall. The staff gages are used to measure the reservoir and downstream river levels during visual inspections.

As a secondary method, surface water readings will be measured during visual inspections by measuring from known elevation point down to the top of the water. The procedure used to measure the surface water elevations is included in Section 1 of the quarterly inspection checklist, provided in **Appendix D** to this OM&M Plan.

3.5.2 Observation Wells

There are five observation wells installed at Rising Pond Dam; three wells (GZ-2, GZ-5, and GZ-7) are located on the top (crest) and downstream slope of the right embankment, and one well, which contains two riser pipes (D-9 shallow and D-9 deep), is located on the left abutment next to the pumphouse. The wells are accessible by foot. The wells are constructed as open-PVC riser pipes contained within locked protective metal standpipes/casings. The internal riser pipes are marked with the observation well labels. The locations of the wells are shown on the figures attached to the quarterly inspection checklist in **Appendix D**.

Water levels in the observation wells will be measured during all visual inspections. Measurements will be taken by measuring from the top of the metal standpipes/casings (a known/surveyed elevation) to the top of the water surface within each well using a water level meter. This measurement in each well will be compared to the expected water level range based on data collected from 2011 to 2024. If the measurement is outside of the expected water level range, the measurement will be repeated for verification.

Monitoring for a buildup of silt within the wells will also be performed during water level measurements by measuring (“sounding”) from the top of the metal standpipes/casing to the top of the silt or bottom of well using a plumb bob or water level meter, along with noting the subjective feel of the soundings (hard, firm or soft). This measurement will be compared to the previous bottom-of-well-depth measurements. If more than 12 inches of sediment are measured in the well, actions to flush the well will be performed, as described in Section 4.0.

The tables used to record the measured water levels and sediment buildup within the wells are included in Section 7 of the quarterly inspection checklist provided in **Appendix D** to this OM&M Plan.

A time-history plot of the observation well data will be maintained by GE’s dam safety engineer. The time-history plot allows for evaluation of long-term trends in the measured water levels within the wells. The time-history plot will be included in the biennial Phase 1 Inspection/Evaluation Reports.

3.5.3 Vibrating Wire Piezometers

There are 23 active vibrating wire piezometers installed in monitoring wells in the spillway and right embankment. The wells are constructed as open-PVC riser pipes contained within locked protective casings which contain a vibrating wire piezometer or as buried piezometer sensors within the concrete and embankment. Vibrating wire piezometers are read from the instrumentation shed on the top of the right embankment, except for piezometers GZ-2, GZ-5, and GZ-6, which are read directly at the protective casing standpipe for each instrument. The locations



of the vibrating wire piezometers are shown on the figures attached to the quarterly inspection checklist in **Appendix D**.

The vibrating wire piezometers will be measured during all visual inspections as follows:

Method for reading vibrating wire piezometers within instrumentation shed:

1. Plug the two leads into the connectors below the first dial inside the terminal box. Connect the GK-403 Readout Box to the lead using the provided connector with alligator clips. Connect green to green, red to red, etc.
2. Turn the GK-403 readout selector to Channel “B”.
3. Turn the dial in the terminal box to “1”. Record the reading from the GK-403 in the table below for Piezometer Number P-1B (Dial Selection “1”).
4. Cycle through all selections in the first dial, then repeat the process for the other two dials. Note that dial selections 23 and 24 have been moved to the bottom dial and have replaced dial selections 35 and 36.

Method for reading vibrating wire piezometers at protective casing standpipe (GZ-2, GZ-5, and GZ-6):

1. Connect the GK-403 Readout Box to the bare wire in the casing using the provided connector with alligator clips. Connect green to green, red to red, etc.
2. Turn the GK-403 readout selector to Channel “B”.
3. Record the number on the GK-403 in the table below.

All measurements will be compared to the expected “digits” (unit of raw measurements) based on data collected from 1993 to 2024. If the measurement is outside of the expected range, the measurement will be repeated for verification.

The table used to record the vibrating wire piezometers is included in the quarterly maintenance inspection checklist provided in **Appendix D** to this revised OM&M Plan.

Similar to the observation well data, a time-history plot of the piezometer data will be maintained by GE’s dam safety engineer. The time-history plot allows for evaluation of long-term trends in the measured piezometric levels. The time-history plot will be included in the biennial Phase 1 Inspection/Evaluation Report.

As of the date of this OM&M Plan, an evaluation to determine response values (threshold and action levels) for the piezometers installed at Rising Pond Dam is ongoing. Currently, action levels are based on historical values. The evaluation aims to establish response values based on stability requirements for the spillway and right embankment. See the November 2023 Phase 1 Inspection/Evaluation report for more details. Once the response values are determined, an amendment to this OM&M Plan will be submitted to include the response values. In the interim, the piezometers installed at Rising Pond Dam will continue to be evaluated based on the existing action levels presented in the table included in the quarterly maintenance inspection checklist in **Appendix D**.



3.5.4 Grout Bag Measurements

Grout bag and riprap depth measurements are performed at seven monitoring points located along the top of the right downstream spillway training wall. These monitoring points are measured annually (once per year), typically during the third quarterly inspection when flows tend to be lower. The locations of the grout bag monitoring points are shown in the quarterly inspection checklist in **Appendix D**.

Individuals performing grout bag monitoring should at all times be aware of site conditions, including proximity to the training wall and the potential for slipping, tripping or falling into the Housatonic River during monitoring.

The depth will be measured at these locations from the top of the training wall to the channel bottom using a metal rod with a known length that is stored in the instrumentation shed on the right embankment. Measurements will be made by inserting the rod in a moveable guide placed on top of the wall at each measuring point. The moveable guide places the measuring rod into a vertical alignment. Care will be taken on riprap measuring points to measure depth to the top point of the riprap stone being measured. During times of low or no spillway flows, if conditions allow access to the base of the training wall, depth measurements may be made directly from the grout bag or top of riprap to top of wall and the condition of the grout bags and riprap will be directly observed. Each depth measurement will be compared to the expected depth range based on data collected from 2022 to 2024. If the measurement is outside of the expected range, the measurement will be repeated for verification.

The table used to record the grout bag measurements is included in Section 9 of the quarterly inspection checklist provided in **Appendix D**.

3.6 CONDITIONS OF NOTE

If conditions at the Dam requiring follow-up actions are observed during visual inspections, topographic and bathymetric surveys, dive inspections, penstock inspections and evaluations, or instrumentation readings, GE's dam safety engineer will review those conditions, as well as the overall condition of the Dam as it relates to the observed condition of note. This review will be informed by past inspection findings, visual inspection, and instrumentation readings, as applicable. The dam safety engineer will evaluate the need for additional monitoring or maintenance activities to address the conditions of note. The dam safety engineer will provide recommendations regarding such follow-up activities to GE, and GE will provide any such recommendations to EPA in the relevant inspection reports.



4.0 MAINTENANCE AND REPAIRS

This section describes the maintenance and repair activities that GE will perform at Rising Pond Dam. There are two types of such maintenance and repair activities: (1) routine maintenance and repairs; and (2) other maintenance and repairs.

Routine maintenance and repairs are activities that are performed periodically throughout the year by GE's contractor and do not typically require input or oversight by GE's dam safety engineer (e.g., vegetative cutting). Other maintenance and repair activities are performed on an as-needed basis by GE's contractor (or other contractor as needed) and typically require input from GE's dam safety engineer (or another qualified engineer) before they are implemented (e.g., concrete repairs).

These maintenance and repair activities will be described in reports submitted to EPA, as described in Section 7.2.

4.1 ROUTINE MAINTENANCE AND REPAIR ACTIVITIES

Routine maintenance and repair activities will be performed periodically throughout the year to maintain the Dam in proper working order and to facilitate effective visual inspections. The frequency of the routine maintenance and repair activities will vary but will typically be performed several times per year by GE's contractor. Routine maintenance and repair activities will include the following:

Vegetative Cutting – GE will cut the grass cover on the left abutment, above the penstock, and on the right embankment whenever the grass cover reaches a maximum height of 12 inches to prevent the growth of trees or brush and to facilitate an effective visual inspection. Woody or intrusive vegetation will be removed from the areas on GE's property around the left abutment and right embankment. The areas that will be subject to vegetation maintenance on both sides of the river, including the boundaries of those areas, are shown on **Figure 2**.

Typically, vegetative cutting will be performed before each quarterly inspection. Vegetative cutting will also be performed before the topographic surveys. When the topographic survey of the site is conducted, the areas that will be subject to vegetative cutting and removal on both sides of the river will be surveyed and marked in the field under the direction of GE's dam safety engineer.

Spillway and Low-Level Outlet Works Cleaning – GE will maintain the spillway and forebay approach areas, the trash rack, diversion channel, and the downstream spillway apron structure area clear of debris to provide full hydraulic capacity. GE will remove debris annually and more frequently as necessary if the free flow of water is being impacted. In addition, GE will make best efforts to remove debris from the spillway, if present and if practicable, when a high-flow event, as defined in Section 3.1.3, is forecasted.

Gate System Maintenance – GE will test and exercise the gate operator system annually to help evaluate whether the gate is fully operable. The electrical system will be maintained free of moisture and dirt, and wiring will be checked for corrosion or build-up of mineral deposits. Any necessary repairs will be completed immediately, and repair records will be kept. During the annual exercise operation, the operator, stem, and stem guides will be checked for smooth operation, alignment, and excessive wear; and the parts will be lubricated if necessary. Any peculiar noises or erratic movements detected during operation will be investigated and addressed.

Gate testing will be performed during each third quarterly inspection, which is an anticipated period of low flow, to mitigate potential impacts of reservoir discharges. The gate testing will be observed by GE's dam safety



engineer. GE's dam safety engineer will consult with a mechanical/electrical gate specialist if there are issues with operation of the gate.

Removal of Debris on Upstream Safety Buoys – GE will periodically remove debris which accumulates on the safety buoys upstream of the spillway. The determination of when debris needs to be removed from these buoys will be made by GE's dam safety engineer. Removal of debris will be performed by GE's contractor.

4.2 OTHER MAINTENANCE AND REPAIR ACTIVITIES

Other maintenance and repair activities will be performed by GE's contractor (or other contractor as needed) when necessary in response to observations made during the visual inspections (or other observations, if any), as described below. In each of these cases, based on observations during an inspection, the need for and type of maintenance or repairs will be determined in consultation with GE's dam safety engineer. The dam safety engineer will recommend to GE the need for maintenance or repair actions and work with GE to develop and plan and schedule to address the maintenance or repair items. GE will include its plans for maintenance or repair and a schedule for conducting those activities in the relevant inspection report to EPA.

The documentation of these maintenance actions will be made available to the dam safety engineer as part of the facility documents available for the biennial Phase 1 inspections/evaluations. Such documentation will include, where relevant, pertinent dates, photographs and notes regarding the pre-maintenance condition, identification of who took the maintenance action, a description of the maintenance action, and relevant drawings, cut sheets, specifications, etc.

Other maintenance and repair activities include the following:

4.2.1 Embankments

Repair of Sparse Vegetation and Erosion – In the event that areas of missing or distressed grass cover or local erosion are identified on the embankment slopes, those areas will be repaired, regraded, and loamed and seeded as necessary.

Tree Removal – Tree stumps greater than six inches in diameter will be removed and backfilled with suitable compacted fill using procedures outlined in FEMA's *Technical Manual for Dam Owners: Impacts of Plants on Earthen Dams* (FEMA, 2005). For trees of this size or greater, the primary and secondary root system will be removed, and the resulting holes properly filled. Tree removal will be performed under observation of the dam safety engineer. Backfill material and compaction needs will be specified by the dam safety engineer.

Rodent Damage Control – Rodents, such as groundhogs, muskrats, and beavers, are naturally attracted to the habitats created by dams and reservoirs and can endanger the structural integrity and proper performance of the embankments. If rodent burrow holes are observed, the rodents will be removed if practicable and the burrow holes will be repaired. Where the damage consists of shallow holes scattered across the embankment, tamping of earth into the rodent holes is generally sufficient repair. Large burrows on an embankment will be filled using the following procedure: (a) Placement of a piece of metal stove or vent pipe vertically over the entrance to the burrow with a tight seal between the pipe and the burrow; (b) preparation of a mixture consisting of approximately 90 percent earth, 10 percent cement, and water added to produce a thin slurry; (c) pouring the slurry mixture into the hole; and (d) once the hole is filled, removal of the pipe and tamping additional dry earth into the entrance.



Slope Traffic Damage Control – Pedestrian and wildlife traffic on the embankment slopes can cause ruts which allow water to collect, causing saturation and softening of the embankment. Mowing equipment can also cause “mower scars” by cutting into slopes and vegetative cover. Significant ruts or mower scars that develop will be repaired as soon as noticed or, at a minimum, as a follow-up action after a scheduled inspection that identifies such ruts or scars.

Seepage Damage Control – If seepage becomes evident in the Dam, the dam safety engineer will be contacted to determine appropriate monitoring and repair. If evidence of seepage is observed, the location(s) will be marked in the field with pin flags or flagged stakes and the location(s) will be surveyed and mapped by a licensed surveyor and maintained as part of the inspection and maintenance records. The seepage will then be evaluated by the dam safety engineer.

Riprap Damage Control – GE will maintain the riprap by periodically adding riprap to areas where inspections show that the riprap has become displaced by ice, clogged with debris or eroded material, or otherwise disturbed, so as to restore the area to a continuously armored slope. Riprap placement will be specified and directed by the dam safety engineer.

4.2.2 Spillway, Intake Structure, and Diversion Channel Outlet Structure

Sediment Removal – Where observations of conveyances indicate build-up of excess sediment within the conveyances that interferes with the flow of water, that excess sediment will be removed. Handling, management, and disposition of removed sediments and soils are described in Section 4.3.

Weephole Clearing – GE will keep the weepholes along the downstream spillway face clear of debris to mitigate buildup of excess hydrostatic pressure beneath the slab. Weephole clearing will be performed every four years in conjunction with the biennial Phase 1 inspections/evaluation conducted during low-flow conditions, or more frequently if deemed necessary by the dam safety engineer (e.g., if piezometric elevations indicate possible weephole clogging).

Concrete and Masonry Maintenance – Where observations indicate damage to or deterioration of concrete and/or masonry surfaces, the damaged or deteriorated areas will be repaired. Specifically, GE will: (a) grout and fill any significant cracks in the concrete training walls, trash rack supports, and/or upstream and downstream spillway faces that develop or open with time, as soon as they become evident; and (b) replace and repoint loosened blocks or significant mortar loss in the training walls. Concrete and masonry maintenance and repairs will be specified and directed by the dam safety engineer.

Metal Component Maintenance – Periodic maintenance will be performed on all exposed metal that is submerged or exposed to air if determined to be necessary by GE’s dam safety engineer based on the amount of corrosion observed during monitoring activities. In addition, GE will ensure the integrity of all contact surfaces between concrete and metal and, where necessary, re-grout those surfaces to preclude the build-up of water in the interface. Metal components may require sandblasting and applications of corrosion inhibitors to preclude the build-up of rust; such actions will be performed when recommended by the dam safety engineer.

Spillway Toe Riprap Maintenance – GE will maintain the riprap downstream of spillway apron and keep the spillway toe area clear of debris. GE will add riprap (with similar size stones) to areas where it has been loosened or washed out, such that full heavy riprap cover is maintained over the downstream channel bottom. These



actions will be performed when recommended by the dam safety engineer following observations made during monitoring activities.

4.2.3 Other

Instrumentation Repair – The instrumentation installed at the Dam will be maintained and repaired, as necessary, such that it can serve its intended purpose. Potential damage to the instrumentation could include missing, damaged, or faded staff gage numbering, damage to the observation well or piezometer protective casings, missing locks, broken or chipped PVC riser pipes, excessive sediment/silt accumulation inside the well, other obstructions inside the casing, settlement around the well, or other unusual conditions or vandalism. Repairs to the instrumentation will be discussed with the dam safety engineer.

Security Item Repair – Where observations indicate a need for repair of the chain-link fence, fence fabric, Lexan panels, locks, chains, warning buoys, and/or platform fencing/bollards, such repairs will be made.

Access Road Maintenance – GE will maintain the access road clear of debris and remove growth and accumulated brush as it develops so that the road is clear for vehicles or equipment that must access the various appurtenances of the dam for emergency repairs or access. All gates and locks will be maintained to function properly in the event that quick access is required.

Signage – GE will maintain the warning signs that have been installed at and near Rising Pond Dam. In the event that the visual inspections indicate that the posted signs are not in place or intact or that other sign repair or replacement activities are needed, the necessary sign repair or replacement activities will be conducted as part of the regularly scheduled maintenance program.

Other Repairs or Dam Upgrades – In the event that the inspections indicate the need for other repairs or dam upgrades not identified above, those repairs or upgrades will be made in consultation with the dam safety engineer.

4.3 HANDLING, MANAGEMENT, AND DISPOSITION OF SEDIMENTS AND SOILS

In the event that dam maintenance or repair activities or other response activities relating to Rising Pond Dam involve the handling, management, and/or disposition of sediments in Rising Pond or of soils adjacent to the dam, GE will take steps to ensure that those materials are properly handled, managed, and disposed of. In the event that such activities are planned, GE will develop and submit to EPA a plan that includes the following:

- a. An estimate of the volume of sediment/soil to be managed and disposed of;
- b. Information regarding the testing and classification of the sediment/soil;
- c. Requirements for staging of the sediment/soil, covering of that material, and the length of time that the material will be stockpiled;
- d. A job safety plan, including requirements for personal protective equipment and equipment decontamination, consistent with sediment/soil classification; and
- e. A contractor work plan outlining the means and methods of removal, the disposal location(s), and site rehabilitation, if any.



In general, any sediments/soils removed during such activities will be sent off-site for disposal. In such a case, the materials will be characterized for PCBs and other hazardous constituents as necessary to determine the appropriate management and off-site transport procedures and an appropriate permitted off-site disposal facility. Materials that are determined to contain PCBs at concentrations at or above 50 parts per million (ppm), which are regulated under the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA), will be managed as such and transported for disposal to an authorized off-site TSCA disposal facility. Materials (if any) that are found to constitute characteristic hazardous waste under RCRA will be handled as such and transported for disposal to an authorized hazardous waste disposal facility. Materials that contain PCB concentrations less than 50 ppm and do not constitute RCRA hazardous waste will be transported for disposal to an authorized solid waste disposal facility.

In the event that GE should wish to re-use some of all of the removed materials on-site, it will provide a specific proposal to EPA for approval, describing the sediments/soils proposed for re-use, the chemical and physical characteristics of those materials, the volume of those materials, the locations and depths for the proposed re-use, and other relevant information.



5.0 EMERGENCY RESPONSE

For the purposes of this OM&M Plan, an emergency is defined as a failure or other condition at Rising Pond Dam that results in an impending or actual sudden, uncontrolled release of water. Response procedures that will be followed in the event of such an emergency are presented in the EAP, the current version of which is provided in **Appendix B**.



6.0 TRAINING

All monitoring activities described in Section 3.0 of this OM&M Plan will be conducted by or performed under the supervision of GE's lead dam safety engineer (see Section 1.3.2), who is a licensed Professional Engineer experienced with dam safety practice and regulation. GE's dam safety engineer is familiar with this OM&M Plan. Beyond maintaining professional licensure and experience in dam safety practice and regulation, no job-specific training is required of GE's dam safety engineer at this time.

GE's contractor is a licensed general contractor experienced with maintaining and repairing dams and is familiar with this OM&M Plan. GE's contractor maintains close communication with GE's dam safety engineer. Beyond maintaining licensure, experience with maintaining and repairing dams, and maintaining communication with GE's dam safety engineer, no job-specific training is required of GE's contractor at this time.



7.0 RECORD-KEEPING AND REPORTING

7.1 RECORD-KEEPING

GE will maintain a file containing all project records discussed in this OM&M Plan, including inspection reports, survey files, instrumentation data, maintenance/repair records, EAP updates, and relevant correspondence related to dam safety.

7.2 REPORTING

Quarterly maintenance inspection reports will be submitted to EPA within 30 days after the completion of each quarterly inspection. This timeline will also be followed for the post-storm and post-earthquake inspection reports.

Biennial Engineering Phase 1 Inspection/Evaluation Reports will be submitted to EPA and to MassDCR within 90 days after the completion of the Phase 1 inspection.

Updates to the topographic and bathymetric surveys and the results of dive inspections will be provided to EPA and to MassDCR prior to the end of the year of the activity or in the next Engineering Phase 1 Inspection/Evaluation Report submitted to EPA (if that inspection was performed in the same year).

Routine and other maintenance activities will be documented in the appropriate visual inspection reports (e.g., quarterly, Phase 1, etc.).

Annual updates to the EAP will be provided to the entities on the distribution list in the EAP, including EPA and the MassDCR. These updates will typically be provided near the end of the calendar year.

In addition, GE will, at a minimum, submit a revised version of this OM&M Plan to EPA and the MassDCR every five years, as well as after any major repairs to or incidents affecting the Dam.

Further reporting to EPA will be on an as-needed basis.

8.0 SCHEDULE

The schedule of activities described in this OM&M Plan is summarized in the following table.

Inspection and Maintenance Summary

Inspection	Frequency
Maintenance Inspections	Quarterly (four times per year)
Engineering Phase 1 Inspection/Evaluations	Biennial (every two years), alternating between normal-flow and low-flow conditions
Ice Out	Annual (in conjunction with the second quarterly inspection)
Post-Storm	After high-flow events (3,650 cfs at Division Street gage; possibly in conjunction with a quarterly inspection, depending on timing); limited observations during high-flow events
Post-Earthquake	After an earthquake with reported damage in Berkshire County
Topographic and Bathymetric Surveys	Every five years
Dive Inspections	Every five years

Monitoring	Frequency
Headwater and Tailwater	Quarterly
Groundwater Levels	Quarterly
Grout Bag Depths	Annual (in conjunction with the third quarterly inspection)
Concrete and Masonry	Quarterly
Metal Components	Quarterly
Spillway Apron	Every four years in conjunction with the Phase 1 inspection/evaluation conducted under low-flow conditions

Maintenance Type	Frequency
Vegetative/Grass Cutting	Whenever grass reaches maximum height of 12 inches (typically prior to a growing season quarterly inspection)
Other Brush/Woody Vegetation Removal	As needed
Spillway and Outlet Works Cleaning	As needed to maintain free flow of water over or through the discharge structures
Gate Testing/Maintenance	Annual (in conjunction with the third quarterly inspection)
Debris Removal From Safety Buoys	As needed per Section 4.1
Repair of Sparse Vegetation & Erosion	Per Section 4.2.1
Tree Removal	Per Section 4.2.1
Rodent Damage Control	Per Section 4.2.1
Slope Traffic Damage Control	Per Section 4.2.1
Seepage Damage Control	Per Section 4.2.1
Riprap Damage Control	Per Section 4.2.1
Sediment Removal from Conveyances	Per Section 4.2.2
Weephole Cleaning	Every four years in conjunction with the biennial Phase 1 inspection/evaluation under low-flow conditions; more frequently if deemed necessary by the dam safety engineer



Maintenance Type	Frequency
Concrete and Masonry Maintenance	Per Section 4.2.2
Metal Component Maintenance	Per Section 4.2.2
Spillway Toe Riprap Maintenance	Per Section 4.2.2
Instrument Maintenance	Per Section 4.2.3
Security Item Maintenance	Per Section 4.2.3
Access Road Maintenance	Per Section 4.2.3
Signage	Per Section 4.2.3
Other	Per Section 4.2.3



9.0 REFERENCES

Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), 1987. *Dam Safety: An Owner's Guidance Manual*. FEMA No. 145. July 1987.

FEMA, 2005. *Technical Manual for Dam Owners: Impacts of Plants on Earthen Dams*. FEMA No. 534.

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC), 2017. *Chapter 14, Dam Safety Performance Monitoring Program*. May 8, 2017.

GZA GeoEnvironmental Inc., 2012. *Rising Pond Dam Phase II Engineering Evaluation*. Prepared for General Electric Company. July 13, 2012.

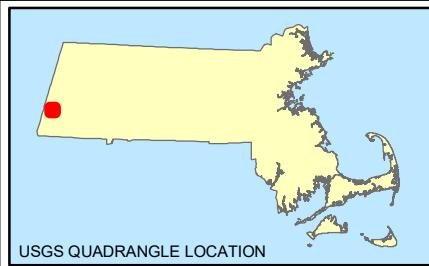
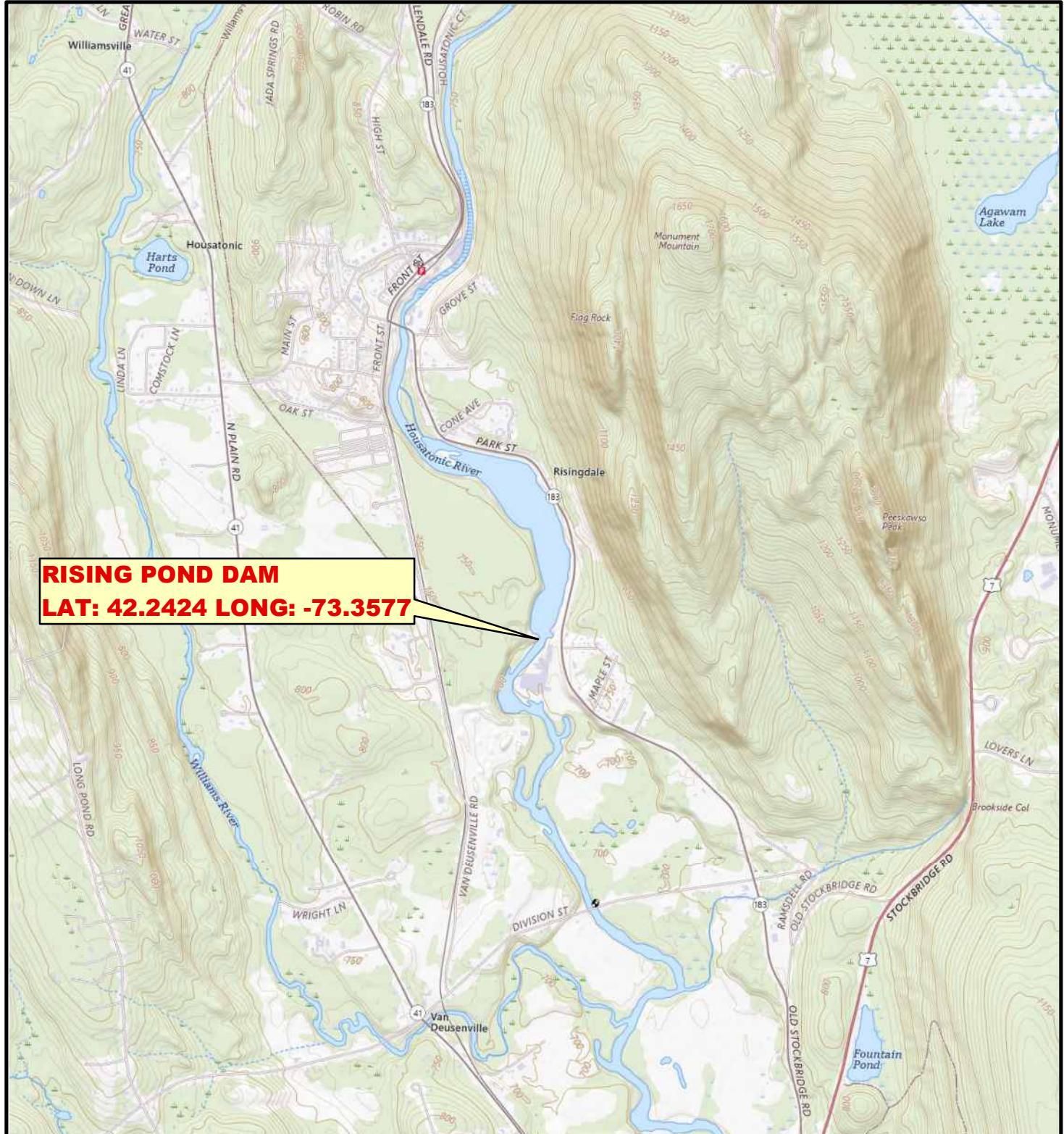
GZA GeoEnvironmental Inc., 2024a. *Rising Pond Dam Phase I Inspection/Evaluation Report*. Prepared for General Electric Company. July 23, 2024.

GZA GeoEnvironmental, Inc. 2024b. *2023 Penstock Investigations End-of-Year Report – Rising Pond Dam*. Prepared for General Electric Company. May 24, 2024.

GZA GeoEnvironmental, Inc. 2024c. *2024 Penstock Investigations End-of-Year Report – Rising Pond Dam*. Prepared for General Electric Company. December 19, 2024.



FIGURES



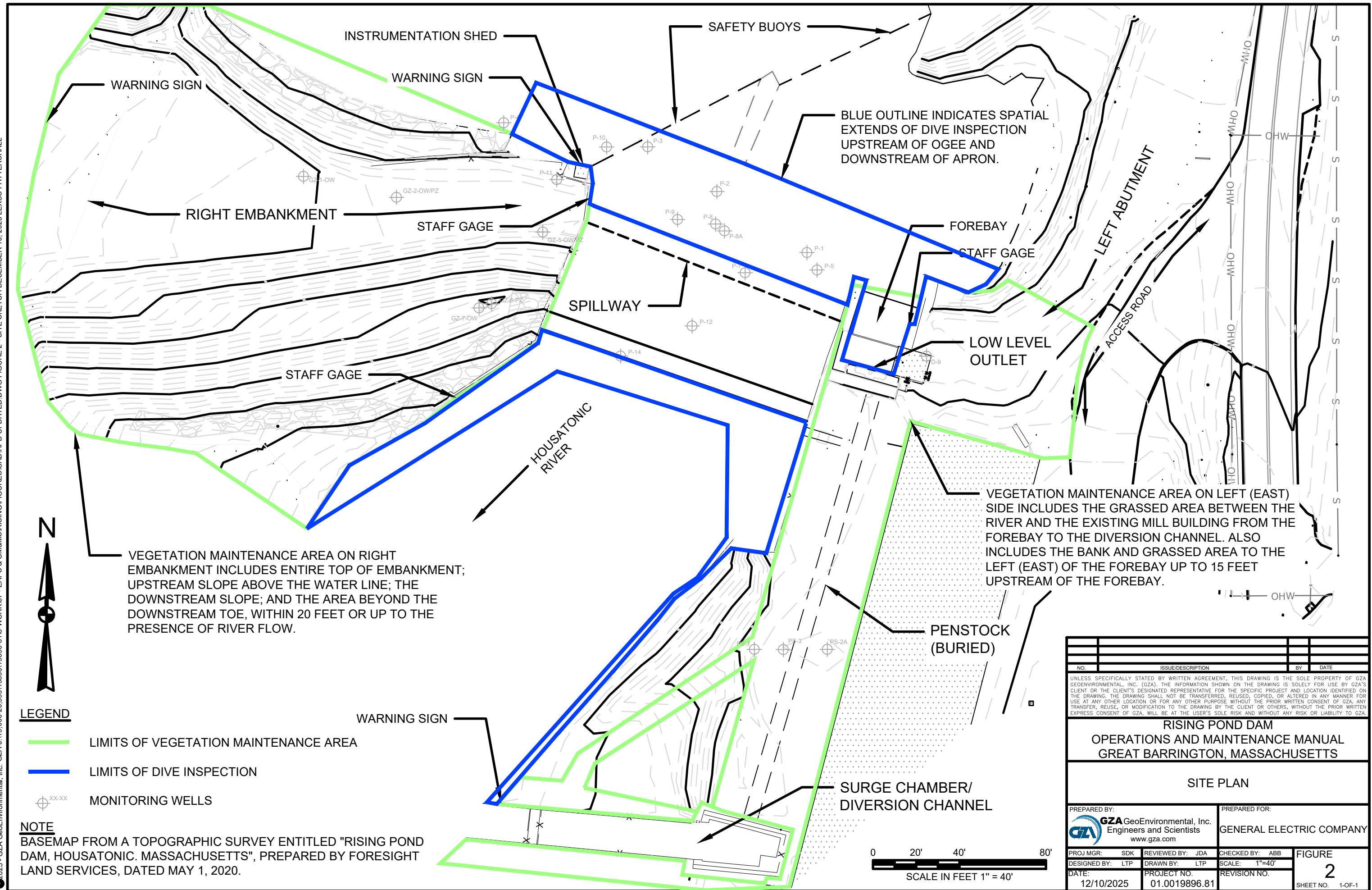
SOURCE : THIS MAP CONTAINS THE USGS NATIONAL TOPOGRAPHIC MAP SERVICE; NATIONAL BOUNDARIES DATASET, 3DEP ELEVATION PROGRAM, GEOGRAPHIC NAMES INFORMATION SYSTEM, NATIONAL HYDROGRAPHY DATASET, NATIONAL LAND COVER DATABASE, NATIONAL STRUCTURES DATASET AND NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION DATASET; USGS GLOBAL ECOSYSTEMS; US CENSUS BUREAU TIGER/LINE DATA; USFS ROAD DATA; NATURAL EARTH DATA; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE HUMANITARIAN INFORMATION UNIT; AND NOAA NATIONAL CENTERS FOR ENVIRONMENTAL INFORMATION, U.S. COASTAL RELIEF MODEL. DATA REFRESHED APRIL, 2023.

0 1,000 2,000 4,000
SCALE IN FEET

Data Supplied by :



	PROJ. MGR.: SDK DESIGNED BY: RSG REVIEWED BY: JDA OPERATOR: AJP DATE: 7/22/2024	LOCUS PLAN RISING POND DAM (MA00250) GREAT BARRINGTON, MASSACHUSETTS	JOB NO. 19896.81 FIGURE NO. 1
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APPENDIX A – CONDITION DESCRIPTIONS AND DAM TERMINOLOGY



COMMON DAM SAFETY DEFINITIONS

For a comprehensive list of dam engineering terminology and definitions, refer to 302 CMR 10.00 or other reference published by FERC, Dept. of the Interior Bureau of Reclamation, or FEMA. Please note that should discrepancies between definitions exist, those definitions included within 302 CMR 10.00 govern for dams located within the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

Orientation

Upstream – The side of the dam that borders the impoundment.

Downstream – The high side of the dam, the side opposite the upstream side.

Right – The area to the right when looking in the downstream direction.

Left – The area to the left when looking in the downstream direction.

Dam Components

Dam – Any artificial barrier, including appurtenant works, which impounds or diverts water.

Embankment – The fill material, usually earth or rock, placed with sloping sides, such that it forms a permanent barrier that impounds water.

Crest – The top of the dam, usually containing a road or path across the dam.

Abutment – That part of a valley side against which a dam is constructed. An artificial abutment is sometimes constructed as a concrete gravity section to take the thrust of an arch dam where there is no suitable natural abutment.

Appurtenant Works – Structures, either in dams or separate therefrom, including but not be limited to, spillways; reservoirs and their rims; low-level outlet works; and water conduits including tunnels, pipelines, or penstocks, either through the dams or their abutments.

Spillway – A structure over or through which water flows are discharged. If the flow is controlled by gates or boards, it is a controlled spillway; if the fixed elevation of the spillway crest controls the level of the impoundment, it is an uncontrolled spillway.

Size Classification

(as listed in Massachusetts Dam Safety Regulations, 302 CMR 10.00)

Large – Structure with a height greater than 40 feet or a storage capacity greater than 1,000 acre-feet.

Intermediate – Structure with a height between 15 and 40 feet or a storage capacity of 50 to 1,000 acre-feet.

Small – Structure with a height between 6 and 15 feet and a storage capacity of 15 to 50 acre-feet.

Non-Jurisdictional – Structure less than 6 feet in height or having a storage capacity of less than 15 acre-feet.

Hazard Classification

(as listed in Massachusetts Dam Safety Regulations, 302 CMR 10.00)

High Hazard (Class I) – Dams located where failure will likely cause loss of life and serious damage to home(s), industrial or commercial facilities, important public utilities, main highway(s) or railroad(s).

Significant Hazard (Class II) – Dams located where failure may cause loss of life and damage to home(s), industrial or commercial facilities, secondary highway(s) or railroad(s), or cause the interruption of the use or service of relatively important facilities.



Low Hazard (Class III) – Dams located where failure may cause minimal property damage to others. Loss of life is not expected.

General

Acre-foot – A unit of volumetric measure that would cover one acre to a depth of one foot. It is equal to 43,560 cubic feet. One million U.S. gallons = 3.068 acre feet.

NWPS – National Water Prediction Service (formerly Advanced Hydrologic Prediction Service or AHPS) – a website showing Housatonic River flows and river stage at United States Geological Survey Gage No. 01197500 at Division Street in Great Barrington.

Dam safety engineer – A Professional Engineer experienced in dam safety and registered in Massachusetts.

EAP – Emergency Action Plan – A predetermined (and properly documented) plan of action to be taken to reduce the potential for property damage and/or loss of life in an area affected by an impending dam failure.

Height of dam (structural height) – The vertical distance from the lowest portion of the natural ground, including any stream channel, along the downstream toe of the dam to the lowest point on the crest of the dam.

Hydraulic height – The height to which water rises behind a dam and the difference between the lowest point in the original streambed at the axis of the dam and the maximum controllable water surface.

Maximum storage capacity – The volume of water contained in the impoundment at maximum water storage elevation.

Maximum water storage elevation – The maximum elevation of water surface which can be contained by the dam without overtopping the embankment section.

Normal pool – The elevation of the impoundment during normal operating conditions.

Normal storage capacity – The volume of water contained in the impoundment at normal water storage elevation.

OM&M Plan – Operation, Monitoring, and Maintenance Plan.

Spillway Design Flood (SDF) – The flood used in the design of a dam and its appurtenant works particularly for sizing the spillway and outlet works, and for determining maximum temporary storage and height of dam requirements.

Condition Rating

Unsafe – Major structural*, operational, and maintenance deficiencies exist under normal operating conditions.

Poor – Significant structural*, operation and maintenance deficiencies are clearly recognized for normal loading conditions.

Fair – Significant operational and maintenance deficiencies, no structural deficiencies. Potential deficiencies exist under unusual loading conditions that may realistically occur. Can be used when uncertainties exist as to critical parameters.

Satisfactory – Minor operational and maintenance deficiencies. Infrequent hydrologic events would probably result in deficiencies.

Good – No existing or potential deficiencies recognized. Safe performance is expected under all loading including SDF.

* Structural deficiencies include but are not limited to the following:

- Excessive uncontrolled seepage (e.g., upwelling of water, evidence of fines movement, flowing water, erosion, etc.).



- Missing riprap with resulting erosion of slope.
- Sinkholes, particularly behind retaining walls and above outlet pipes, possibly indicating loss of soil due to piping, rather than animal burrows.
- Excessive vegetation and tree growth, particularly if it obscures features of the dam and the dam cannot be fully inspected.
- Deterioration of concrete structures (e.g., exposed rebar, tilted walls, large cracks with or without seepage, excessive spalling, etc.).
- Inoperable outlets (gates and valves that have not been operated for many years or are broken).



APPENDIX B – EMERGENCY ACTION PLAN

EMERGENCY ACTION PLAN

Rising Pond Dam

Updated December 2025 (Rev. 7)

GREAT BARRINGTON, MASSACHUSETTS
NID # MA00250



PREPARED FOR:
GENERAL ELECTRIC COMPANY

PREPARED BY:
GZA GEOENVIRONMENTAL, INC.
Norwood, Massachusetts
GZA File No.01.0019896.81



	DAM FAILURE EAP/REVISIONS RISING POND DAM	
GENERAL ELECTRIC COMPANY		DISTRIBUTION LIST

Dam Failure EAP-Controlled Copy Distribution:

Copy#	Rev#	Rev. Date	LOCATION	Accessible to:
1	7	12/2025	General Electric Company Global Operations, Environment, Health & Safety 1 Plastics Avenue Pittsfield, Massachusetts 01201	Dam Caretaker/Alternate Caretaker
2	7	12/2025	Town of Great Barrington Police & Emergency Management 465 Main Street Great Barrington, Massachusetts 01230	Chief of Police, Emergency Response Personnel
3	7	12/2025	Town of Sheffield Emergency Management 10 South Main Street Sheffield, Massachusetts 01257	Chief of Police, Emergency Response Personnel
4	7	12/2025	Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency 400 Worcester Road (Route 9 East) Framingham, Massachusetts 01702-5399	Response and Field Services Section Chief
5	7	12/2025	Massachusetts DCR – Office of Dam Safety 180 Beaman Street, West Boylston, Massachusetts 01583	Chief of Staff
6	7	12/2025	GZA GeoEnvironmental, Inc. 249 Vanderbilt Ave Norwood, Massachusetts 02062	Consulting Dam Safety Engineer & Support Staff
7	7	12/2025	Environmental Protection Agency Region 1 5 Post Office Square, Suite 100 Boston, MA 02109-3912	Alexander Carli- Dorsey
8	7	12/2025	Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection Western Regional Office 436 Dwight Street Springfield, MA 01103	Benjamin Guidi

When these copies are revised, the revised sections should be forwarded to the above locations by the **Responsible Individual** for replacement.

Document Control: The **Responsible Individual** will oversee the document control system. When sections of Dam Failure EAP are revised, all pertinent information and authorizations are managed in terms of notifications and distribution.

* **Responsible Individual:** is the person responsible for managing and overseeing the revisions and updates to this document. The Caretaker will be the Responsible Individual for this document.

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FIGURES

Figure 1	Notification Flow Chart (in Section 2.0 of the EAP)
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ATTACHMENTS

Attachment A	Investigation of Potential Flood Limits
Attachment B	Plans for Training, Exercising, Updating, and Posting the EAP
Attachment C	Site-Specific Concerns
Attachment D	Emergency Repair
Attachment E	Inundation Maps
Attachment F	Inspection Guidelines

1.0 SUMMARY OF EMERGENCY ACTION PLAN RESPONSIBILITIES

This Emergency Action Plan (EAP) for the Rising Pond Dam addresses the roles and responsibilities of the General Electric Company (GE) (the Dam owner), the Town of Great Barrington, Massachusetts, and other entities for potential and actual emergency conditions at the Dam. This section provides a brief overview of the critical EAP responsibilities of those entities.

Ultimately, the Great Barrington Emergency Management Director will act as Incident Commander in the event of an emergency at Rising Pond Dam. The following is a brief summary of critical responsibilities. An expanded discussion of roles and responsibilities is included in **Section 6.0**.

Dam Owner/ Operator - General Electric Company:

- Activate appropriate notifications in accordance with the Notification Flowchart in Section 2.0 of this EAP.
- Request assistance, as needed.
- Receive condition status reports and share with the Incident Commanders and emergency responders.
- Provide updates to Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation (MassDCR) Office of Dam Safety (ODS).
- Determine the level of the emergency (e.g., Imminent Failure, Potential Failure, etc., as described in Section 5.3).
- Take appropriate response actions at the Dam.

Town of Great Barrington Emergency Dispatch Center:

- Activate appropriate notifications in accordance with the Notification Flowchart in **Section 2.0** of this EAP.
- Verify and assess emergency conditions.
- Activate the Great Barrington Emergency Operations Center (EOC).
- Order evacuation of response personnel from the potential hazard area at the Dam (for Imminent Failure).
- Receive condition status reports from GE, the Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency (MEMA), and other on-site personnel.
- Notify the downstream public.
- Conduct evacuation from inundation areas within Town limits.
- Declare termination of the emergency at the Dam.

The following agencies will support the Town of Great Barrington and emergency responders by providing personnel and equipment (as requested by the Incident Commanders and as available):

- MEMA
- Massachusetts State Police (Troop B-1 Lee, MA)
- Berkshire County Sheriff
- Town of Sheffield, Massachusetts

2.0 NOTIFICATION FLOWCHART

2.1 INTRODUCTION

Emergency situations are herein defined as conditions at Rising Pond Dam which have or could potentially lead to a sudden, uncontrolled release of water. Figure 1 - Notification Flowchart, attached to the end of this section, summarizes the key operational, governmental, and public safety personnel to be notified in the event of an emergency condition at the Rising Pond Dam. The objective of this flowchart is to outline clear, concise, and concurrent notifications. The organization of the flowchart is based on review of existing communication networks and discussions with the Town of Great Barrington and Sheffield and Commonwealth of Massachusetts personnel. The flowchart shows the contact information for Imminent and Potential Failure, as described in **Section 5.3**. The contact procedures show will not be necessary for Non-Emergency Conditions or Non-Failure Emergency Conditions, as also described in **Section 5.3**.

2.2 LIMITATIONS

The **Figure 1 - Notification Flowchart** should be considered a "top-down" system for initial notifications. Other means and avenues of communication between and among key local and state emergency personnel that may develop may not be specifically depicted in the referenced flow chart as an emergency progresses. Also, as the emergency condition intensifies, normal telephone lines and some two-way radio frequencies may be overloaded or otherwise unavailable.

The Notification Flowchart is to be used as a guide during an emergency condition. For clarity and brevity, not all possible emergency phone numbers have been shown. However, additional names and notification information of persons are provided in the Contact Lists in **Tables 1 through 6**. Each notification "cell" on the flowchart may have its own subset of emergency numbers and procedures.

This EAP does not suggest that GE personnel take over the established responsibilities of other governmental and institutional elements (such as the police, fire and emergency management departments in the downstream communities) to enact their own emergency preparedness plans and to evacuate people.

However, the flowchart and outlined duties and responsibilities described herein provide a means for initial notification. It is assumed that state public safety entities and local police departments in potentially affected downstream communities will activate their own specific procedures for evacuation, sheltering, and mobilization of resources, once the initial warning is provided.

- The Notification Flowchart relies heavily on the use of the dispatch/call center of the Town of Great Barrington.
- Massachusetts State Police Barracks B-1/Lee Dispatch is the local State Police dispatch center and is located at 215 Laurel Street (Route 20) in Lee, MA.
- The Town of Great Barrington Emergency Dispatch Center is the dispatch center for the town and is located at 465 Main Street in Great Barrington, MA.
- The Berkshire County Sheriff's Communication Center is the dispatch center for the Town of Sheffield and is located at 467 Cheshire Road in Pittsfield, MA.

All dispatch centers are staffed 24 hours a day, 7 days a week and are responsible for contacting the Great Barrington Emergency Management, Police, and Fire Departments, the Department of Public Works (DPW) contact, and the specified government official for their respective towns. The Town of Great Barrington is responsible for providing warning messages to their own residents.

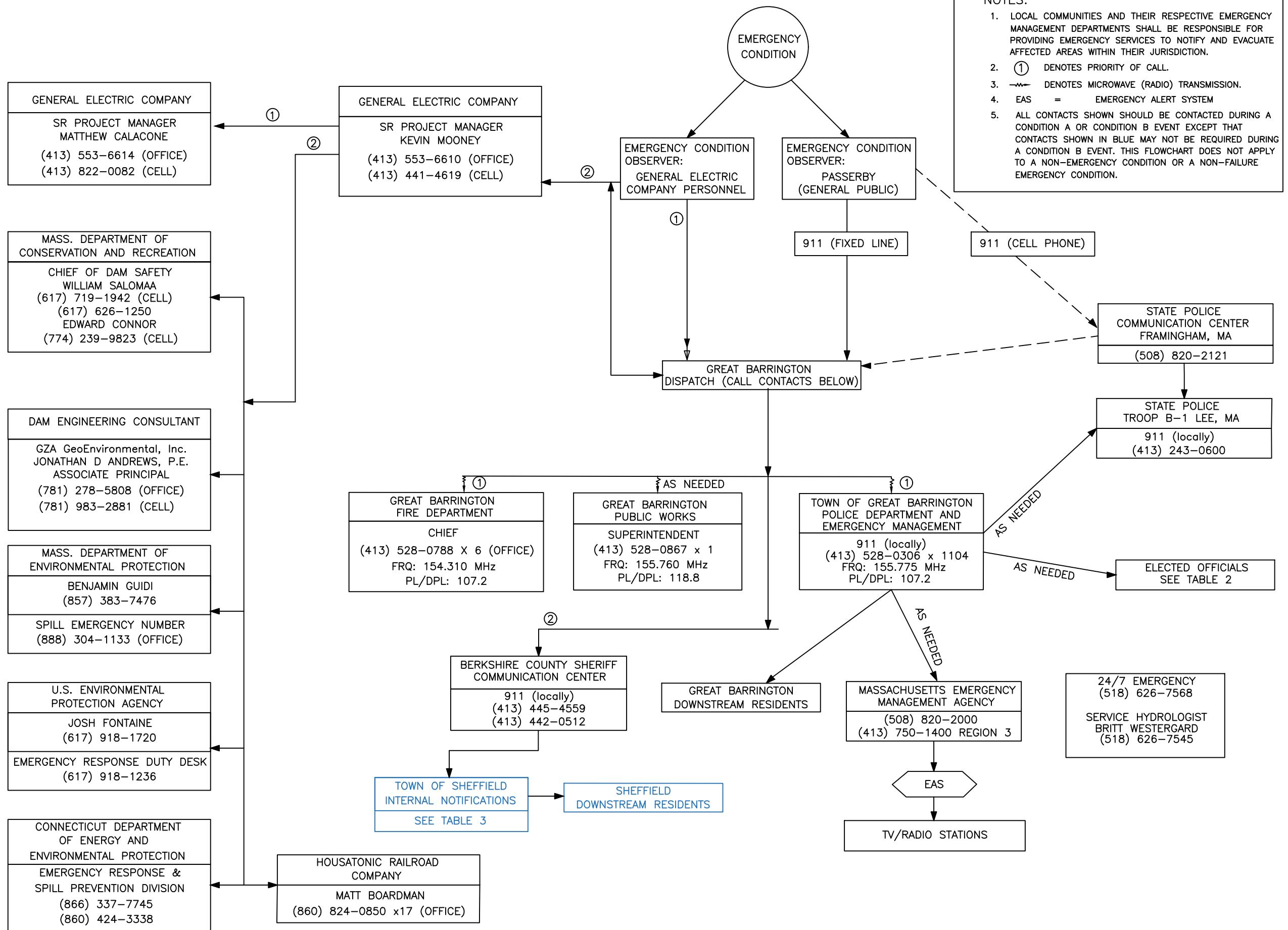
2.3 SUPPLEMENTAL EMERGENCY CONTACT LISTS

Tables 1 through 6 provide detailed Alert Lists which present names, position, title, telephone number, etc. for the following entities:

Table 1	General Electric Company Contact List
Table 2	Town of Great Barrington Alert List
Table 3	Town of Sheffield Community Alert List
Table 4	State Agency Alert List
Table 5	Major Utilities List
Table 6	Emergency Response Contractor List

These lists are considered to be a supplement to the information provided on **Figure 1 - Notification Flowchart**. The telephone numbers provided are often listed numbers. Some numbers are serviced 24 hours or have a call forwarding capability. However, as the emergency condition intensifies, all listed telephone lines may be in use with incoming calls and thus be unavailable.

Table 5 lists major utilities within the potential downstream impact area and includes telephone numbers for the applicable utility companies. The table has been provided for general reference purposes and is not intended to be an all-inclusive list. Primary responsibility for notifying key utilities, rail lines, etc. will rest with the individual community public safety agencies.



NOTIFICATION FLOWCHART

RISING POND DAM EMERGENCY ACTION PLAN GENERAL ELECTRIC COMPANY GREAT BARRINGTON MA

PROJECT NO.
19896.81
FIGURE NO.
1

3.0 STATEMENT OF PURPOSE AND SCOPE

3.1 STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

The EAP defines responsibilities and provides procedures designed to identify unusual and unlikely conditions which may endanger the Rising Pond Dam in time to take mitigative action and to notify the appropriate emergency management officials of possible, impending, or actual failure of the Dam.

This EAP is a management document intended to be read, understood, annually tested, and updated before an emergency condition occurs. It is designed to outline the activities of GE, the Town of Great Barrington, and other local and state emergency management officials within the framework of existing, in-place emergency management systems. It provides the planning basis for emergency detection, evaluation and classification; notification; evacuation; security, termination and follow-up; and preparedness.

3.2 SCOPE

The EAP sets forth basic procedures, duties, and responsibilities to be implemented by the Town of Great Barrington and GE (owner and operator of the Dam) and other key operational and public safety personnel in the event of an emergency condition at the Rising Pond Dam.

An “emergency,” for the purposes of this EAP, is defined as an impending or actual sudden uncontrolled release of water caused by a failure of the Dam.

The major focus of the EAP is the description of the area of inundation resulting from a hypothetical Dam break flood, and the development of a detailed notification plan that describes responsibilities to warn key operational personnel, local public safety agencies, state law enforcement, and emergency management agencies in the path of an anticipated Dam break flood wave. The EAP also provides preparedness steps.

As indicated above, the overall contents of this EAP, including recommendations describing organization and duties, are not intended for GE personnel to take over the responsibilities of the state and other local governmental entities. Rather, the EAP has been developed to be integrated within the framework of existing emergency preparedness plans. During the development of this EAP, GE and its dam safety engineering consulting firm, GZA GeoEnvironmental, Inc. (GZA), have coordinated with the Towns of Great Barrington and Sheffield, and other emergency preparedness personnel. The following public agencies will be directly involved in the event of the activation of this EAP:

- Town of Great Barrington
- Town of Sheffield
- Massachusetts State Police
- Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency (MEMA)
- MassDCR ODS
- United States Army Corps of Engineers

This updated EAP was prepared to conform with the MassDCR requirement that the EAP format be consistent with the “Federal Guidelines for Dam Safety: *Emergency Action Planning for Dam Owners* (FEMA 64),” dated July 2013. The scope and format of this EAP generally conform to the FEMA guidelines. The dam break scenario is consistent with Massachusetts simplified dam breach standards for significant hazard dams as specified in 302 CMR 10 Dam Safety 10.11(2). Results of dam break analyses performed by GZA in 2024 are included in **Attachment A**. Inundation maps based on the dam break analyses are discussed in **Section 8.0** and included in **Attachment E**. GE’s plans for training of GE personnel and personnel from the Towns of Great Barrington and Sheffield for implementation of this EAP in the event of an emergency at Rising Pond Dam, along with the requirements for updating this EAP and posting the above-reference Notification Flowchart, are provided in **Attachment B**.

4.0 PROJECT DESCRIPTION

4.1 LOCATION

The Rising Pond Dam (the “Dam”) is located in the Town of Great Barrington, in Berkshire County, Massachusetts. The left abutment of Rising Pond Dam is on Route 183 (at 285 Park Street, the Hazen Paper Mill) near the intersection of Park Street and Mountain Street. Its general location is shown on **Figure 2**. The Dam is at the longitude and latitude coordinates:

Latitude: 42.2424°N Longitude: -73.3577°W

4.2 OWNER/OPERATOR

The Rising Pond Dam is owned, operated, and maintained by GE. The current caretaker is Kevin Mooney, and the alternate caretaker is Matthew Calacone, both located at the address below.

Dam Owner/Caretaker	
Name	General Electric Company GE Aerospace
Mailing Address Town	1 Plastics Avenue Pittsfield, MA 01201
Daytime Phone	(413) 448-6610 (Caretaker) (413) 553-6614 (Alternate Caretaker)
Emergency Phone	(413) 441-4619 (Caretaker Cell Phone)

4.3 PURPOSE OF THE DAM

The original construction date, details, and purpose of the Rising Pond Dam are not known, but it is likely that it was constructed in the 1800s. The impoundment formerly provided water to power machinery in the adjacent mill complex. Sometime after 1934, the dam was used for power generation, which likely ceased in 1953, but certainly prior to 1979. The right embankment of the dam was previously used as a railroad embankment/bridge abutment. The purpose of the current Dam is to impound Rising Pond, including impounding existing sediments that are impacted by polychlorinated biphenyls.

4.4 DESCRIPTION OF THE DAM AND APPURTENANCES

The engineering data presented below are based on available information in previous reports prepared by or on behalf of GE.

The Rising Pond Dam is a run-of-the-river structure and currently consists of left and right earth embankments, with a spillway and outlet works. The outlet works consists of a low-level outlet controlled by a gate, an underground penstock pipe, a surge chamber, and a diversion channel. An aerial photograph of the Dam and its appurtenances is shown below.



Source: GZA ArcGIS Mapper Tool

The right earthen embankment is approximately 38 feet high, with upstream and downstream slopes of approximately two horizontal to one vertical (2H:1V). Slope protection at the waterline consists of a combination of steel sheetpiles and riprap. A shed for instrumentation leads has been installed at the crest near the right spillway training wall.

The spillway consists of a concrete facing with steel crest plate. The spillway is approximately 127 feet wide and 30 feet high, with a crest elevation of approximately 716.7 feet on the left side to 716.1 feet on the right side, with an average elevation of about 716.4 feet. The approximate 0.6-foot difference in elevation across the spillway crest is likely an as-built condition; there are no records of past settlement and no indications of active settlement of the spillway. Spillway training walls are a combination of concrete, grouted stone masonry, and steel sheetpile.

The low-level outlet is located directly to the left of the spillway. The low-level outlet works consist of a grouted stone masonry forebay with a steel trash rack, a concrete-walled gate chamber with sluice gate and a 14-foot diameter steel penstock that extends approximately 220 feet downstream to a surge chamber next to the mill. The surge chamber is drained by an open diversion channel reinforced concrete tailrace that discharges to the Housatonic River approximately 250 feet downstream. The penstock invert elevation is 699 feet. In the past, gate chamber drainage was provided by a 12-inch-diameter well drain that discharged through the left downstream training wall. Well drain flow was controlled by a valve located in a covered pit

between the gate chamber and left training wall. The well drain is no longer needed because the diversion channel now provides gravity drainage for the penstock and the valve has not been operated in years. A fire protection pumphouse which services the mill building is located on the left embankment crest to the left of the forebay.

A wide embankment/fill area is present on the left side of the spillway and outlet structures. The upstream slopes are steep and have some riprap protection near the low-level outlet. The downstream slope is poorly defined and consists of the mill.

The shores of Rising Pond are generally wooded. Route 183 extends parallel to the east bank of the impoundment/river. An abandoned railroad bridge abutment and center pier are located immediately upstream of the Dam. The western railroad bridge pier was formerly integral with the right embankment. The immediate downstream area includes the mill and wooded riverbanks. A USGS gaging station is located on the Division Street Bridge approximately one mile downstream of the Dam.

Active instrumentation at the Rising Pond Dam includes three staff gages installed at the spillway, and five observation wells (OWs) and 23 vibrating wire piezometers (VWPs) installed in the left embankment, spillway, and right embankment. GE is in the process of installing automated pond water sampling equipment at the right and left training walls. The sampling equipment serves no dam-related function.

At EPA's direction, GE installed warning signs at Rising Pond Dam in November and December of 2020, with one installed at a temporary location and later moved to its permanent location in October 2021. The format, wording, and locations of those signs were approved by EPA.

Certain site-specific concerns relating to the Dam are described in **Attachment C**.

4.5 OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE

The Dam is operated and maintained by GE and is subject to GE's revised Operation, Monitoring, and Maintenance (OM&M) Plan for Rising Pond Dam (dated December 2025). GE maintains files on the Rising Pond Dam, including plans, inspection reports, and results of investigations, at its office at 1 Plastics Avenue, Pittsfield, Massachusetts 01201. In accordance with the revised OM&M Plan for this Dam, GE or its contractor conducts routine quarterly inspections of the Dam, and a qualified and registered Professional Engineer with experience in dam safety conducts Engineering Phase 1 Inspections/Evaluations of the Dam on a biennial (every two years) basis. GE or its contractor mows grass and removes debris from the spillway regularly and conducts maintenance activities and minor repairs as described in the OM&M Plan for this Dam. The gate is operated annually. Warning buoys are deployed upstream of the spillway and warning signs are installed around the property at Rising Pond Dam.

4.6 DCR SIZE CLASSIFICATION

Rising Pond Dam has a height of approximately 40 feet and a maximum storage capacity of 710 acre-feet. In accordance with the classification procedures of the MassDCR ODS, under the Massachusetts dam safety regulations in 302 CMR 10.00, Rising Pond Dam is an **Intermediate** size structure based on maximum storage between 50 and 1,000 acre-feet.

4.7 DCR HAZARD CLASSIFICATION

In accordance with MassDCR ODS classification procedures under the Massachusetts dam safety regulations in 302 CMR 10.00, Rising Pond Dam is classified as a dam with **Significant Hazard** potential. This hazard class assessment is consistent with the hazard class for the dam on record with the MassDCR ODS.

5.0 EMERGENCY DETECTION, EVALUATION, AND CLASSIFICATION

5.1 EMERGENCY DETECTION

This section describes the detection of an unusual or emergency event at the Dam and provides information to assist the Town of Great Barrington in determining the appropriate emergency level for the event.

Unusual or emergency events may be detected by:

- Observations at or near the Dam by government personnel (local, state, or federal), landowners, visitors to the Dam, or the public;
- Earthquakes felt or reported in the vicinity of the Dam; or
- Forewarning of weather conditions that may cause an unusual event or emergency event at the Dam (for example, a severe weather or flash flood forecast).

5.2 EMERGENCY EVALUATION

The Incident Commander (Great Barrington Emergency Management Director) will coordinate with the Caretaker (GE), Great Barrington DPW, and a registered professional dam safety engineer to evaluate the severity of the observed dam safety issue.

5.3 EMERGENCY CLASSIFICATION

After an unusual or emergency event is detected or reported and evaluated, the Dam Owner/Operator is responsible for classifying the event into one of the following four conditions.

1. **Imminent Failure:** Urgent; dam failure appears imminent or has occurred. This is an extremely urgent situation when a dam failure is occurring or obviously is about to occur and cannot be prevented. Flash flooding will occur downstream of the dam.
2. **Potential Failure:** Potential dam failure situation, rapidly developing. This situation may eventually lead to dam failure and flash flooding downstream, but there is not an immediate threat of dam failure. Time available to employ remedial actions may be hours or days.
3. **Non-Emergency Condition:** Unusual event, slowly developing. This situation is not normal (e.g. an increased amount of seepage) but has not yet threatened the operation or structural integrity of the dam. If this situation worsens it could threaten the integrity of the dam.
4. **Non-Failure Emergency Condition:** No danger of dam failure, only flooding concerns. Generally, this situation indicates that there is no sign of pending or imminent dam failure. This Condition is only used when there are flooding concerns caused by high reservoir/river/flow conditions are such that flooding is expected to occur downstream of the dam.

Examples of different situations that could occur at the Dam and the corresponding emergency condition are presented in **Table 7** (which includes the rationale for certain listed trigger levels). Expanded descriptions of the observed conditions, including guidance on response actions, are included in **Table 8** and **Attachment D**. Refer also to **Attachment F** for examples of general conditions that could lead to dam failure.¹

¹ Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, “Guidelines for Operation and Maintenance of Dams in Texas,” Publication No. GI-357, November 2006.

6.0 GENERAL RESPONSIBILITIES UNDER THE EMERGENCY ACTION PLAN

6.1 DAM OWNER RESPONSIBILITIES

As owner, GE has overall responsibility for care and maintenance of Rising Pond Dam. The following duties and responsibilities are assigned to on-site personnel for the five phases of emergency response. Within the context of the EAP, GE's duties and responsibilities include the following:

1. Imminent Failure: Failure of the Rising Pond Dam is imminent, is occurring, or has occurred

Once the Incident Commanders have determined that there is no longer any time available to safely attempt corrective measures to prevent failure, the "failure is imminent or has occurred" warning should be issued. Responsibilities of GE include:

- Initiate the notification procedures for Imminent Failure. Refer to **Section 5.3** and **Figure 1 – Notification Flowchart** (in **Section 2.0**).
- Continuously update the Incident Commanders and emergency responders on the emergency situation.
- Provide periodic updates to DCR Office of Dam Safety as to condition of affected area, pool level, and discharge through any breach.

2. Potential Failure: A failure situation at Rising Pond Dam may be developing

Under this scenario, it is assumed that some time is available for further analyses/decisions to be made before dam failure is considered to be imminent. Dam failure may eventually occur but preplanned actions may avert or mitigate a full dam failure. Responsibilities of GE include:

- Initiate notification procedures for Potential Failure. Refer to **Section 5.3** and **Figure 1 – Notification Flowchart** (in **Section 2.0**).
- Continuously update the Incident Commanders on the emergency situation to mobilize staff to the affected area to institute emergency repair procedures (if time and safety considerations permit).
- Contact GE's consulting dam safety engineer for repair guidance.
- Provide periodic situation reports/emergency messages concerning ongoing repair efforts to DCR Office of Dam Safety as outlined in **Figure 1 - Notification Flowchart**. Also provide periodic updates through the Great Barrington Emergency Dispatch Center.

3. Non-Emergency, Unusual Event, Slowly Developing Condition

During an unusual, non-emergency condition, the situation is abnormal but has not yet threatened the integrity of the Dam. GE is responsible for monitoring the situation and for providing updates to the Incident Commanders. GE will seek guidance from a qualified dam safety engineer and from the DCR Office of Dam Safety, as necessary.

Note that not all responsibilities of GE are listed above. Where duties fall into other specific categories (such as responsibilities for the Town of Great Barrington or responsibilities for termination and follow-up, etc.) these duties are discussed separately in **Sections 6.2, 6.3, 6.4, and 6.5**.

4. Non-Failure Emergency Condition

During a non-failure emergency condition, flooding is expected to occur downstream but there is little danger of dam failure. GE is responsible for performing a post-event assessment of Rising Pond Dam to determine if the dam has been damaged.

6.2 RESPONSIBILITY FOR NOTIFICATION

It is assumed that an emergency situation at Rising Pond Dam will be identified prior to complete structural failure. Although reaction time prior to complete failure may be limited, it is assumed that notification procedures can be initiated at the Great Barrington Emergency Dispatch Center (Great Barrington Dispatch), depending upon the source of initial notification and the condition of the emergency.

Imminent Failure calls for **immediate evacuation** and therefore notification priorities are given to the downstream communities of Great Barrington and Sheffield.

Potential Failure allows for some evaluation of the condition by GE, with the Town of Great Barrington, prior to notification of the downstream community of Sheffield.

The likely mode of initial identification of the emergency condition will be from a passer-by (i.e. Observer – General Public).

If the initial observation of an emergency is made by a GE employee or contractor, then he or she will report the situation to the Caretaker and the 911 dispatch center for the Town of Great Barrington. Great Barrington Dispatch's first contact will be to Great Barrington Emergency Management, which is in turn responsible for providing notification to the emergency responders in Great Barrington: Police, Fire, and (as needed) Highway Departments. The second set of contacts provides notification to the emergency responders in Sheffield: Emergency Management, Police and Fire Departments. The Town of Great Barrington Emergency Management will contact Great Barrington elected officials, Massachusetts State Police, Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency (MEMA), and the Berkshire County Sheriff's Office as needed.

If the initial observation is made by the general public, the observer is expected to call 911 from either a cell phone or landline in the Town of Great Barrington. A cell phone call will be directed to State Police, which will route the call to Great Barrington Dispatch. Great Barrington Dispatch is responsible for carrying out the same notification procedures described above for an emergency that is initially observed by a GE employee or contractor. Once the communication reaches the local level, direct communication via radio or cell phone may be the quickest way to communicate amongst the local responders. Major announcements; however, will be distributed through the dispatch centers.

If time allows, GE is responsible for contacting its consulting dam safety engineer and the DCR Office of Dam Safety for advice. GE is also responsible for contacting the Housatonic Railroad Company should the entrance to the west side of Rising Pond Dam be blocked by railroad cars.

The Incident Commander will contact MEMA or the Massachusetts State Police (MSP) if he/she deems that assistance is or may be needed. Assistance can be requested from and updates can be provided to MEMA through the Web Emergency Operations Center (WebEOC). MEMA has the ability to issue flood watches and warnings to the public through the National Weather Service if appropriate. MEMA also has the ability to transmit warning messages to the public over the Emergency Alert System (EAS).

The Notification Flowchart provided in **Section 2.0** summarizes the notification responsibilities listed above; however, individuals listed on the Flowchart may not be available, in which case alternates or designees may be involved in the notification procedures. Alternate contacts and additional phone numbers are listed in the Contact Lists provided in **Tables 1 through 6**. Initial means of notification will likely be made by telephone landlines or cellular telephones. Additional communication systems are listed in **Section 7.6**.

Upon notification of an emergency condition, the Towns of Great Barrington and Sheffield are responsible for providing direct warning to their residents via a pre-arranged warning system. A discussion of evacuation responsibilities is included in **Section 6.3**. The Towns of Great Barrington and Sheffield will coordinate their responses from their respective Emergency Operations Centers (EOCs).

Preparation of warning messages should begin as soon as their potential need is apparent, which is likely to be immediately after initial notification. When time is available for preparation, the initial message should contain pertinent information as to the severity of the problem, expected extent and timing of inundation at key population centers, and general instructions concerning evacuation. However, in some cases, an emergency condition may be declared when failure is imminent with little advance notice or time to compose a specific message intended for broadcast. The example messages below provide a model for the initial announcements in those cases. Subsequent announcements should be scripted so to provide additional data as the situation dictates.

Sample Message for Emergency Imminent Failure – Announcement for Major Failure of Rising Pond Dam

In the event of a Imminent Failure emergency, the Incident Commander or his or her designee has the authority to issue the following message to the emergency responders from the Towns of Great Barrington and Sheffield via telephone or local two-way radio.

Urgent: **THE RISING POND DAM IN GREAT BARRINGTON, MASSACHUSETTS HAS FAILED.**

Rising Pond Dam, located near the intersection of Park Street and Mountain Street in Great Barrington, Massachusetts, is failing. Water from the dam is expected to cause widespread flooding along Park Street, Route 7, Route 23, and Route 41 in the towns of Great Barrington and Sheffield. The downstream area must be evacuated immediately. Repeat, Rising Pond Dam is failing; evacuate the area along low-lying portions of Housatonic River.

We have activated the emergency action plan for this dam and are currently under emergency Imminent Failure.

The arrival of the resultant flood will take approximately 20 minutes to reach the Division Street Bridge in Great Barrington. Reference the inundation map in your copy of the Emergency Action Plan.

Stay alert for further announcements. Updated information as to river levels, flood arrival times and evacuation efforts will be provided as soon as they are available.

This is an emergency. This is *identify your name and position.*

Sample Message for Emergency Potential Failure – Announcement for Rapidly Developing Condition at Rising Pond Dam

In the event of a Potential Failure emergency, the Incident Commander or his or her designee has the authority to issue the following message to the emergency responders from the Towns of Great Barrington and Sheffield via telephone or local two-way radio.

Urgent: **The Town of Great Barrington has announced that a potential failure situation is developing at Rising Pond Dam in Great Barrington, Massachusetts.**

We have an emergency condition at Rising Pond Dam, located near the intersection of Park Street and Mountain Street in Great Barrington, Massachusetts. We have activated the emergency action plan for this dam and are currently under emergency Potential Failure.

We are implementing pre-determined actions to respond to a rapidly developing situation that could result in dam failure.

If the dam fails, the arrival of the resultant flood will take approximately 20 minutes to reach the Division Street Bridge in Great Barrington. Please prepare to evacuate the area along low-lying portions of Housatonic River.

Reference the inundation map in your copy of the Emergency Action Plan.

Standby for periodic updates on the repair efforts at the dam and additional guidance on evacuate. We will advise you when the situation is resolved or if the situation gets worse.

This is *identify your name and position.*

Sample Message for Emergency Services Personnel to Communicate the Status of the Emergency with the Public

In the event of a Imminent Failure emergency, the emergency managers for the Towns of Great Barrington and Sheffield have the authority to issue the following message to the general public through Reverse 911. This message may be modified for a Potential Failure emergency.

Urgent: **This is an emergency message from the name of community. Listen carefully. Your life may depend on immediate action.**

Rising Pond Dam, located near the intersection of Park Street and Mountain Street in Great Barrington, Massachusetts, is failing. Repeat. Rising Pond Dam, located near the intersection of Park Street and Mountain Street in Great Barrington, Massachusetts, is failing.

If you are in or near this area, proceed immediately to high ground away from the valley. Do not travel on Route 7, Route 23, Route 41 or return to your home to recover your possessions. You cannot outrun or drive away from the floodwave. Proceed immediately to high ground away from the valley.

This message will be repeated once.

The accurate and timely dissemination of emergency public information is very important to the overall success of an EAP.

6.3 RESPONSIBILITY FOR EVACUATION

Warning and evacuation planning are the responsibilities of local authorities who have the statutory obligation within their respective communities (i.e., the Towns of Great Barrington and Sheffield). The Great Barrington and Sheffield Police Departments will provide security, traffic control for secondary and local roadways and direct evacuees along the major evacuation routes toward upland areas and away from the inundation areas shown on the inundation maps in **Attachment E**. In addition to traffic control, local police/fire department will provide a warning of the emergency by loudspeakers, door to door and Reverse 911. The Great Barrington Fire Department will assist in rescues and evacuations, and the Great Barrington DPW will assist with road closures and other support. Emergency evacuation routes will also be broadcast simultaneously over local radio, television, cable stations. Additionally, the Towns of Great Barrington and Sheffield may request activation of the EAS through MEMA. The Towns of Great Barrington and Sheffield have limited resources and may request evacuation and/ or traffic control and resident warning assistance from MSP. MSP will provide traffic control along major interstate highways, state highways, and bridges in accordance with the procedures prescribed in the Incident Command System (ICS). In addition, the Berkshire County Sheriff's Office will respond to emergency sites with emergency supply equipment, including shelter trailers and a portable command center.

According to dam break analysis, the inundation areas occur along the Housatonic River. Based on the generally northerly to southerly flow direction within the downstream floodplain zone, the general evacuation direction adjacent to the east and west sides of the flooding should be toward the east and west, respectively, away from the floodplain zone.

6.4 RESPONSIBILITY FOR DURATION, SECURITY, TERMINATION, AND FOLLOW-UP

The Incident Commander (Great Barrington Emergency Management Director) or his or her designee will perform on-site monitoring of the situation at the dam and keep local authorities informed of developing conditions at the dam until the emergency has been terminated.

The Town of Great Barrington will provide security measures to prevent unauthorized entry into the emergency area and establish access control points. Security measures may include warning signage, security tape, staffed outposts, etc. Additional materials may be provided by the Berkshire County Sheriff's Office.

Throughout the duration of an emergency, emergency responders will update the Unusual Emergency Event Log, which is available in **Table 9**.

Whenever the EAP has been activated, an emergency level has been declared, all EAP actions have been completed, and the emergency is over, the EAP operations must eventually be terminated and follow-up procedures completed. The Incident Commander is responsible for terminating EAP operations and relaying this decision to all responders. It is then the responsibility of each dispatch center to notify the same group of contacts that were notified during the original event notification process to inform those people that the event has been terminated.

Prior to the termination of an Imminent Failure event that has not caused actual dam failure, the Great Barrington Incident Commander, with the assistance of GE and its consulting dam safety engineer, will inspect the dam to determine whether any damage has occurred that could potentially result in loss of life, injury, or property damage. The DCR Office of Dam Safety may also participate in the inspection. If it is determined that conditions do not pose a threat to people or property, the Incident Commander may terminate EAP operations as described above. If the severity of an Imminent Failure emergency changes such that there is no longer a threat of imminent failure, the emergency condition will be reduced to Potential Failure. If the severity of a Potential Failure emergency changes such that there is no longer a threat of dam failure, the Incident Commander may terminate EAP operations as described above.

GE will document the emergency event and all actions that were taken. GE will also perform an initial damage assessment and also modify/update this EAP, if warranted, based upon lessons learned during the emergency situation.

The Towns of Great Barrington and Sheffield should also document their responses and perform initial damage assessments. The results of their evaluations should be documented in written reports for their own files.

6.5 EAP COORDINATION RESPONSIBILITY

GE is responsible for identifying the EAP Coordinator. The EAP Coordinator is responsible for EAP-related activities, including the following:

- Review and update, as necessary, EAP including notification procedures, contact lists, and responsibilities on at least a yearly basis (per 302 CMR 10.11). Updates will be recorded in **Table 10**, entitled “EAP Update Log.”
- Arrange for orientation meetings to discuss proper procedures for surveillance and emergency repair, if requested.
- Conduct a biennial test of the validity of notification procedures and communication systems.
- Review and update available resources information.
- Be prepared to mobilize available on-site resources and obtain contractors on short notice.

6.6 TYPICAL MEMA FUNCTIONS

Great Barrington is part of a robust mutual aid system with local towns. Should the Incident Commander request assistance, mutual aid communities will respond with manpower and equipment. Other functions include:

- Dispatch MEMA personnel to coordinate support activities with the local incident commander, when appropriate.
- Activate the State Emergency Operations Center when appropriate.
- Monitor and document potential or actual emergency situations resulting from failure of the Rising Pond Dam.
- Coordinate the delivery of assistance to local governments and state agencies as requested and available.
- Brief the Governor and advise him or her as to necessary actions.
- Assist Governor's Office with emergency and non-emergency public information releases.
- Transmit warning messages over EAS when the State EOC is activated.
- Receive and evaluate Situation Reports from local governments, state agencies, and utility companies.
- Prepare thorough documentation of emergency response activities and development of post-disaster reports on overall emergency operations by State government.
- Contact National Weather Service.

6.7 TYPICAL MASSACHUSETTS STATE POLICE FUNCTIONS

If the Incident Commander from either town deems that assistance is or may be needed, he or she may also contact MSP. Typical MSP functions include the following:

- Provide the key communication lines for rapid and simultaneous notification to local public safety within the affected inundated areas.
- Mobilize, deploy, and organize personnel for crowd and traffic control operations in support of evacuation.
- Provide personnel specifically trained in a wide range of expertise, and specialized equipment, as necessary, to support the public safety response to affected areas.
- Issue initial emergency messages and situation updates and relay them via the Law Enforcement Automated Personnel System (LEAPS) to local public safety personnel.
- Act as community liaison for MEMA.
- Report damage and other vital information including road closures, bridge failures, collapsed buildings, and casualty estimates.
- Conduct search and rescue operations.
- Control access to dangerous or impassable sections of State-maintained and/or State-patrolled roads.

- Provide assistance as requested to local public safety forces primarily for the purposes of search and rescue, route alerting, anti-looting, traffic control, curfew enforcement, and access control.
- Provide emergency transportation for town, state/federal officials, and engineering consultants.
- Provide emergency communications links through mobile units and the State Police communications.
- Provide departmental Situation Reports to MEMA throughout the increased readiness and emergency response phases of a disaster or emergency.
- Advise the Governor, as to necessary actions, particularly regarding the issuance of curfews and the need for National Guard support.
- Prepare thorough documentation and debriefing of State Police emergency response activities.

6.8 TYPICAL BERKSHIRE COUNTY SHERIFF FUNCTIONS

If the Incident Commander from either town deems that assistance is or may be needed, he or she may also contact the Berkshire County Sheriff (BCS). Typical BCS functions include the following:

- Provide specialized equipment to assist in emergency management, including light towers with generators, and traffic safety equipment including programmable highway signs and barricades.
- Conduct search and rescue operations and provide equipment for off-road rescue operations.
- Conduct boat-based or underwater search and rescue operations.
- Provide assistance as requested to local public safety forces primarily for the purposes of search and rescue, route alerting, anti-looting, traffic control, curfew enforcement, and access control.
- Provide a mobile communications center/command post, and communications equipment including VHF and multiband radios and handheld GPS units with integrated radios
- Provide departmental Situation Reports to MEMA throughout the increased readiness and emergency response phases of a disaster or emergency.
- Prepare thorough documentation and debriefing of BCS's emergency response activities.

7.0 PREPAREDNESS

7.1 SURVEILLANCE PROCEDURES

The keys to the successful implementation of the EAP are the means, timeliness and accuracy of identifying potential emergencies. An emergency condition is one in which the occurrence of a significant hazard to life and/or property is possible or certain to occur (COE, 1983).² Conditions justifying declaration of an emergency condition may be imminent (Imminent Failure) or may develop over a longer term (Potential Failure). However, in either case, such a declaration will likely come from GE personnel who are familiar with the operations/maintenance history and existing conditions of the Rising Pond Dam.

This section summarizes the routine observations and inspections of the Dam and appurtenant structures. Additional details are provided in the revised OM&M Plan for Rising Pond Dam. Early identification of the existence or potential for occurrence of such emergency conditions is essential as a basis for initiating emergency repairs and for issuing appropriate notifications. Refer to **Table 8** for key items for which the dam inspector(s) will observe during Dam inspections. Refer to **Attachment F** for images of these key items.

1. Quarterly visual inspections will be conducted by GE or its contractor. These inspections will include a walk along the structure and across the bridge over the diversion channel downstream of the Dam to check for cracks, movement, seepage, boils and/or other signs of increased leakage or other unusual occurrences at the Dam. Ice-out observations will be made during the second quarterly inspection. During these inspections, particular attention will be paid to concrete/masonry structures and the trash rack.
2. A complete visual inspection of the Rising Pond Dam will be made on a biennial basis by a dam safety engineer registered in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts who has extensive experience in dam inspections. The inspection reports will document existing conditions, and present recommendations for maintenance and repairs, as necessary.
3. These routine inspections will be augmented with inspections after every high-flow event, defined as a flow event with a peak river flow of 3,650 cfs or greater at the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) gage on the Housatonic River at Division Street in Great Barrington, or after an earthquake with reported damage in Berkshire County.
4. Topographic and bathymetric surveys and dive inspections of the Dam will be performed every five years as discussed in the revised OM&M Plan.
5. Annual penstock inspections and evaluations will be conducted by GE to monitor potential movement, misalignment, leakage, seepage, or deterioration of the penstock until an assessment is made of the need for and type of modifications or repairs to the penstock. These inspections and evaluations will include a topographic survey of the area above the penstock, a topographic survey of the interior penstock crown, invert and springline, along with internal ovality measurements at

² U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (COE), The Hydrologic Engineering Center, "Example Emergency Plan for Blue Marsh Dam and Lake," Research Document No. 19, August 1983.

approximate 10-foot stations along the penstock, Ultrasonic Thickness (UT) testing of the interior steel shell of the penstock, and an external visual inspection of the area above the penstock and an internal visual inspection of the penstock.

All inspection reports and checklists will be completed by or on behalf of GE, kept permanently on file by GE, and submitted to EPA when required by the OM&M Plan.

7.2 RESPONSE DURING PERIODS OF DARKNESS

During normal business hours, response time of GE personnel to the site of an identified potential emergency condition would be rapid. Actual response time, especially during non-business hours, will be a function of how and by whom the initial emergency condition is discovered and by weather conditions. The Town of Great Barrington Dispatch Emergency Center is available 24 hours a day.

Please refer to **Figure 1**, the **Notification Flowchart**, and **Section 6.0** for special notification procedures.

Emergency power and remote lighting contingencies are available from the Town of Great Barrington. Additional power and remote lighting can be provided by the Berkshire County Sheriff's Office and by local contractors at the request of the Incident Commander.

7.3 ACCESS TO SITE

To access the right abutment from Route 183, one turns west onto Division Street, continues for 0.9 miles and proceeds north on Van Deusenville Road for about 1.1 miles to a railroad access gate on the right. From the railroad access gate, an approximately 0.3-mile path, capable of passing vehicular traffic, leads to the right side of the Dam. The left abutment is accessible off of Park Street (Rt 183) via the Hazen Paper Company driveway.

7.4 RESPONSE DURING WEEKENDS AND HOLIDAYS

During normal business days and hours, response time of GE and Town of Great Barrington personnel to the site of an identified potential emergency condition would be rapid. Actual response time will be a function of how and by whom the initial emergency condition is discovered and communicated. It will also be affected by weather conditions.

Response time could be impacted if the emergency event occurs on a weekend or holiday. The Town of Great Barrington will attempt to minimize the impact of weekends and holidays through its preparedness measures. Emergency phone numbers listed are for dispatch centers, which are operational 24 hours per day, 7 days per week. Dispatch centers have the ability to contact individuals during weekends and holidays.

7.5 RESPONSE DURING PERIODS OF ADVERSE WEATHER

GE personnel will be placed on a heightened state of readiness in the event of predicted or actual adverse weather conditions. Should weather events make some local roads impassable, the Dam can be accessed from either abutment.

7.6 ALTERNATIVE SYSTEMS OF COMMUNICATION

In the event of an emergency condition, the primary means of notification will be made by telephone landlines or cellular telephones; however, additional/alternative communication systems are listed below. The Contact Lists provided in **Tables 1 through 6** contain responder contact information available at the time that this EAP was prepared. This contact information includes emergency dispatch phone numbers, office phone numbers, cell phone numbers, home phone numbers and radio frequencies, when available.

Should the method of primary communication being used fail, responders should be prepared to utilize alternative communication systems. During an ongoing emergency, many of the communication systems listed below will be vital communication links for use in directing and coordinating emergency operations, issuing alerts and warnings, and instructing the general public.

7.6.1 Local Two-Way Radio

The Police, Fire, and Highway Departments in the Towns of Great Barrington and Sheffield communicate through portable radios. Each department communicates via its Emergency Dispatch Center. The following are the Towns' departments' radio frequencies:

Town	Police Department		Fire Department		DPW/Highway DEP.	
	Frequency (MHz)	PL Code	Frequency (MHz)	PL Code	Frequency (MHz)	PL Code
Great Barrington	155.775	107.2	154.310	107.2	155.760	118.8
Sheffield	155.775	107.2	154.310	107.2	155.955	107.2

Other radio contact capabilities include contact with MEMA, which operates on an 800 MHz trunked system, and the mobile communications system available from the Berkshire County Sheriff.

7.6.2 Emergency Alert System (EAS)

EAS allows government officials to access local radio and TV stations to communicate with the public in times of impending or actual emergency. To activate the EAS at the state level, a request may be directed to an Originating Primary Relay Station (usually an FM station located near the State capital) by the Governor, State Police, State Emergency Management, or the National Weather Service.

7.6.3 Internet Access Capabilities

The Towns of Great Barrington and Sheffield have internet access capabilities and may utilize the MEMA WebEOC portal ([System Logins for Emergency Management | Mass.gov](#)) to report an emergency condition, provide updates to MEMA and request assistance (manpower, materials, equipment, etc.), as needed.

7.6.4 Reverse 911

The Towns of Great Barrington and Sheffield utilize Reverse 911 (or equivalent) systems. Reverse 911 (or equivalent) systems would allow Town officials to send out pre-recorded messages to residents by telephone, during an emergency (flood) or a situation that requires public outreach to residents and businesses. Pre-recorded messages would be sent out to entire communities or to specific locations depending on the nature of the emergency. In the case of a dam break flood wave, the notification system would be used to notify residents in the potential impact areas.

7.7 EMERGENCY SUPPLIES AND INFORMATION

7.7.1 Stockpiling Materials and Equipment

GE has selected an Emergency Response Contractor to respond to an emergency situation at the Dam: LB Corporation, whose contact information is provided in the **Table 6**. LB Corporation is a full-service contractor that maintains and will provide materials and equipment that could be used in case of an emergency. The Town of Great Barrington DPW and Town of Sheffield DPW should be prepared to respond with additional equipment, material, and labor as required.

7.7.2 Coordination of Information

The Glendale Dam is located on the Housatonic River in Stockbridge, Massachusetts approximately 3½ to 4 miles upstream of Rising Pond Dam. The Glendale Dam has the capability to regulate flow via the dam powerhouse. The Glendale Dam is owned by Hitchcock Hydro, LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Relevate Power, and is operated under a FERC license for electric power generation. The operations center for Relevate Power can be reached at 888-855-2175.³

Willow Mill Dam is operated by Onyx Specialty Papers and is located about 10 miles upstream of Rising Pond Dam. The offices for Onyx can be reached at 413-243-1231.⁴

7.7.3 Other Site-Specific Actions

Under the direction of the Incident Commander, the Town of Great Barrington employees may provide manpower to perform emergency repair activities. If additional manpower is required, the Town of Great Barrington may request the assistance of the National Guard through MEMA. GE has an on-call relationship with local contractors who will assist as needed.

7.8 PUBLIC AWARENESS AND COMMUNICATION

As previously noted, GE maintains warning signs at Rising Pond Dam. During the quarterly inspections, the posted signs are observed to evaluate whether they remain in place and intact and whether they need repair or replacement.

³ The Relevate Power website is <https://www.gravityrenewables.com/contact-us/>.

⁴ The Onyx Specialty Papers website is <https://onyxpapers.com/contact-us/>.

In the event that the visual inspections indicate that the posted signs are not in place or intact or that other sign repair or replacement activities are needed, the necessary sign repair or replacement activities will be conducted as part of the regularly scheduled maintenance program.

8.0 INUNDATION MAPS

The inundation maps provided in **Attachment E** are based on the latest Dam Break Analysis, performed by GZA in 2024 (see **Attachment A**).

Note that the inundation maps available in **Attachment E** include a limited number of key landmarks within the impact area and presents estimated flood zones. However, the maps do not include all possible structures and facilities that may be impacted due to a dam break of Rising Pond Dam. It is incumbent upon the Towns of Great Barrington and Sheffield to locate key local landmarks and modify the inundation maps, as they deem appropriate.

TABLES

Rising Pond Dam
File No. 19896.81
Updated December 2025

TABLE 1

GENERAL ELECTRIC COMPANY CONTACT LIST

General Electric Company
1 Plastics Avenue
Pittsfield, Massachusetts 01201

Name	Title	Telephone No.
Kevin Mooney	Senior Project Manager Caretaker	(413) 448-6610 office (413) 441-4619 cell
Matthew Calacone	Senior Project Manager Alternate Caretaker	(413) 553-6614 office (413) 822-0082 cell
Pittsfield Plant Security	GE Emergency Line	(413) 553-6625 24-hr

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TABLE 2

TOWN OF GREAT BARRINGTON COMMUNITY ALERT LIST

City/Town	Name/Dept.	Position/Title	Address	Telephone No.
Great Barrington	Police Department / Emergency Management Paul Storti	Chief	465 Main Street Great Barrington, Massachusetts 01230	911 (413) 528-0306 ext. 1104 Freq: 155.775 / PL 107.2
	Fire Department Scott Turner	Chief	37 State Road Great Barrington, Massachusetts 01230	911 (413) 528-0788 ext. 6 (Office) Freq: 154.310 / PL 107.2
	Interim Town Manager Christopher Rembold	Town Manager	334 Main Street Great Barrington, Massachusetts 01230	(413) 528-1619 ext. 2900
	Selectboard Stephen Bannon	Selectboard Chair	334 Main Street Great Barrington, Massachusetts 01230	(413) 528-1619 ext. 2900
	Department of Public Works Joseph Aberdale	Superintendent	334 Main Street Great Barrington, Massachusetts 01230	(413) 528-0867 ext. 1 Freq: 155.760 / PL 118.8

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TABLE 3

TOWN OF SHEFFIELD COMMUNITY ALERT LIST

City/Town	Name/Dept.	Position/Title	Address	Telephone No.
Sheffield	Police Department / Emergency Management Eric R. Munson, III	Chief / Director	10 South Main Street Sheffield, Massachusetts 01257	911 (413) 229-8522 Freq: 155.775 / PL 107.2
	Berkshire County Sheriff's Communication Center	Desk Officer/ Dispatcher	467 Cheshire Road Pittsfield, Massachusetts 01201	911 (413) 442-0512 (413) 445-4559
	Fire Department David Ulrich	Chief	65 Depot Street (PO Box 860) Sheffield, Massachusetts 01257	911 (413) 229-7033 Freq: 154.310 / PL 107.2
	Board of Selectmen Lee Buttala	Chairman	21 Depot Square (PO Box 325) Sheffield, Massachusetts 01257	413-229-7000 ext. 152
	Highway Department David Ruot	Highway Superintendent	Pike Road East Sheffield, Massachusetts 01257	(413) 229-7030 Freq: 155.955 / PL 107.2

TABLE 4
STATE AGENCY ALERT LIST

Location	Name/Contact	Address	Telephone No.
Lee, Massachusetts	State Police Troop B-1 SP	215 Laurel Street Route 20 Lee, Massachusetts 01238	(413) 243-0600
Northampton, Massachusetts	State Police Troop B Headquarters	555 North King Street Northampton, Massachusetts 01060	(413) 584-3000
Framingham, Massachusetts	State Police Communication Center	470 Worcester Road Framingham, Massachusetts 01702-5399	(508) 820-2121
Framingham, Massachusetts	Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency (MEMA) Executive Office	400 Worcester Road Framingham, Massachusetts 01702-5399	(508) 820-2000 (24 hrs.) (508) 820-2022
Boston, Massachusetts	Department of Conservation and Recreation - Office of Dam Safety	10 Park Plaza Suite 6620 Boston, Massachusetts 02116	(617) 626-1250
Agawam, Massachusetts	Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency (MEMA) Region 3	1002 Suffield Street Agawam, Massachusetts 01001	(413) 750-1400
Springfield, Massachusetts	Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP)	436 Dwight Street Springfield, Massachusetts 01103	Benjamin Guidi (857) 383-7476
Hartford, Connecticut	Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (CTDEEP)	79 Elm Street Hartford, Connecticut 06106	Emergency Response & Spill Prevention (860) 424-3338 Additional Emergency Contact: (866) 337-7745
Boston, Massachusetts	U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)	EPA Region 1 5 Post Office Square- Suite 100 Boston, Massachusetts 02109	Josh Fontaine (617) 918-1720 Emergency Response Duty Desk: (617) 918-1236

TABLE 5
MAJOR UTILITIES LIST

Name	Telephone No.
<u>Telephone</u>	
Verizon	(800) 870-9999
<u>Electric</u>	
<i>Great Barrington Utility:</i> National Grid	National Grid Emergency: (800) 465-1212
<i>Sheffield Utility:</i> National Grid	National Grid Emergency: (800) 465-1212
<u>Gas</u>	
Berkshire Gas	Emergency: (800) 292-5012
<u>Railroad</u>	
Housatonic Railroad	(860) 824-0850 Emergency (Matt Boardman): (860) 824-0850 x17
<u>Mass DOT</u>	
Massachusetts Department of Transportation – Highway District 1	(857) 368-1000

Note:

This list has been provided for general reference purposes and is not intended to be an all-inclusive list of major utilities within the potential downstream impact area. Primary responsibility for notifying key utilities, rail lines, etc. will rest with the public safety agencies of the individual community.

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TABLE 6

GENERAL ELECTRIC EMERGENCY RESPONSE CONTRACTOR LIST

Steve Garrity	LB Corporation	(413) 243-1072 office (413) 441-1412 cell
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TABLE 7
GUIDANCE FOR DETERMINING THE EMERGENCY CONDITION

Rising Pond Dam
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 Updated December 2025

Event	Situation	Emergency Condition*
Spillways	Principal spillway blocked with debris and pool is rapidly rising	Potential
	Principal spillway severely blocked with debris or structurally damaged	Potential
	Principal spillway leaking	NE
Flooding	Action level river stage (7 feet) or above occurring or forecasted by Advanced Hydrologic Prediction Service for Housatonic River at Great Barrington (see NOAA AHPS website)	NE
	The reservoir elevation reaches the predetermined notification trigger elevation of 725.0 feet NGVD (about 0.6 feet above the 100-year storm level), which is 2 feet below the left side of the top of dam. Consider rate of rise.	Potential
	Reservoir elevation reaches the predetermined evacuation trigger elevation of 726.2 feet NGVD (the 500-year pond flood level), which is 0.8 feet below the left side of the top of dam.	Imminent
	Flood flows are overtopping the dam.	Imminent
	National Weather Service issues a flood warning for the area	NE/NF
Seepage	Boils observed downstream of dam with cloudy discharge	Potential
	New seepage areas with cloudy discharge or increasing flow rate	Potential
	New seepage areas in or near the dam	NE
	Boils observed downstream of dam	NE
Sinkholes	Rapidly enlarging sinkhole	Imminent
	Observation of new sinkhole in reservoir area or on embankment	Potential
Embankment Cracking	Cracks in the embankment with seepage	Potential
	New cracks in the embankment greater than 1/4-inch wide without seepage	NE
Embankment Movement	Sudden or rapidly proceeding slides of the embankment slopes	Imminent
	Visual movement/slippage of the embankment slope	NE
Instruments	Instrumentation readings beyond predetermined values	NE
Earthquake	Earthquake resulting in uncontrolled release of water from the dam	Imminent
	Earthquake resulting in visible damage to the dam or appurtenances	Potential
	Measurable earthquake felt or reported on or within 50 miles of the dam	NE
Security Threat	Detonated bomb that has resulted in damage to the dam or appurtenances	Imminent
	Verified bomb threat that, if carried out, could result in damage to the dam	Potential
Sabotage / Vandalism	Damage to dam or appurtenances that has resulted in uncontrolled water release	Imminent
	Damage to dam or appurtenances that has resulted in seepage flow	Potential
	Modification to the dam or appurtenances that could adversely impact the functioning of the dam	NE
	Damage to dam or appurtenances with no impacts to the functioning of the dam	NE

* Emergency Conditions:

Imminent: Urgent; dam failure appears imminent or is in progress

Potential: Potential dam failure situation, rapidly developing

NE: Non-emergency, unusual event, slowly developing

NF: Non-failure emergency condition, no danger of dam failure, only flooding concerns

Note: This table is based upon the 2007 ASDSO sample EAP format.

TABLE 8
 EMERGENCY REPAIR GUIDELINES

Observed Conditions	Potential Effects of the Observed Conditions	Guide for Action	Data to be Reported Situation Report	Remarks
1. CRACKS/DISPLACEMENT in Dam	<u>Not serious</u> , if minor axial cracks in crest. If crack does not extend completely through the dam and no movement or displacement is evident, gradual surficial cracking and/or deterioration of concrete or masonry may not be serious.	Start repairs as soon as possible. Mobilize construction equipment and manpower to perform necessary repairs. Contact professional dam engineer to assess condition	Location, width, length, and pattern (horizontal, vertical, or in some intermediate direction). Record pond elevation.	Observe daily until repair work is complete. NOTE: Although cracks can develop anywhere, the most likely location is at transition zones.
	Could cause failure, if crack extends completely through the dam or if recent movement or displacement of concrete or masonry is evident	Backfilling or other means of filling the crack will be required after the extent of the crack is determined.	Same as above. <u>Activate EAP.</u> (Potential Failure).	Observe hourly until repair work is completed.
	<u>Failure imminent</u> , if cracks extend completely through the dam and water is entering the crack and emerging on the downstream side at an increasing rate or if large sections of concrete or masonry have displaced significantly or fallen off the dam.	Replace and reinforce behind the area of shifted concrete/masonry with large rip rap to form a buttress. Plug the crack on upstream side to the extent possible using stone and gravel (or with other suitable material larger than the crack width) before adding sand or impervious material. After slowing flow, place two layers of geotextile filtration fabric across small cracks and cover with fine grained or impervious soil. This procedure will help prevent the washing out of the finer materials through the crack. The work should be started nearest the water surface on the upstream side.	Location, width, lengths and pattern of crack; also flow rate of downstream exit. <u>Activate EAP.</u> (Imminent Failure).	Observe constantly.

Observed Conditions	Potential Effects of the Observed Conditions	Guide for Action	Data to be Reported Situation Report	Remarks
2. LEAKAGE (THROUGH CONCRETE OR MASONRY)	This may be due to cracks, deteriorated or porous concrete, open joints or plugged drains.	Review to see if conditions relating to 1 applies and pursue same remedial actions.	Note the time, size, and location of leakage area and approximate flow rate.	Observe at least once per day until sure that leakage does not change into one of the conditions noted below.
a. Moist or wet surfaces	This may not be serious or it could be the start of a serious problem.			
b. Concentrated	<u>Not serious.</u> No loss of concrete or unusual movement. Rate of flow not increasing. Flow is clear.	Map location of all leaks, determine path of water if feasible through the use of dye tests. Report to the Consultant Engineer.	Note the time, size and location of leakage area and approximate flow rate.	Monitor quantities and relate to reservoir elevation and other potential influencing conditions.
	<u>Could lead to failure.</u> Increase in flow or leakage leading to deterioration, movement, and weakening.	Same as above and: Specifically assess hazards associated with cracks/displacement above and pursue same remedial actions. Control leakage with drainage system and channel uncontrolled flows. Protect eroded areas with concrete, gunite, rock, or gabions.	Note the time, size, and location of leakage area and approximate flow rate. <u>Activate EAP (Potential Failure)</u>	Same as above. Monitor condition hourly, until otherwise notified by Consultant Engineer.
3. SEEPAGE				
a. <u>Wet surface area</u> , located on downstream abutment slope or otherwise normally dry areas downstream of the dam, with very little or no surface water, or very minor seeps.	This may be caused by infiltration of rain water which is not serious, or may be the start of a serious seepage problem, which could be indicated by a quick change to one of the conditions below.	Compare to previously reported conditions under similar weather conditions. Perform complete visual inspection of abutment and downstream area. If situation cannot be fully explained by weather conditions, contact Consultant Engineer.	Note the time, size and location of seepage area, and quantity of surface water; report to dam supervisor.	Observe at least once a day until sure that seepage does not change into one of the conditions noted below.
b. Same wet area as above, with moderate seeps of clear or relatively clear water.	<u>Not serious.</u> Clear seep water and rate of flow not increasing.	Measure flow rate, inspect all downstream areas, and report any new seepage locations and conditions.	Note the time, size and location of seepage area, and approximate flow rate.	During flood stages the seepage area must be monitored daily for deteriorating conditions (increase in flow or material discharge).
	<u>Could lead to failure.</u> Relatively clear seep water, but rate of flow increases by minutes or hours.	Same as above.	Note the time, size and location of seepage area, and approximate flow rate. <u>Activate EAP (Potential Failure)</u>	Same as above. Monitor condition hourly.

Observed Conditions	Potential Effects of the Observed Conditions	Guide for Action	Data to be Reported Situation Report	Remarks
c. <u>Boils</u> - Soil particles forming a cone deposited around water discharge point. (Boils can vary from a few inches in diameter spaced to 2 to 3 feet apart to isolated boils several feet in diameter.)	<u>Not serious.</u> Emerging water in developed cone is clear and rate of flow is not increasing.	Check all downstream areas for other boils or seeps.	Note that time, size and location of seepage area, and approximate flow rate or velocity.	Observe at least once a day.
d. Piping - (seepage with removal of material through abutments), moderate to active.	<u>Could lead to failure.</u> Emerging water is muddy and rate of flow is increasing.	Temporarily control the seepage by ringing the area with a sandbag dike (see Figures 3 and 4 for schematic on ringing a boil). The dike should be constructed to provide sufficient flow reduction to prevent loss of material at the surface. If boils become so large that it is not practical to dike around them, place a coarse, granular blanket over the area, but do not stop the flow of water.	Note that time, size and location of seepage area, and approximate flow rate. Activate EAP. (Potential Failure)	Monitor constantly.
	<u>Failure imminent.</u> Emerging water is turbid (muddy), rate of flow increasing, and if there is upstream swirl (whirlpool) caused by water entering at the abutments.	Control seepage on downstream side of embankment as discussed above. Plugging of the upstream entrance of the pipe should be attempted. (See Observed Condition 5 below.)	Note the time, size and location of seepage conditions and approximate size of whirlpool. Active EAP. (Imminent Failure).	Observe constantly.
4. SINKHOLES a. Above piping or tunnel in abutment.	Could lead to failure if problem occurs in conjunction with piping (or boils) problem.	If in conjunction with boils problem, place inverted granular blanket material in sinkhole. Check area for other sinkholes or seeps.	Same as above plus description and size of cracks or damage and seepage into conduit. Activate EAP. (Potential Failure).	Observe constantly.
b. Above Outlet works conduit.	Could lead to failure if conduit cracks and structural damage results.	Check conduit for cracks or damage and repair as soon as possible.	Same as above plus description and size of cracks or damage and seepage into conduit. Activate EAP. (Potential Failure).	Observe constantly.

Observed Conditions	Potential Effects of the Observed Conditions	Guide for Action	Data to be Reported Situation Report	Remarks
5. RESERVOIR WHIRLPOOLS	Usually caused by water flowing through a piping tunnel through the dam or abutment.	Lower the pool. An attempt should be made to plug the entrance with cobbles/boulders or stockpiled materials or anything else that is available. If the large material placed in the hole appears to have reduced the flow, continue adding progressively smaller material. When the flow is sufficiently reduced (Whirlpool disappears) place a granular blanket over the downstream outlet of the piping as noted above for problem, i.e., piping. Inspect abutments, dam, and downstream of dam for seepage areas, sinkholes, boils, etc.	Note the time observed, condition noted, location, and approximate size of whirlpool and the exit area downstream. <u>Activate EAP.</u> (Potential Failure).	Observe constantly for changes in the pond or the exit area.
6. SLIDES Upstream slope of abutments	<u>Not serious</u> , if slide does not intersect the crest or extend into the embankment more than 5 feet (measure perpendicular to the slope).	Start repairs as soon as possible. Mobilize town construction equipment and manpower or private contractor to perform necessary repairs.	Note: Location, time first observed, subsidence or building, whether water is emerging from slope, whether any movement can be visually detected and pool elevation.	Observe at least once a day.
	<u>Could lead to failure</u> , if slide passes through the crest, and water surface within 10 feet of the slumped crest.	Have labor, materials and equipment standing by as soon as possible. Start repairs as soon as possible.	Report same data as above. <u>Activate EAP.</u> (Potential Failure).	Observe constantly until necessary repairs are completed.
	<u>Failure imminent</u> , if: (1) the slide passes through the crest; and, (2) the water surface is at or near (less than 10 feet below) the top of the slumped crest.	Start lowering the reservoir. Use every means possible to armor the crest and to restore to original crest level.	Note: the time first observed location, whether water is emerging from downstream slope, whether any movement can be visually detected. <u>Activate EAP (Imminent Failure).</u>	Observe constantly.

Observed Conditions	Potential Effects of the Observed Conditions	Guide for Action	Data to be Reported Situation Report	Remarks
7. OVERTOPPING	Could cause failure, if water surface elevation is approaching the top of the dam and there is the potential for erosion of the downstream face or if the water surface elevation is at or above the top of the dam and erosion is occurring.	<p>Increases releases through outlet structures if possible. Increase freeboard by building a sandbag berm, or an earthen berm or parapet wall that is covered with a membrane. Force water through the outlet structures.</p> <p>Fill eroded areas with sandbags according to the pyramid placement method as soon as they begin to form. Cover large areas that have been sandbagged with a membrane to further prevent erosion.</p>	<p>Note the time, location and height of overtopping and the length of the crest that is being overtopped. Note the size of the area that is being eroded. <u>Activate EAP (Potential or Imminent Failure)</u></p>	Observe constantly.
	Failure imminent, if significant erosion is observed on the downstream face of the dam or if a significant decrease in crest width occurs as a result of the erosion.	<p>Construct an auxillary spillway on an abutment. Dig a channel (starting from the bottom at the abutment/downstream channel contact). Line the channel with filter fabric and dump appropriately sized (large) riprap in the channel. Once the channel approaches five feet from the reservoir, break through the top 6 inches of the channel/ reservoir contact to allow flow to proceed through the constricted channel, while placing additional riprap in the channel to minimize erosion. As the water level drops, slowly and incrementally proceed to break through the top of channel/ reservoir contact to allow additional water through the channel. Place additional riprap as needed. See general note below.</p>	<p>Note the time, location and height of overtopping and the length of the crest that is being eroded. <u>Activate EAP (Imminent Failure)</u></p>	Observe constantly.

Observed Conditions	Potential Effects of the Observed Conditions	Guide for Action	Data to be Reported Situation Report	Remarks
	General note: If riprap is depleted, sandbags may be placed. Each bag should be filled with sand and tied to prevent loss of material. Placement should be by hand, sling, or other methods that would prevent tearing of the bags. Bags filled with clay and silts may be used only if sand is not readily available and other methods of repair cannot be implemented.			

TABLE 9
UNUSUAL OR EMERGENCY EVENT LOG
(to be completed during the emergency)

File No. 19896.81
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Updated December 2025

Rising Pond Dam
Great Barrington, Massachusetts

When and how was the event detected? _____

Weather conditions: _____

General description of the emergency situation: _____

Actions and Event Progression

Date	Time	Action/Event Progression	Taken by

Report prepared by: _____ Date: _____

TABLE 10
EAP UPDATE LOG

File No. 19896.81
Page 1 of 1
Updated December 2025

Rising Pond Dam
Great Barrington, Massachusetts

EAP Updates

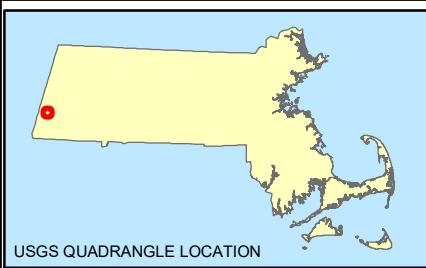
Date	EAP Update Description	Updated by
10/2015	Reformatted to comply with DCR Regulations and incorporate comments.	GZA
12/2017	Validated protocol and updated responsible parties' information.	GZA
12/2018	Revised to address U.S. Environmental Protection Agency comments on 12/2017 update and to provide other updated information.	GZA
8/2019	Revised to address U.S. Environmental Protection Agency comments on 12/2018 update and to provide other updated information.	GZA
4/2020	2020 annual updates to the EAP, including responsible parties' information.	GZA
4/2021	2021 annual updates to the EAP, including responsible parties' information.	GZA
11/2022	2022 annual updates to the EAP, including responsible parties' information.	GZA
12/2023	2023 annual updates to the EAP, including responsible parties' information. Updates to the base maps for the inundation maps.	GZA
12/2024	2024 annual updates to the EAP, including responsible parties' information. Updated Dam Break Analysis and inundation maps.	GZA
12/2025	Revised to address US. Environmental Protection Agency comments in their Conditional Approval Letter dated 10/21/2025.	GZA

FIGURE

(SEE EAP SECTION 2.0 FOR FIGURE 1 – NOTIFICATION FLOW CHART)



MassGIS



USGS QUADRANGLE LOCATION

SOURCE: THE 2023 AERIAL IMAGERY MAP SERVICE WAS DISTRIBUTED BY MASSGIS ON MAY 3, 2024. THE FUNDING FOR THIS IMAGERY WAS PROVIDED BY MASSDOT, THE STATE 911 DEPARTMENT AND THE EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF TECHNOLOGY SERVICES AND SECURITY (EOTSS).

Data Supplied by :



SCALE IN FEET



PROJ. MGR.: SDK
DESIGNED BY: LTP
REVIEWED BY: JDA
OPERATOR: AJP

DATE: 9/16/2025

AERIAL PHOTOGRAPH

RISING POND DAM (MA00250)
GREAT BARRINGTON, MASSACHUSETTS

JOB NO.
19896.81

FIGURE NO.
2

ATTACHMENT A
INVESTIGATION OF POTENTIAL FLOOD LIMITS

ATTACHMENT A

DAM BREAK ANALYSIS – RISING POND DAM

The objective of this analysis was to determine the resultant flooding depths caused by a breach of the Rising Paper Dam and to estimate the travel time of the flood wave as it progresses downstream. Rising Paper Dam is located on the Housatonic River in Risingdale (Great Barrington), Massachusetts. This analysis was performed using the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers HEC-RAS 2D version 6.5. The dam break scenario is consistent with Massachusetts simplified dam breach standards for significant hazard dams as specified in 302 CMR 10 Dam Safety 10.11(2). The dam break consists of a full breach of the dam earthen embankment while the impoundment level is at the top of embankment elevation and the downstream area has fair-weather conditions. HEC-RAS calculates the peak outflow of the dam based on the breach geometry and the size of the reservoir. The model then estimates the flood wave as it travels downstream.

The results of the dam breach analysis are presented on an inundation map created using Esri ArcMap 10.8.2. The elevation reference datum used in the model was the North American Vertical Datum of 1988 (NAVD88). This map provides comprehensive information about the area affected by the modelled dam breach, including roadway names, stream names, and railroad locations. It also details the flooding impact, showing the incremental rise in water levels, the depth of the floodwaters, the time it takes for the flood wave to travel downstream, and the peak flow at various points.

PROGRAM INPUT

GZA developed a two-dimensional (2D) hydraulic unsteady model of the Rising Pond Dam using the USACE's Hydrological Engineering Center River Analysis System (HEC-RAS) Version 6.5 to estimate dam break flows, elevations, and arrival times. HEC-RAS input parameters are summarized in **Table 1**. The HEC-RAS model was developed as follows:

- Imported digital terrain model and land cover data.
- Defined the model impoundment extent, called the Storage Area, with a polygon.
- Defined the model downstream extent, called the 2D Flow Area, with a polygon.
- Assigned a grid size resolution to generate a grid within the model extent.
- Modified the grid using break lines, which were used to align grid cells with significant topographic features, such as high points (i.e., ridges) and stream channel.
- Added boundary conditions along the perimeter of the model extent. Boundary conditions represent locations of flow entering or leaving the 2D Flow Area.
- Assigned Manning's n values to each land cover type.
- Added the dam, associated structures, and downstream hydraulic structures within the model extents.

Table 1: HEC-RAS Model Inputs Parameters

Model Element	Input Parameters																					
Model Extents and Layout	The model encompasses the Housatonic River up to 1.5 miles upstream of the Dam as a storage area and 5.5 miles downstream of the Dam as a 2D flow area. The downstream of the model is represented with a 2D Flow Area and the entire model extent is approximately 73,100 cells with an average grid resolution of 100 feet in the channel and floodplain and upland areas.																					
Terrain Data	The digital elevation model (DEM) of the Site was developed using terrain consisting of 1-meter by 1-meter LiDAR-generated DEM from the 2015 Western Massachusetts QL2 dataset, downloaded through USGS. Break lines were added to align grid cells with topographic high points which may act as pertinent hydraulic controls.																					
Storage Area (Risingdale Pond)	The storage area of Rising Pond Dam was represented by an elevation-storage curve. The storage curve was estimated using LiDAR data for the area above the normal pool level. The Storage area of Risingdale Pond extends 1.4 miles upstream (north) of the Dam with a volume of 770 acre-feet at top of the dam.																					
Flow Structures	The Rising Pond Dam was modeled with an SA/2D connector. The dam embankment was 563 feet in length with a minimum elevation of 727.0 feet. The spillway was modeled as an ogee shaped weir 127 feet in length at 715.8 feet in elevation.																					
Manning's n (i.e., roughness)	<p>The 2016 Massachusetts Land Cover/Land Use dataset was used to establish roughness zones within the model with the following estimated Manning's n values:</p> <p>Barren Land = 0.025; Deciduous Forest = 0.160; Developed Open Space = 0.040; Evergreen Forest = 0.160; Grassland = 0.035; Impervious = 0.150; Palustrine Aquatic Bed = 0.070; Palustrine Emergent Wetlands = 0.070; Palustrine Forested Wetlands = 0.120; Pasture-Hay = 0.030; Shrub-Scrub = 0.1; and Water = 0.040</p> <p>Manning's n values were assigned based on "Manning's n Values for Various Land Covers to Use for Dam Breach Analyses by NRCS in Kansas" and the HEC-RAS Mapper User's Manual.</p>																					
Upstream Boundary Condition	The upstream boundary condition was represented by the storage area reservoir. No inflow was applied, and the impoundment water elevation was set to the top of the dam.																					
Downstream Boundary Condition	<p>The Housatonic River outflow applied an elevation-discharge rating curve based on the Berkshire County FEMA FIS report published in July 2021 (flood conditions) and LiDAR-generated DEM from the 2015 Western Massachusetts QL2 dataset (no baseflow conditions):</p> <table> <thead> <tr> <th>Flow Condition</th> <th>Water Surface Elevation (ft)</th> <th>Discharge at the Downstream Boundary Condition (cfs)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>No Flow</td> <td>644.2</td> <td>0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Median Baseflow</td> <td>650.1</td> <td>5,710</td> </tr> <tr> <td>10-yr</td> <td>654.2</td> <td>8,395</td> </tr> <tr> <td>50-yr</td> <td>657.5</td> <td>13,035</td> </tr> <tr> <td>100-yr</td> <td>659.4</td> <td>15,445</td> </tr> <tr> <td>500-yr</td> <td>663.9</td> <td>22,160</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Flow Condition	Water Surface Elevation (ft)	Discharge at the Downstream Boundary Condition (cfs)	No Flow	644.2	0	Median Baseflow	650.1	5,710	10-yr	654.2	8,395	50-yr	657.5	13,035	100-yr	659.4	15,445	500-yr	663.9	22,160
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500-yr	663.9	22,160																				
Dam Breach Parameters	The breach coefficient was 2.6 and the bottom width was 83 feet with a breach formation time of 0.5 hours and bottom elevation of 694.0 feet. The left and right-side slopes of the breach are 0.5H:1V. Parameters were estimated based on FERC guidance for embankment failure.																					
Run Parameters	SWE-ELM Equation Set Computation interval set to 3 seconds.																					

RESULTS

The simulation calculated the peak flow through the dam breach to be approximately 24,300 cfs. At Division Street, 0.9 miles downstream of the dam, this peak flow had significantly attenuated to 7,700 cfs as a result of the relatively wide floodplain downstream of the dam. At State Road, 4.6 miles downstream of the dam, the peak flow further decreased to 1,600 cfs. At the downstream limit of mapping, 5.4 miles downstream of the dam, the flood flow is 1,600 cfs with an incremental rise of 7.0 feet.

The flood wave is contained within the river channel by 4.3 miles downstream of the dam. Therefore, the more urbanized/developed part of the Town of Great Barrington (located approximately four miles downstream of the dam on the Housatonic River) is not anticipated to be significantly inundated by the significant hazard dam breach scenario. The rapid attenuation of the flood wave is attributed to the wide floodplains in this section of the Housatonic River.

ATTACHMENT B

PLANS FOR TRAINING, EXERCISING, UPDATING, AND POSTING THE EAP

ATTACHMENT B – PLANS FOR TRAINING, EXERCISING, UPDATING, AND POSTING THE EAP

TRAINING

Orientation meetings will be held with the pertinent representatives of GE and the Towns of Great Barrington and Sheffield to review the EAP, if requested by the Towns. Orientation meetings have not been held in the past.

The focus of the orientation meetings is to clarify the roles, procedures, and responsibilities associated with the implementation of the EAP for the Rising Pond Dam. The general purpose is for meeting participants to evaluate plans and procedures and to resolve questions of coordination and assignment of responsibilities.

The key issues for discussion include, but are not necessarily limited to, the following:

- Familiarization with the overall framework and specific details of **Figure 1 – Notification Flowchart**.
- Familiarization with alternate means of communication.
- Review differences among Imminent Failure, Potential Failure, Non-Emergency Condition (unusual event, slowly developing), and Non-Failure Emergency Condition (no danger of dam failure, only flooding concerns) and notification procedures for each situation.
- Identification and differentiation of problem conditions at the dam observed during routine surveillance and maintenance.
- The Incident Commanders (the Great Barrington Emergency Management Director) will function as “Incident Commander” as per the Incident Command System (ICS).
- Review of general Emergency Repair Procedures and Guidelines for Rising Pond Dam EAP.
- Review of emergency operation procedures at the Rising Pond Dam.
- Review duties of other key emergency agencies.

In addition to orientation meetings, annual training seminars will be held with organizations that have EAP-related responsibilities to review and refresh knowledge of the Dam and EAP. These annual training seminars may be held virtually or in-person.

EXERCISING

The need to test the EAP through tabletop exercises or field drills will be determined by the Incident Commander identified in the EAP (the Great Barrington Emergency Management Director). GE will fully cooperate in any tabletop exercises or field drills determined to be necessary.

Should the Incident Commander determine that exercising the EAP is required, the Federal Guidelines for Emergency Action Planning for Dams (FEMA 64) recommends a combination of discussion-based and operations-based exercises. Descriptions of each, from FEMA 64, are provided below.

Discussion-based exercises familiarize participants with current plans, policies, agreements, and procedures, or may be used to develop new plans, policies, agreements, and procedures. The following are types of discussion-based exercises:

- **Seminar.** A seminar is an informal discussion designed to orient participants to new or updated plans, policies, or procedures (e.g., a seminar to review a new Evacuation Standard Operating Procedure). Seminars should include internal discussions as well as coordination with emergency management authorities and other organizations with a role in EAP implementation.
- **Workshop.** A workshop resembles a seminar but is used to build specific products such as a draft plan or policy. For example, a Training and Exercise Plan Workshop is used to develop a Multi-Year Training and Exercise Plan.
- **Tabletop Exercise.** A tabletop exercise involves key personnel discussing simulated scenarios in an informal setting. Tabletop exercises can be used to assess plans, policies, and procedures.
- **Games.** A game is a simulation of operations that often involves two or more teams, usually in a competitive environment, using rules, data, and procedures designed to depict an actual or assumed real-life situation.

Operations-based exercises validate plans, policies, agreements and procedures; clarify roles and responsibilities; and identify resource gaps in an operational environment. Types of operations-based exercises are:

- **Drill.** A drill is a coordinated, supervised activity usually employed to test a single operation or function within a single entity, such as testing sirens and warning systems, calling suppliers, checking material on hand, and conducting a call-down drill of those listed on the Notification Flowchart.
- **Functional Exercise.** A functional exercise examines and/or validates the coordination, command, and control between various multi-agency coordination centers, such as Emergency Operation Centers (EOCs) and Joint Field Offices. A functional exercise does not involve any “boots on the ground” such as first responders or emergency officials responding to an incident in real time.
- **Full-Scale Exercises.** A full-scale exercise is a multi-agency, multi-jurisdictional, multidiscipline exercise involving functional (e.g., Joint Field Office, EOC, “boots on the ground” response to a simulated event, such as activation of the EOC and role-playing to simulate an actual dam failure). Functional and full-scale exercises are considered comprehensive exercises that provide the necessary verification, training, and practice to improve the EAP and the operational readiness and coordination efforts of all parties responsible for responding to emergencies at a dam. The basic difference between these two exercise types is that a full-scale exercise involves actual field movement and mobilization, whereas in a functional exercise, field activity is simulated.

UPDATING

The Rising Pond Dam EAP will be periodically updated to reflect changes in names or titles of project operations, attendants, and other personnel with specific, designated responsibilities for actions in an emergency. The EAP will be annually reviewed and updated, as necessary. This may include changes in **Figure 1 - Notification Flowchart**, contact lists on **Tables 1 through 6**, or other information critical to providing notification to affected persons, federal, state, and local agencies. In addition, any

input from federal, state, or local agencies will also be incorporated into the updated EAP document. GE will be responsible for updating the EAP.

GE has continuing responsibility to review the adequacy of the Rising Pond Dam EAP in light of any significant changes in upstream or downstream circumstances which might affect water flows or the location or extent of the areas, persons, or property that might be harmed due to a sudden release of water from Rising Pond Dam. Promptly after becoming aware of necessary changes to keep the EAP workable, GE will consult and cooperate with appropriate federal, state, and local agencies responsible for public safety/emergency management to determine any advisable revision to the EAP.

GE will provide all holders of the EAP with copies of all revisions. Revised pages, maps, etc. will be marked, "Revision month/day/year" and revised material will be highlighted.

The inundation maps included in **Attachment E** to the EAP will be updated when there have been significant changes at the Rising Pond Dam or in downstream developments located in the inundation zones.

POSTING OF THE NOTIFICATION FLOWCHART

Figure 1 - Notification Flowchart will be posted and a 3-ring bound copy of the completed EAP will be available to each of the entities listed in the flowchart and contact lists. The following have copies of the EAP:

- GE
- Town of Great Barrington Emergency Management
- Town of Sheffield Emergency Management
- MEMA
- DCR Office of Dam Safety
- Consulting Dam Safety Engineer

ATTACHMENT C
SITE-SPECIFIC CONCERNS

ATTACHMENT C – SITE-SPECIFIC CONCERNS

Each dam and downstream area are unique. Rising Pond Dam is accessible at both abutments, but as a run-of-the-river dam, those abutments are not accessible from each other. The right (west) abutment is accessible via an access road from Van Deusenville Road over a set of train tracks. The left (east) abutment is located at a mill building.

ATTACHMENT D
EMERGENCY REPAIR

ATTACHMENT D – EMERGENCY REPAIR

GENERAL

In this section, potential emergency conditions that may affect the function of the Rising Pond Dam are identified and appropriate remedial actions are discussed herein. The intent is to facilitate emergency repair in cases where response time is critical and/or communications are disrupted which may delay the on-site arrival of the General Electric Company's dam safety engineer.

Potential natural phenomena and manmade forces which could affect the stability or function of the Rising Pond Dam include floods, earthquakes, inherent instability, aging and deterioration, accidents and sabotage.

While the cause of the damage is important, the remedial action to be undertaken is mostly dependent on certain characteristic signs of distress which indicate particular types of problems in earthen embankment dams. The following is a general description of conditions and corresponding corrective actions to be undertaken in emergency conditions to mitigate or delay the collapse of the dam. An action guide is presented in **Table 8** of the Emergency Action Plan, entitled “Emergency Repair Guidelines.” This table was originally developed by the Army Corps of Engineers and has been modified to incorporate site-specific conditions at the dam.” The Town of Great Barrington personnel should become familiar with these procedures to reduce response time in the event of an emergency.

The emergency repair procedures outlined in **Table 8** are to be supervised by the Town. The following document potential remedial systems:

- Figure D-1: Boil Ring
- Figure D-2: Boil Ring Maintenance Instructions
- Figure D-3: Granular Blanket
- Figure D-4: Temporary Erosion Protection
- Figure D-5: Sandbag Berm Construction

At all times, utmost care should be given to the safety of personnel engaged in the remedial activities. If failure is imminent or cannot be effectively delayed, then remedial activities should cease and all personnel ordered out of the unsafe area by the senior staff at the scene. For observed conditions that are out of the norm, a qualified dam safety engineer (Massachusetts Registered Professional Engineer) should be consulted immediately, to assess the severity of the problem and recommended corrective measures.

EXCESS SEEPAGE

One of the leading causes of failures of embankment dams is embankment or foundation seepage/piping. Excess seepage leading to embankment failure may be caused by malfunctioning toe drains, presence of vegetative growth and extensive root systems within the embankment, burrowing of small animals, or high reservoir pool levels creating high hydrostatic heads.

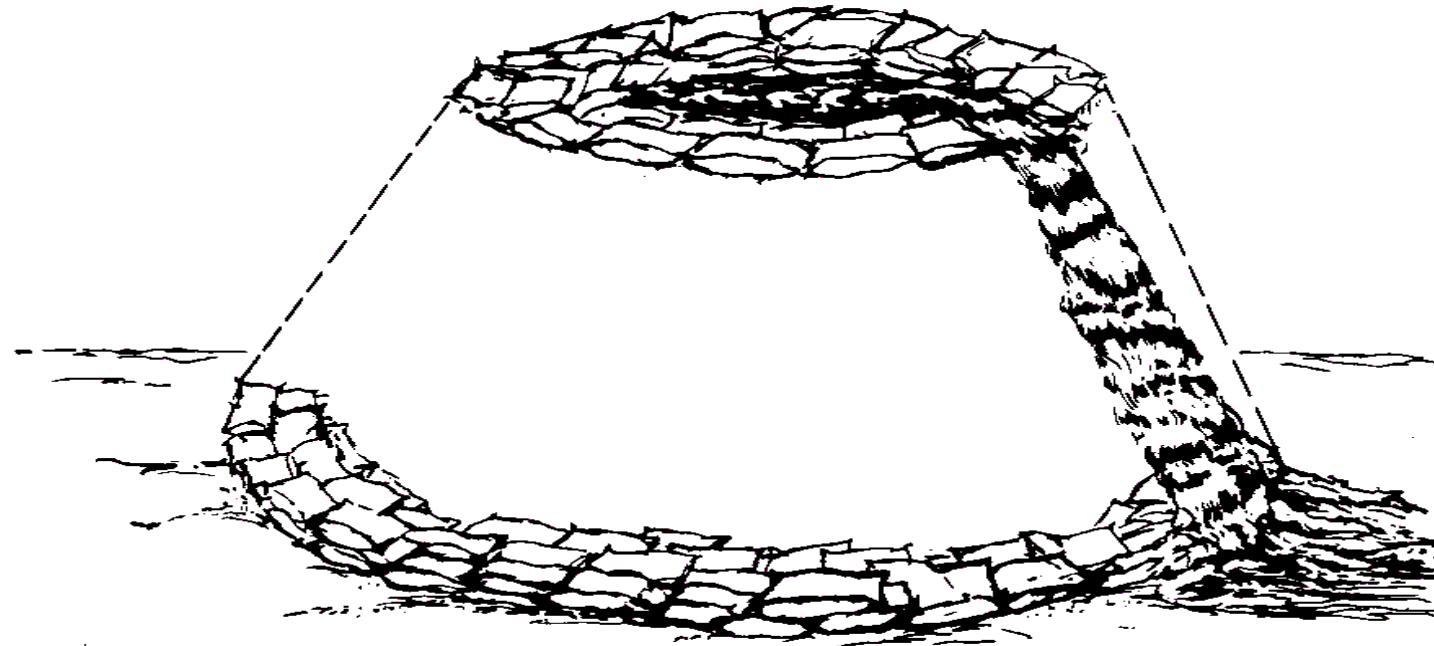
Controlled seepage through the toe of an earthen dam embankment is normal. However, rapid or significant increases in flow through the toe may begin to carry out fine soil materials, create sand boils, and produce new seep areas along the downstream face. Normal toe discharge is generally clear. Remedial actions should be taken if toe seepage quantities suddenly increase and become turbid (cloudy or muddy).

Piping is a process in which seepage dislodges and transports soil particles as it daylights on the downstream face of an embankment. An open channel forms at the point of seepage exit and works its way progressively into the embankment as erosion continues. Eventually, a completely open channel is formed through the embankment. Piping may also originate inside an embankment from any internal voids into which water can flow. Abandoned conduits could initiate piping if cracks develop in these structures. Cracks could form as a result of structural deterioration or settlement under static or earthquake loads. Slope failures extending through an embankment's core create another potential source of piping. The soils along the failure plane will be weakened and will likely be more permeable.

Internal erosion is defined as flow seeking and eroding a preferential flow path within or below the dam. This mode of failure is a soil removal process from within the embankment, and, if not corrected, will accelerate over time and ultimately lead to the collapse of the earth embankment structure. Individual "boils" downstream of the embankment dam can be an indicator that this type of failure mechanism is developing. Individual boils or small areas of seepage can be controlled on a temporary basis by ringing them with sandbags, stone, or other materials. Refer to Figures 3 and 4 for schematics of "ringing a boil" including estimated quantities of required personnel and material.

SAND BAGS / OVERTOPPING

Sand bag berms are one of the most common methods for temporarily increasing freeboard to reduce overtopping of a dam during a flood event. Figure 7 provides information on proper methods for constructing sandbag berms. Sandbag berm construction can be highly effective but requires appropriate material and is labor intensive. The maximum effective height should be limited to approximately three feet. (Source: Flood Fighting: How To Use Sandbags, US Army Corps of Engineers). It is expected that the Towns of Lee and Lenox will either stockpile sandbags at Town facilities or make arrangements with a local supplier to be able to obtain sandbags in the event of an overtopping emergency. Sand to fill the sand bags will be obtained from a local sand and gravel pit.

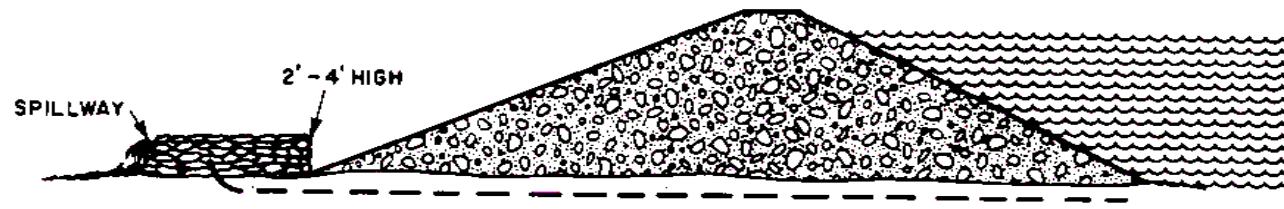


APPROXIMATE CONSTRUCTION REQUIREMENTS

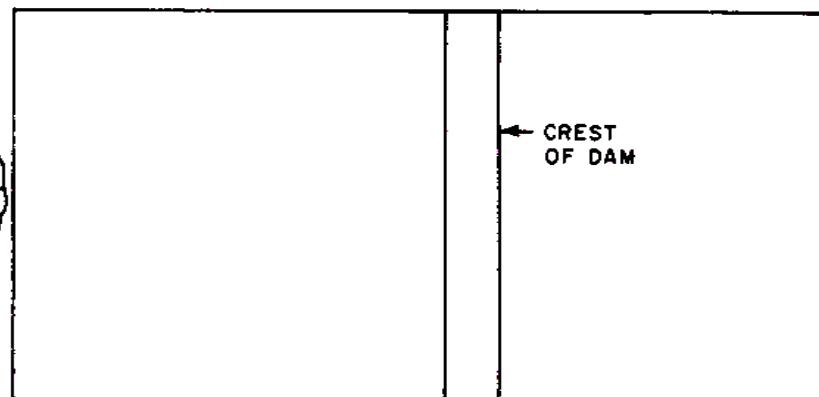
BOIL DIA. (ft)	2	4	6	8	10
RING HEIGHT (ft)	2	4	6	2	4
VOL. SAND REQ. (yd. ³)	1	7	18	2	9
SANDBAGS REQUIRED	124	475	1150	160	600
PERSONNEL REQUIRED	5	5	5	10	10
TIME TO COMPLETE (hrs.)	1	3	7	1	3

SOURCE: NEW ENGLAND DIVISION ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS

JOB NO. 19896.30	FIGURE NO. D-1	WOODS POND DAM EMERGENCY ACTION PLAN GENERAL ELECTRIC COMPANY LEE/LENOX, MASSACHUSETTS	PROJ MGR: JDA DESIGNED BY: DML REVIEWED BY: ABB OPERATOR: LGM	NOT TO SCALE
		BOIL RING	DATE: DEC 2013	 GZA GeoEnvironmental, Inc. 249 VANDERBILT AVENUE NORWOOD, MA 02062 Ph.: (781) 278-3700 Fax: (781) 278-5701



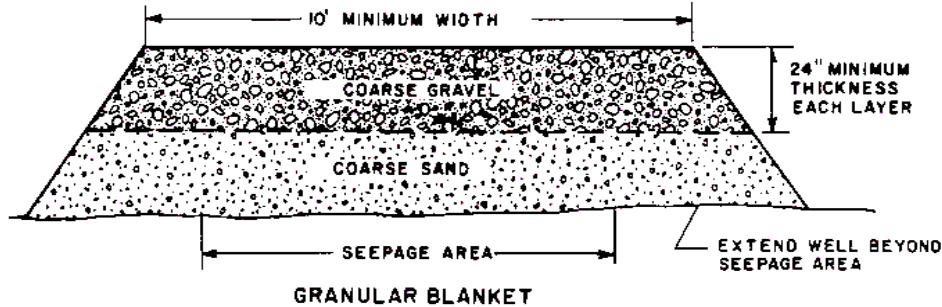
WALL SHOULD BE BUILT ON FIRM FOUNDATION,
WITH WIDTH OF BASE AT LEAST 1 1/2 TIMES
THE HEIGHT. BE SURE TO PLACE SACKS ON GROUND
CLEAR OF SAND DISCHARGE. TIE INTO DAM IF BOIL IS NEAR TOE.



PLAN

DO NOT SACK BOIL WHICH DOES NOT PUT OUT MATERIAL.
HEIGHT OF SACK LOOP OR RING SHOULD BE ONLY SUFFICIENT
TO CREATE ENOUGH HEAD TO SLOW DOWN FLOW THROUGH BOIL
SO THAT NO MORE MATERIAL IS DISPLACED AND BOIL RUNS
CLEAR. DO NOT TRY TO STOP FULLY, FLOW THROUGH BOIL.

JOB NO. 19896.30	WOODS POND DAM EMERGENCY ACTION PLAN GENERAL ELECTRIC COMPANY LENOX/LEE, MASSACHUSETTS	PROJ MGR: JDA DESIGNED BY: DML REVIEWED BY: ABB OPERATOR: LGM DATE: DEC 2013	NOT TO SCALE  GZA GeoEnvironmental, Inc. 249 VANDERBILT AVENUE NORWOOD, MA 02062 Ph.: (781) 278-3700 Fax: (781) 278-5701
FIGURE NO. D-2	BOIL RING MAINTENANCE INSTRUCTIONS		

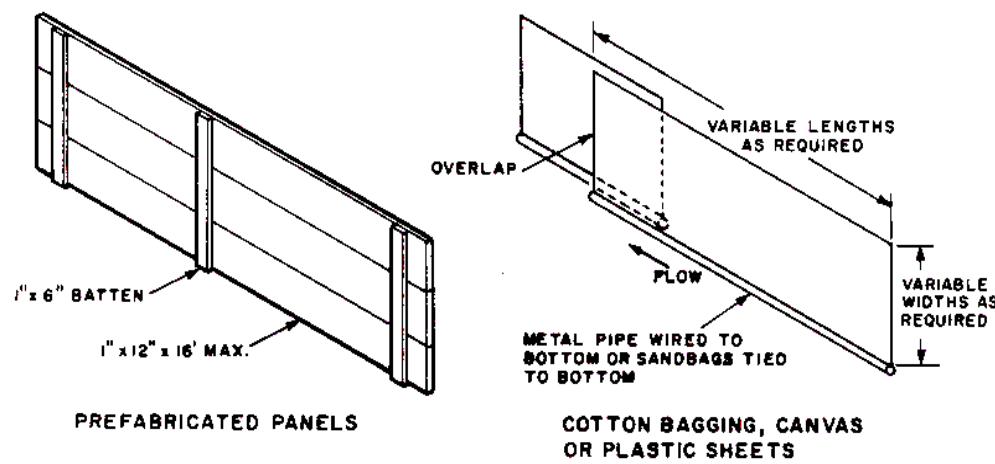
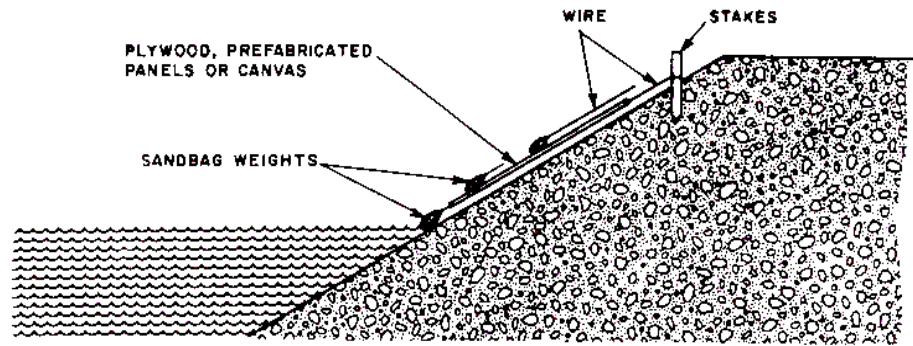


APPROXIMATE CONSTRUCTION REQUIREMENTS

BLANKET AREA (ft. ²)	1,000	2,000	3,000	4,000	5,000	6,000	7,000	8,000	9,000	10,000
MATERIAL REQUIRED PER LAYER (yd. ³)	40	80	120	150	190	225	270	300	330	370
NO. TRUCKS & DRIVERS	3	3	6	6	6	8	10	10	12	12
NO. GRADERS & OPERATORS	5	5	10	10	15	15	15	20	20	20
TOTAL TIME REQUIRED (hrs)	4	8	6	6	8	8	8	8	9	10

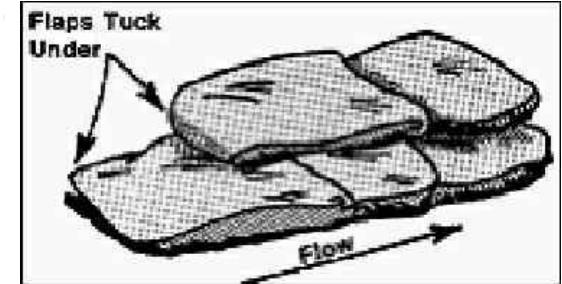
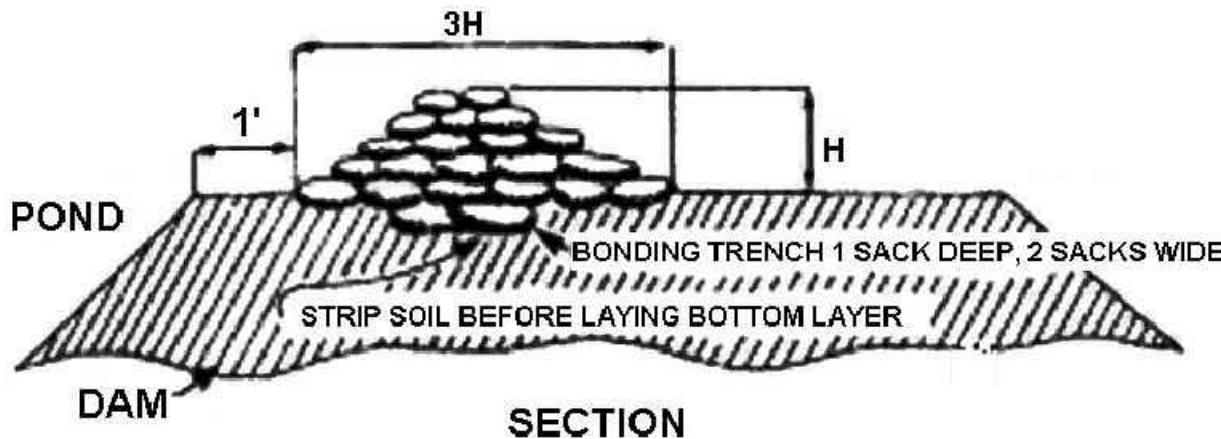
SOURCE: NEW ENGLAND DIVISION ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS

JOB NO. 19896.30	FIGURE NO. D-3	WOODS POND DAM EMERGENCY ACTION PLAN GENERAL ELECTRIC COMPANY LENOX/LEE, MASSACHUSETTS	PROJ MGR: JDA DESIGNED BY: DML REVIEWED BY: ABB OPERATOR: LGM DATE: DEC 2013	NOT TO SCALE  GZA GeoEnvironmental, Inc. 249 VANDERBILT AVENUE NORWOOD, MA 02062 Ph.: (781) 278-3700 Fax: (781) 278-5701
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SOURCE: NEW ENGLAND DIVISION ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS

JOB NO. 19896.30	WOODS POND DAM EMERGENCY ACTION PLAN GENERAL ELECTRIC COMPANY LENOX/LEE, MASSACHUSETTS	PROJ MGR: JDA DESIGNED BY: DML REVIEWED BY: ABB OPERATOR: LGM DATE: DEC 2013	NOT TO SCALE  GZA GeoEnvironmental, Inc. 249 VANDERBILT AVENUE NORWOOD, MA 02062 Ph.: (781) 278-3700 Fax: (781) 278-5701
FIGURE NO. D-4	TEMPORARY EROSION PROTECTION		



HEIGHT OF BERM	BAGS/100FEET
1 FOOT	800
2 FEET	2000
3 FEET	3400

Notes:

- 1) **Sandbag Preparation**
 - a. Utilize polypropylene or burlap bags about 14" - 18" wide and 30" -36" deep.
 - b. A heavy bodied or sandy soil is most desirable for filling sandbags. On-site soil sources may be utilized, as appropriate.
 - c. Bags should be filled between one-third (1/3) to one-half (1/2) of their capacity. This keeps the bag from getting too heavy, and permits the bags to be stacked with a good seal.
 - d. Untied sandbags are recommended for most situations. Tied sandbags should be used only for special situations when pre-filling and stockpiling may be required, or for specific purposes such as filling holes, holding objects in position, or to form barriers backed by supportive planks. Tied sandbags are generally easier to handle and stockpile.
- 2) **Sandbag Placement**
 - a. Remove any debris from the area where the bags are to be placed.
 - b. Fold the open end of the unfilled portion of the bag to form a triangle. If tied bags are used, flatten or flare the tied end.
 - c. Place the partially filled bags lengthwise and parallel to the direction of flow, with the open end facing against the water flow.
 - d. Tuck the flaps under, keeping the unfilled portion under the weight of the sack.
 - e. Place succeeding bags on top, offsetting by one-half (1/2) filled length of the previous bag, and stamp into place to eliminate voids, and form a tight seal.
 - f. Stagger the joint connections when multiple layers are necessary. For unsupported layers over three (3) courses high, use the pyramid placement method.
- 3) **Pyramid Placement Method**

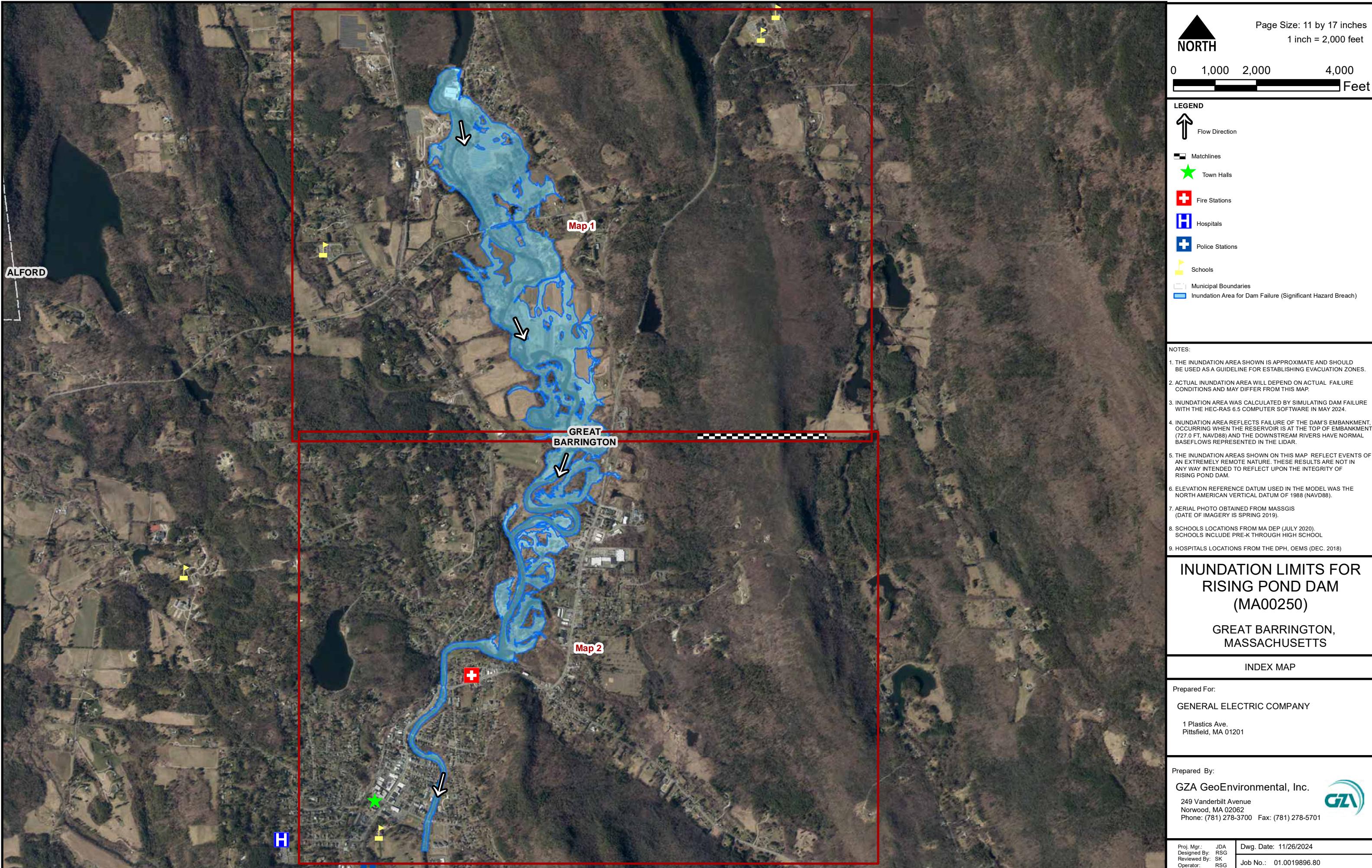
The pyramid placement is used to increase the height of sandbag protection.

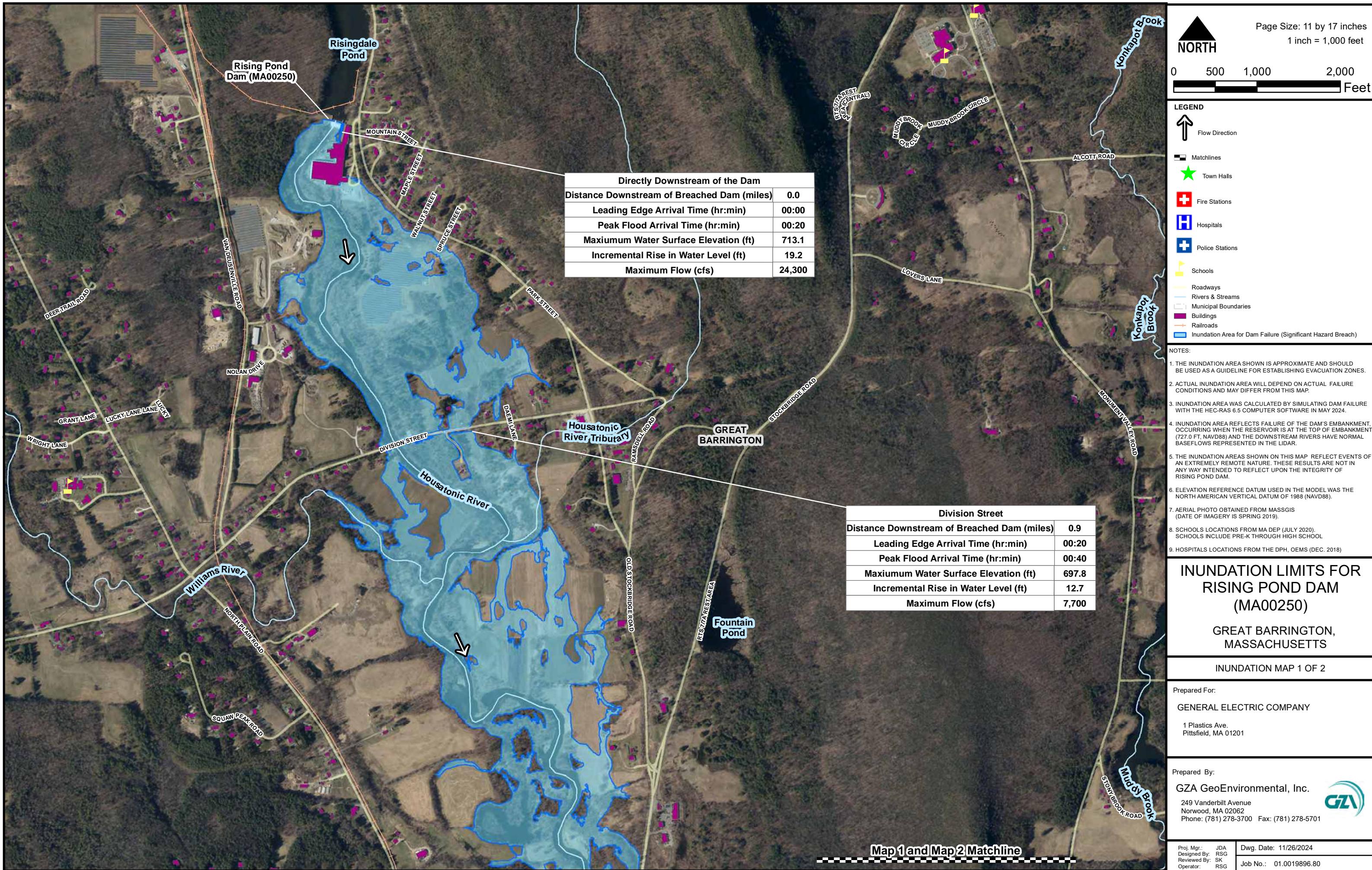
 - a. Place the sandbags to form a pyramid by alternating header courses (bags placed crosswise) and stretcher courses (bags placed lengthwise).
 - b. Stamp each bag in place, overlap sacks, maintain staggered joint placement, and tuck in any loose ends.
 - c. Use the table on this Figure to estimate the number of bags required

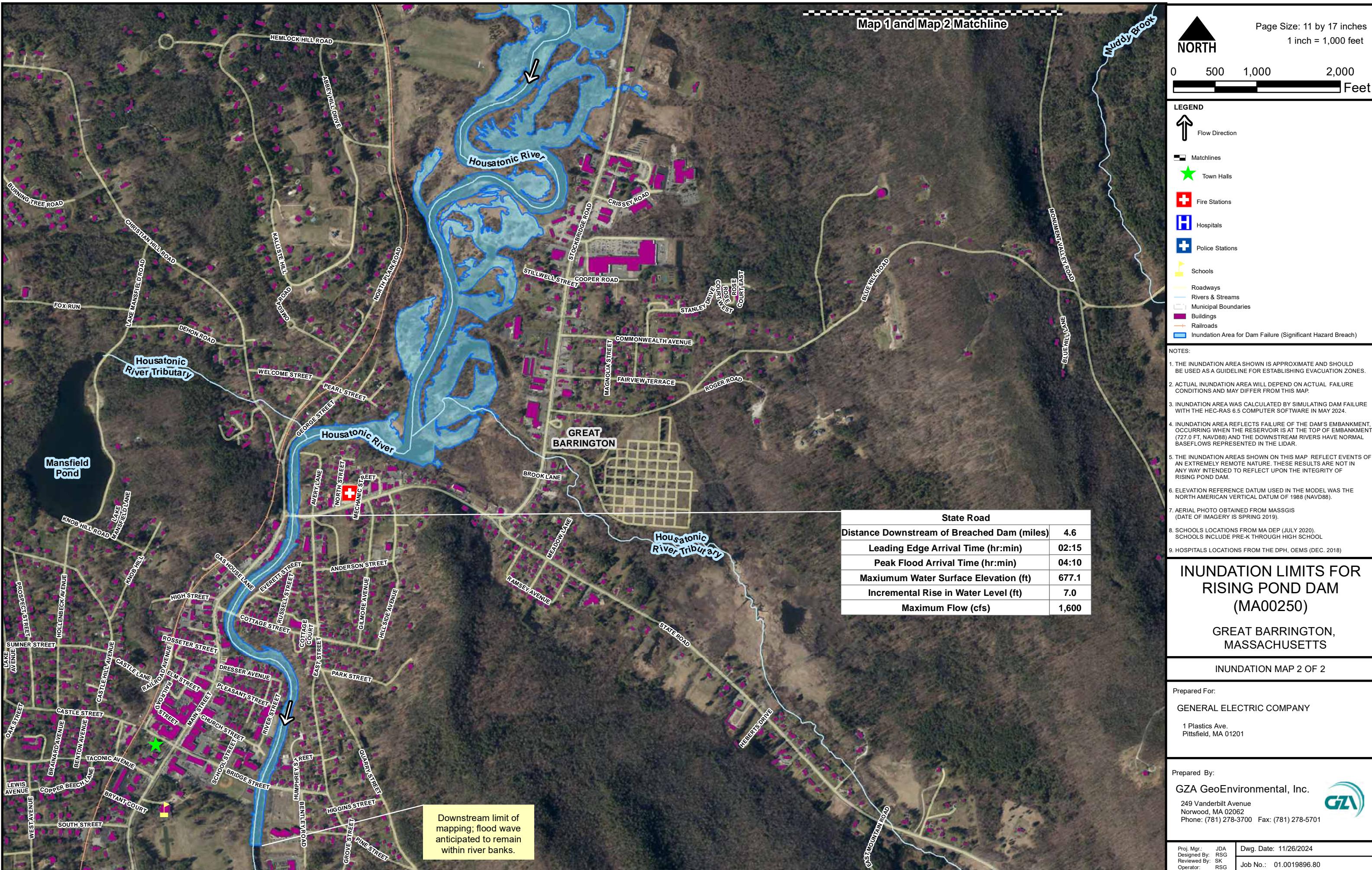
SOURCE: NEW ENGLAND DIVISION ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS

FIGURE NO. D-5	JOB NO. 19896.30	WOODS POND DAM EMERGENCY ACTION PLAN GENERAL ELECTRIC COMPANY LENOX/LEE, MASSACHUSETTS	PROJ MGR: JDA DESIGNED BY: DML REVIEWED BY: ABB OPERATOR: LGM DATE: DEC 2013	 GZA GeoEnvironmental, Inc. 249 VANDERBILT AVENUE NORWOOD, MA 02062 Ph.: (781) 278-3700 Fax: (781) 278-5701
		SANDBAG BERM CONSTRUCTION		

ATTACHMENT E
INUNDATION MAPS
(based on the updated Dam Break Analysis, GZA 2024)







ATTACHMENT F
INSPECTION GUIDELINES
(from Texas Commission on Environmental Quality)

Figure 5.1
Inspection Guidelines - Upstream Slope

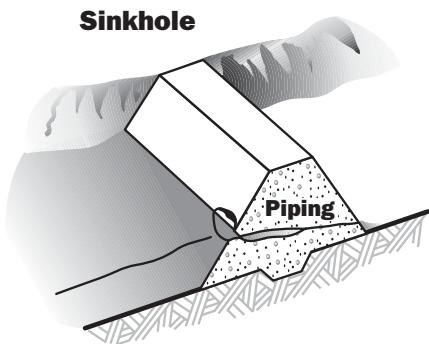


Figure 5.1a

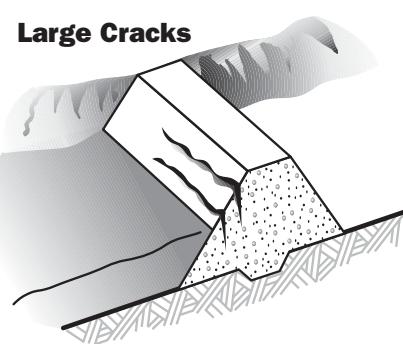


Figure 5.1b

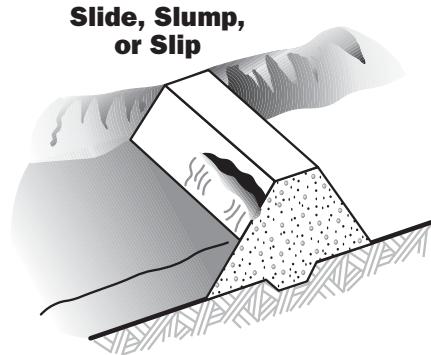


Figure 5.1c

Problem	Probable Cause and Possible Consequences	Recommended Actions
Sinkhole <i>(Figure 5.1a)</i>	<p>Piping or internal erosion of embankment materials or foundation causes a sinkhole. The cave-in of an eroded cavern can result in a sinkhole. A small hole in the wall of an outlet pipe can develop into a sinkhole. Dirty water at the exit indicates erosion of the dam.</p> <p>Piping can empty a reservoir through a small hole in the wall or can lead to failure of a dam as soil pipes erode through the foundation or a pervious part of the dam. Dispersive soils are particularly susceptible to sinkholes.</p>	<p>Inspect other parts of the dam for seepage or more sinkholes. Check seepage and leakage outflows for dirty water. A qualified engineer should inspect the conditions, identify the exact cause of sinkholes, and recommend further actions. Depending on the location in the embankment, the reservoir may need to be drawn down.</p> <p>ENGINEER REQUIRED</p>
Large Cracks <i>(Figure 5.1b)</i>	<p>A portion of the embankment has moved because of loss of strength, or the foundation may have moved, causing embankment movement.</p> <p>Indicates onset of massive slide or settlement caused by foundation failure.</p>	<p>Depending on embankment involved, draw reservoir level down. A qualified engineer should inspect the condition and recommend further actions.</p> <p>ENGINEER REQUIRED</p>
Slide, Slump, or Slip <i>(Figure 5.1c)</i>	<p>Earth or rocks move down the slope along a slippage surface because of too steep a slope, or the foundation moves. Also, look for slide movements in reservoir basin. A series of slides can lead to obstruction of the inlet or failure of the dam.</p>	<p>Evaluate extent of the slide. Monitor slide. (See Chapter 6.) Draw the reservoir level down if safety of dam is threatened. A qualified engineer should inspect the conditions and recommend further actions.</p> <p>ENGINEER REQUIRED</p>

Figure 5.1 (cont.)
Inspection Guidelines - Upstream Slope

**Broken Down
Missing Riprap**

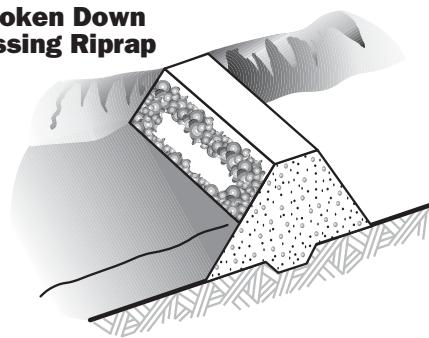


Figure 5.1d

**Erosion Behind
Poorly Graded Riprap**

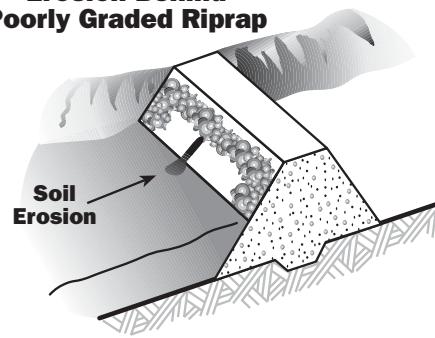
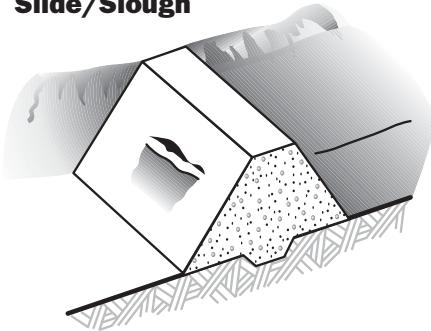
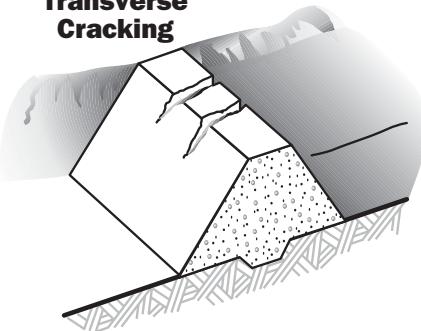
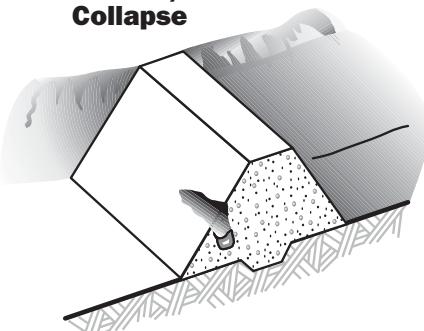


Figure 5.1e

Problem	Probable Cause and Possible Consequences	Recommended Actions
Scarp, Benches, Oversteep Areas	<p>Wave action, local settlement, or ice action cause soil and rock to erode and slide to the lower part of the slope, forming a bench.</p> <p>Erosion lessens the width and possible height of the embankment and could lead to seepage or overtopping of the dam.</p>	<p>Determine exact cause of scarp. Do necessary earthwork, restore embankment to original slope, and supply adequate protection (bedding and riprap). (See Chapter 7.)</p>
Broken Down, Missing Riprap (Figure 5.1d)	<p>Poor-quality riprap has deteriorated. Wave action or ice action has displaced riprap. Round and similar-sized rocks have rolled downhill.</p> <p>Wave action against these unprotected areas decreases embankment width.</p>	<p>Reestablish normal slope. Place bedding and competent riprap. (See Chapter 7.)</p>
Erosion Behind Poorly Graded Riprap (Figure 5.1e)	<p>Similar-sized rocks allow waves to pass between them and erode small gravel particles and soil.</p> <p>Soil is eroded away from behind the riprap. This allows riprap to settle, offering less protection and decreased embankment width.</p>	<p>Reestablish effective slope protection. Place bedding material.</p> <p>ENGINEER REQUIRED for design—for graduation and size for rock for bedding and riprap. A qualified engineer should inspect the conditions and recommend further actions.</p>

Figure 5.2
Inspection Guidelines - Downstream Slope

Slide/Slough**Figure 5.2a****Transverse
Cracking****Figure 5.2b****Cave In/
Collapse****Figure 5.2c**

Problem	Probable Cause and Possible Consequences	Recommended Actions
Slide or Slough <i>(Figure 5.2a)</i>	<p>Lack of strength of embankment material. Loss of strength can be attributed to infiltration of water into the embankment or loss of support by the foundation.</p> <p>Massive slide cuts through crest or upstream slope reducing freeboard and cross-section. Structural collapse or overtopping can result</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Measure extent and displacement of slide. If continued movement is seen, begin lowering water level until movement stops. 2. Have a qualified engineer inspect the condition and recommend further action. <p>ENGINEER REQUIRED</p>
Transverse Cracking <i>(Figure 5.2b)</i>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Uneven movement between adjacent segments of the embankment. 2. Deformation caused by structural stress or instability. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Can provide a path for seepage through the embankment cross-section. 2. Provides local area of low strength within embankment. Future structural movement, deformation or failure could begin. 3. Provides entrance point for surface runoff to enter embankment 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Inspect crack and carefully record crack location, length, depth, width and other pertinent physical features. Stake out limits of cracking. Engineer should determine cause of cracking and supervise all steps necessary to reduce danger to dam and correct condition. 2. Excavate slope along crack to a point below the bottom of the crack. Then, backfill excavation using competent material and correct construction techniques. This will seal the crack against seepage and surface runoff. This should be supervised by engineer. Continue to monitor crest routinely for evidence of future cracking. <p>ENGINEER REQUIRED</p>
Cave-in or Collapse <i>(Figure 5.2c)</i>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Lack of adequate compaction. 2. Rodent hole below. 3. Piping through embankment or foundation. 4. Presence of dispersive soils. <p>Indicates possible washout of embankment.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Inspect for and immediately repair rodent holes. Control rodents to prevent future damage. 2. Have a qualified engineer inspect the condition and recommend further action. <p>ENGINEER REQUIRED</p>

Figure 5.2 (cont.)
Inspection Guidelines - Downstream Slope

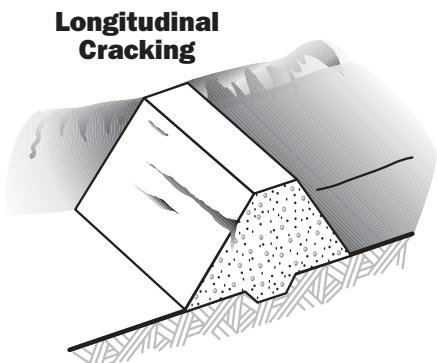


Figure 5.2d

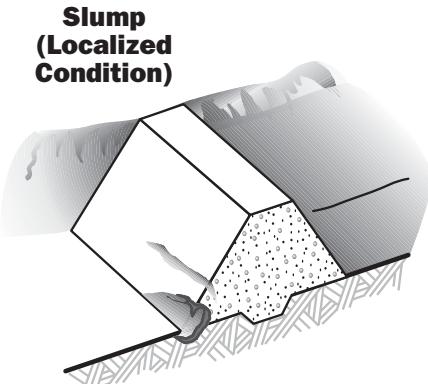


Figure 5.2e

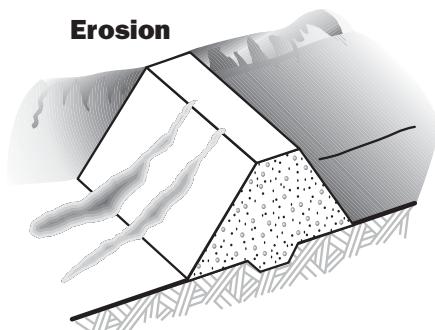


Figure 5.2f

Problem	Probable Cause and Possible Consequences	Recommended Actions
Longitudinal Cracking <i>(Figure 5.2d)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Drying and shrinkage of surface material. 2. Downstream movement or settlement of embankment. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Can be an early warning of a potential slide. 2. Shrinkage cracks allow water to enter the embankment and freezing will further crack the embankment. 3. Settlement or slide, showing loss of strength in embankment that can lead to failure. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. If cracks are from drying, dress area with well-compacted material to keep surface water out and natural moisture in. 2. If cracks are extensive, a qualified engineer should inspect the condition and recommend further actions. <p>ENGINEER REQUIRED</p>
Slump (localized condition) <i>(Figure 5.2e)</i>	<p>Preceded by erosion undercutting a portion of the slope. Can also be found on steep slopes.</p> <p>Can expose impervious zone to erosion and lead to additional slumps.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Inspect area for seepage. 2. Monitor for progressive failure. 3. Have a qualified engineer inspect the condition and recommend further action. <p>ENGINEER REQUIRED</p>
Erosion <i>(Figure 5.2f)</i>	<p>Water from intense rainstorms or snowmelt carries surface material down the slope, resulting in continuous troughs.</p> <p>Can be hazardous if allowed to continue. Erosion can lead to eventual deterioration of the downstream slope and failure of the structure.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The preferred method to protect eroded areas is rock or riprap. 2. Reestablishing protective grasses can be adequate if the problem is detected early.

Figure 5.2 (cont.)
Inspection Guidelines - Downstream Slope

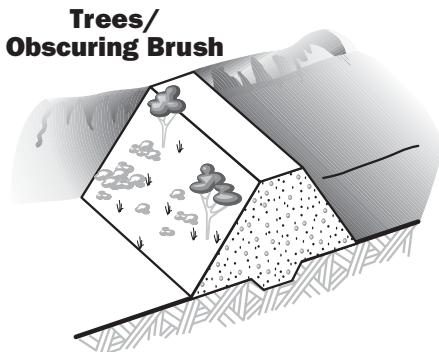


Figure 5.2g

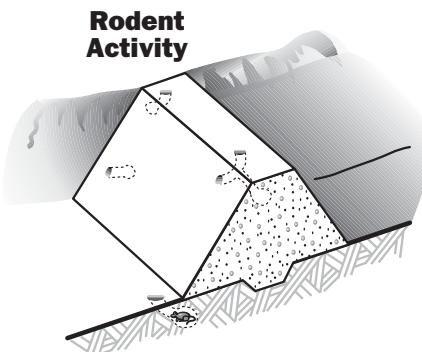


Figure 5.2h

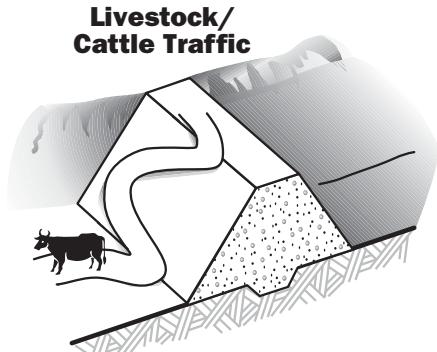


Figure 5.2i

Problem	Probable Cause and Possible Consequences	Recommended Actions
Trees, Obscuring Brush <i>(Figure 5.2g)</i>	<p>Natural vegetation in area.</p> <p>Large tree roots can create seepage paths. Large trees can blow over during storms and damage dam or cause breach. Bushes can obscure visual inspection and harbor rodents.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Remove all brush and trees less than 4" in diameter. Larger trees may be allowed to stay until they die. At that time, the tree, with its root system, should be removed and the void properly filled with compacted soil. (See Chapter 7.) 2. Control vegetation on the embankment that obscures visual inspection. (See Chapter 7.)
Rodent Activity <i>(Figure 5.2h)</i>	<p>Overabundance of rodents. Animal burrowing creates holes, tunnels, and caverns. Certain habitats, such as cattail-filled areas and trees close to the reservoir encourage these animals.</p> <p>Can reduce length of seepage path and lead to piping failure. If tunnel runs through most of the dam, it can lead to collapse.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Control rodents to prevent more damage. 2. Backfill existing rodent holes. 3. Remove rodents. Determine exact location and extent of tunneling. Remove habitat and repair damages. (See Chapter 7.)
Livestock (such as cattle) Traffic <i>(Figure 5.2i)</i>	<p>Excessive travel by livestock especially harmful to slope when wet.</p> <p>Creates areas bare of erosion protection and causes erosion channels. Allows water to stand. Area susceptible to drying cracks.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Fence livestock outside embankment area. 2. Repair erosion protection, i.e. riprap, grass.

Figure 5.3
Inspection Guidelines - Embankment Crest

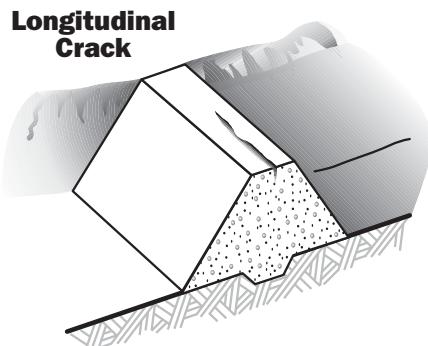


Figure 5.3a

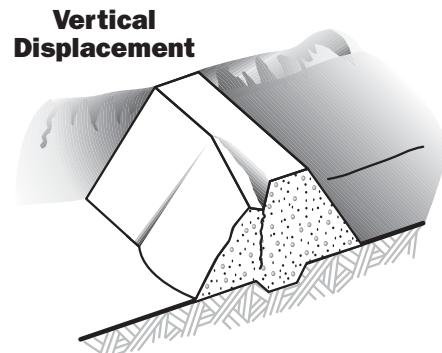


Figure 5.3b

Problem	Probable Cause and Possible Consequences	Recommended Actions
<p>Longitudinal Crack (<i>Figure 5.3a</i>)</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Uneven settlement between adjacent sections or zones within the embankment. Foundation failure causing loss of support to embankment. Initial stages of embankment slide. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Creates local area of low strength within an embankment. Could be the point of initiation of future structural movement, deformation or failure. Provides entrance point for surface runoff into embankment, allowing saturation of adjacent embankment area and possible lubrication which could lead to localized failure. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Inspect crack and carefully record location, length, depth, width, alignment, and other pertinent physical features. Immediately stake out limits of cracking. Monitor frequently. Engineer should determine cause of cracking and supervise steps necessary to reduce danger to dam and correct condition. Effectively seal the cracks at the crest surface to prevent infiltration by surface water. Continue to routinely monitor crest for evidence of further cracking. <p>ENGINEER REQUIRED</p>
<p>Vertical Displacement (<i>Figure 5.3b</i>)</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Vertical movement between adjacent sections of the embankment. Structural deformation or failure caused by structure stress or instability, or by failure of the foundation. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Creates local area of low strength within embankment which could cause future movement. Leads to structural instability or failure. Creates entrance point for surface water that could further lubricate failure plane. Reduces available embankment cross-section. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Carefully inspect displacement and record its location, vertical and horizontal displacement, length and other physical features. Immediately stake out limits of cracking. Engineer should determine cause of displacement and supervise all steps necessary to reduce danger to dam and correct condition. Excavate area to the bottom of the displacement. Backfill excavation using competent material and correct construction techniques, under supervision of engineer. Continue to monitor areas routinely for evidence of cracking or movement. (See Chapter 6.) <p>ENGINEER REQUIRED</p>

ENGINEER REQUIRED

(See Chapter 4.)

for evidence of future cracking.

4. Continue to monitor crest routinely. This should be supervised by engineer. (See Chapter 7.) This will seal the crack against seepage and surface runoff. (See Chapter 7.) This will seal the crack against seepage and surface runoff. (See Chapter 7.)

3. Excavate crest along crack to a point below the bottom of the crack. Then backfilling excavation using competent material and correct construction techniques. This will seal the crack against material and correct construction techniques. This will seal the crack against material and correct construction techniques.

2. Engineer should determine cause of cracks. To reduce danger to dam and correct condition, cracking and supervise all steps necessary to reduce danger to dam and correct condition.

1. Inspect crack and carefully record crack location, length, depth, width and other details of cracking.

Permit physical features. Stake out limits of cracking. Stake out limits of cracking. Stake out limits of cracking.

1. Uneven movement between adjacent segments of the embankment. 2. Deformation caused by structural stress or instability.

1. Can provide a path for seepage through the embankment cross-section. 2. Provides local area of low strength within the embankment. Future structural movements, deformation or failure could begin off to enter embankment.

3. Provides entrance point for surface runoff to reduce danger to dam and correct condition.

(Figure 5.3d)

Transverse Cracking

ENGINEER REQUIRED

supervised by engineer.

3. Excavate cavity and backfill hole with competent material and backfill sides of excavation.

2. Excavate cave-in, slope sides of excavation.

1. Carefully inspect and record location and physical characteristics (depth, width, length) of cave-in.

1. Rodent activity.

2. Hole in outlet conduit is causing erosion of embankment material.

3. Internal erosion or piping of embankment material by seepage.

4. Breakdown of dispersive clays within embankment by seepage.

1. Void within dam could cause localized embankment collapse.

2. Deformation caused by structural stress or instability.

1. Uneven movement between adjacent segments of the embankment. 2. Deformation caused by structural stress or instability.

1. Can provide a path for seepage through the embankment cross-section. 2. Provides local area of low strength within the embankment. Future structural movements, deformation or failure could begin off to enter embankment.

3. Provides entrance point for surface runoff to reduce danger to dam and correct condition.

(Figure 5.3c)

Cave-in On Crest

Problem	Possible Cause and Possibile Consequences	Recommended Actions
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Figure 5.3d

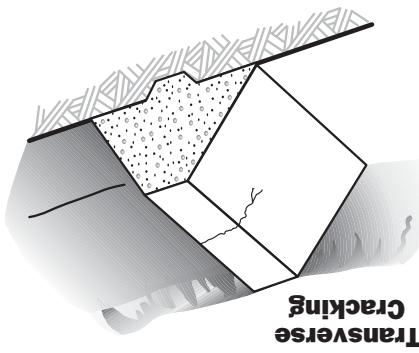
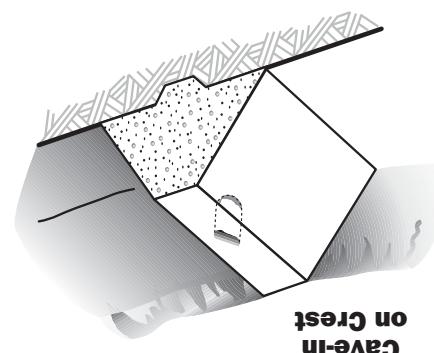


Figure 5.3c



Inspection Guidelines - Embankment Crest

Figure 5.3 (cont.)

Figure 5.3 (cont.)
Inspection Guidelines - Embankment Crest

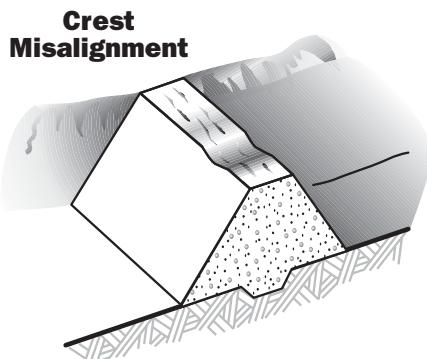


Figure 5.3e

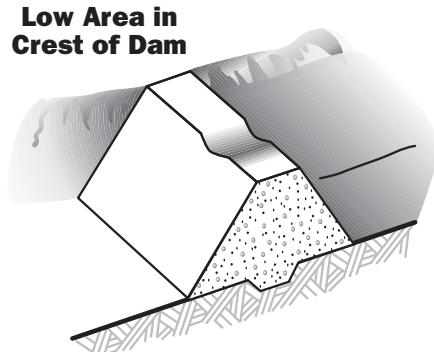


Figure 5.3f

Problem	Probable Cause and Possible Consequences	Recommended Actions
<p>Crest Misalignment <i>(Figure 5.3e)</i></p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Movement between adjacent parts of the structure. Uneven deflection of dam under loading by reservoir. Structural deformation or failure near area of misalignment. Area of misalignment is usually accompanied by low area in crest which reduces freeboard. Can produce local areas of low embankment strength which may lead to failure. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Establish monuments across crest to determine exact amount, location, and extent of misalignment. Engineer should determine cause of misalignment and supervise all steps necessary to reduce threat to dam and correct condition. Following remedial action, monitor crest monuments according to a schedule to detect any movement. (See Chapter 6.) <p>ENGINEER REQUIRED</p>
<p>Low Area in Crest <i>(Figure 5.3f)</i></p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Excessive settlement in the embankment or foundation directly beneath the low area in the crest. Internal erosion of embankment material. Foundation spreading to upstream and/or downstream direction. Prolonged wind erosion of crest area. Improper final grading following construction. <p>Reduces freeboard available to pass flood flows safely through spillway.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Establish monuments along length of crest to determine exact amount, location, and extent of settlement in crest. Engineer should determine cause of low area and supervise all steps necessary to reduce possible threat to the dam and correct condition. Reestablish uniform crest elevation over crest length by filling in low area using proper construction techniques. This should be supervised by engineer. Reestablish monuments across crest of dam and routinely monitor monuments to detect any settlement. <p>ENGINEER REQUIRED</p>

Figure 5.3 (cont.)
Inspection Guidelines - Embankment Crest

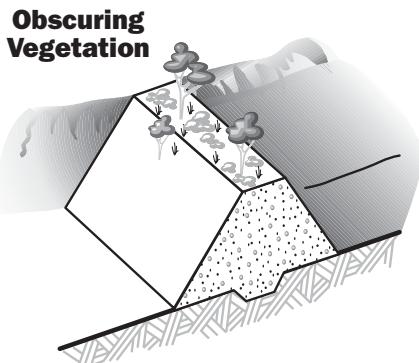


Figure 5.3g

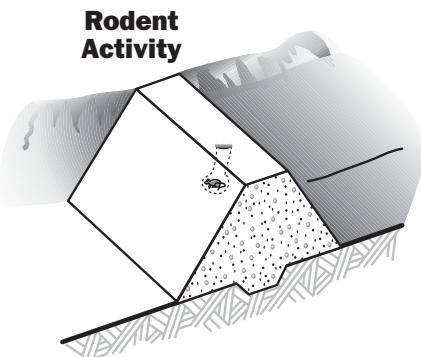


Figure 5.3h

Problem	Probable Cause and Possible Consequences	Recommended Actions
Obscuring Vegetation <i>(Figure 5.3g)</i>	<p>Neglect of dam and lack of proper maintenance procedures.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Obscures large parts of the dam, preventing adequate, accurate visual inspection of all parts of the dam. Problems which threaten the integrity of the dam can develop and remain undetected until they progress to a point that threatens the dam's safety. Associated root systems develop and penetrate into the dam's cross-section. When the vegetation dies, the decaying root systems can provide paths for seepage. This reduces the effective seepage path through the embankment and could lead to possible piping situations. Prevents easy access to all parts of the dam for operation, maintenance and inspection. Provides habitat for rodents. Large trees can blow over during storms, resulting in damage and possible breach of the dam. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Remove all damaging growth from the dam. This would include removal of trees (4-inches or less in diameter), bushes, brush, conifers and growth other than grass. Grass should be encouraged on all segments of the dam to prevent erosion by surface runoff. Root systems should also be removed to the maximum practical extent. The void which results from removing the root system should back-filled with well-competent, well-compacted material. Future undesirable growth should be removed by cutting or spraying, as part of an annual maintenance program. (See Chapter 7.) All cutting or debris resulting from the vegetative removal should be immediately taken from the dam and properly disposed of outside the reservoir basin. An engineer should be involved if the tree removal process poses a threat to the dam.
Rodent Activity <i>(Figure 5.3h)</i>	<p>Burrowing animals.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Entrance point for surface runoff to enter dam. Could saturate adjacent portions of the dam. Especially dangerous if hole penetrates dam below phreatic line. During periods of high storage, seepage path through the dam would be greatly reduced and a piping situation could develop. Tunnels can lead to collapse of crest and possible failure. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Completely backfill the hole with competent well-compacted material. Initiate a rodent control program to reduce the burrowing animal population and to prevent future damage to the dam. (See Chapter 7.)

Figure 5.3 (cont.)
Inspection Guidelines - Embankment Crest

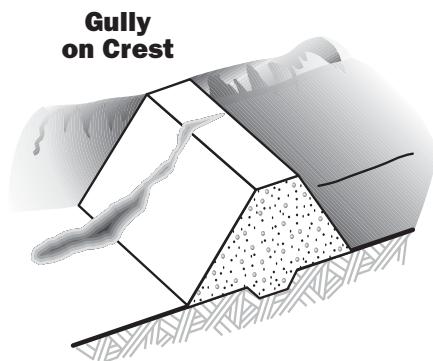


Figure 5.3i

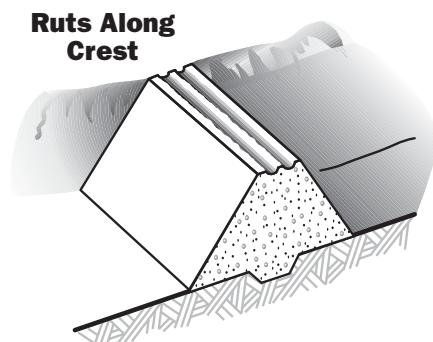


Figure 5.3j

Problem	Probable Cause and Possible Consequences	Recommended Actions
Gully on Crest <i>(Figure 5.3i)</i>	<p>1. Poor grading and improper drainage of crest. Improper drainage causes surface runoff to collect and drain off crest at low point in upstream or downstream shoulder.</p> <p>2. Inadequate spillway capacity which has caused dam to overtop.</p> <p>1. Can reduce available freeboard.</p> <p>2. Reduces cross-sectional area of dam.</p> <p>3. Inhibits access to all parts of the crest and dam.</p> <p>4. Can result in a hazardous condition if due to overtopping.</p>	<p>1. Restore freeboard to dam by adding fill material to low area, using proper construction techniques. (See Chapter 7.)</p> <p>2. Regrading crest to provide proper drainage of surface runoff.</p> <p>3. If gully was caused by overtopping, create adequate spillway that meets current design standards. This should be done by engineer.</p> <p>4. Reestablish protective cover.</p>
Ruts Along Crest <i>(Figure 5.3j)</i>	<p>Heavy vehicle traffic without adequate or proper maintenance or proper crest surfacing</p> <p>1. Inhibits easy access to all parts of crest.</p> <p>2. Allows continued development of rutting.</p> <p>3. Allows standing water to collect and saturate crest of dam.</p> <p>4. Operating and maintenance vehicles can get stuck.</p>	<p>1. Drain standing water from ruts.</p> <p>2. Regrade and re-compact crest to restore integrity and provide proper drainage to upstream slope. (See Chapter 7.)</p> <p>3. Provide gravel or roadbase material to accommodate traffic.</p> <p>4. Periodically maintain and regrade to prevent ruts reforming.</p>

Figure 5.3 (cont.)
Inspection Guidelines - Embankment Crest

**Puddling on Crest—
Poor Drainage**

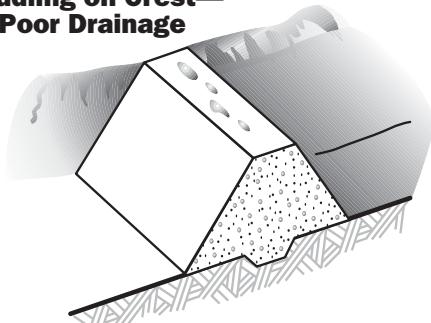


Figure 5.3k

**Drying
Cracks**

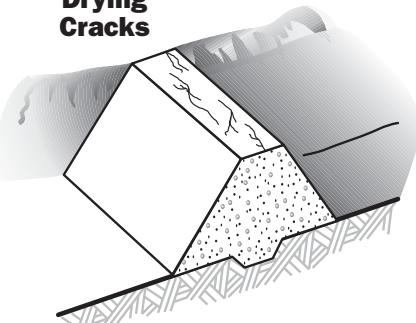


Figure 5.3l

Problem	Probable Cause and Possible Consequences	Recommended Actions
<p>Puddling on Crest— Poor Drainage <i>(Figure 5.3k)</i></p>	<p>1. Poor grading and improper drainage of crest. 2. Localized consolidation or settlement on crest allows puddles to develop.</p> <p>1. Causes localized saturation of the crest. 2. Inhibits access to all parts of the dam and crest. 3. Becomes progressively worse if not corrected.</p>	<p>1. Drain standing water from puddles. 2. Regrade and re-compact crest to restore integrity and provide proper drainage to upstream slope. (See Chapter 7.) 3. Provide gravel or roadbase material to accommodate traffic. 4. Periodically maintain and regrade to prevent low areas reforming.</p>
<p>Drying Cracks <i>(Figure 5.3l)</i></p>	<p>Material on the crest of dam expands and contracts with alternate wetting and drying of weather cycles. Drying cracks are usually short, shallow, narrow, and numerous.</p> <p>Point of entry for surface runoff and surface moisture, causing saturation of adjacent embankment areas. This saturation, and later drying of the dam, could cause further cracking.</p>	<p>1. Seal surface cracks with a tight, impermeable material. (See Chapter 7.) 2. Routinely grade crest to proper drainage and fill cracks. 3. Cover crest with non-plastic material (not clay) to prevent large variations in moisture content.</p>

Figure 5.4
Inspection Guidelines - Embankment Seepage Areas

Excessive Quantity and/or Muddy Water Exiting From a Point

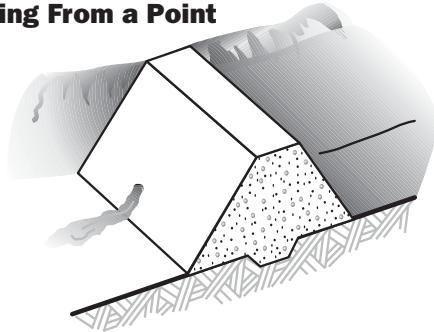


Figure 5.4a

Stream of Water Exiting Through Cracks Near the Crest

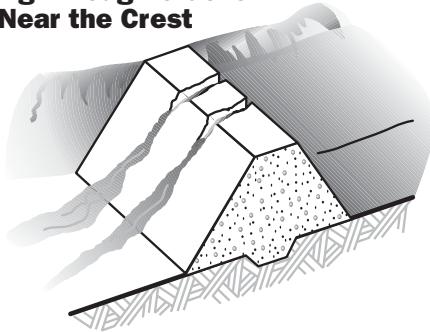


Figure 5.4b

Problem	Probable Cause and Possible Consequences	Recommended Actions
<p>Excessive Quantity and/or Muddy Water Exiting From a Point <i>(Figure 5.4a)</i></p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Water has created an open pathway, channel or pipe through the dam. The water is eroding and carrying embankment material. Large amounts of water have accumulated in the downstream slope. Water and embankment materials are exiting at one point. Surface agitation may be causing the muddy water. Rodents, frost action or poor construction have allowed water to create an open pathway or pipe through the embankment. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Continued flows can saturate parts of the embankment and lead to slides in the area. Continued flows can further erode embankment materials and lead to failure of the dam. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Begin measuring outflow quantity and establishing whether water is getting muddier, staying the same or clearing up. If quantity of flow is increasing, water level in reservoir should be lowered until flow stabilizes or stops. Search for opening on upstream side and plug if possible. A qualified engineer should inspect the condition and recommend further actions to be taken. <p>ENGINEER REQUIRED</p>
<p>Stream of Water Exiting Through Cracks Near the Crest <i>(Figure 5.4b)</i></p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Severe drying has caused shrinkage of embankment material. Settlement in the embankment or foundation is causing the transverse cracks. <p>Flow through the crack can cause failure of the dam.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Plug upstream side of crack to stop flow. Lower water level in the reservoir should be lowered until below level of cracks. A qualified engineer should inspect the condition and recommend further actions. <p>ENGINEER REQUIRED</p>

Figure 5.4 (cont.)
Inspection Guidelines - Embankment Seepage Areas

**Seepage Water
Exiting as a Boil
in the Foundation**

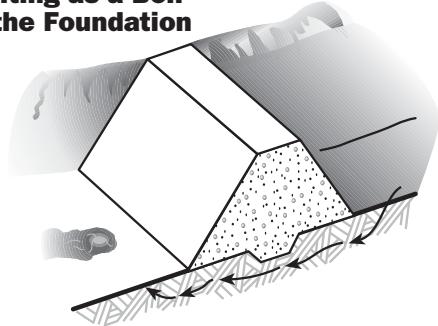


Figure 5.4c

**Seepage Exiting at
Abutment Contact**

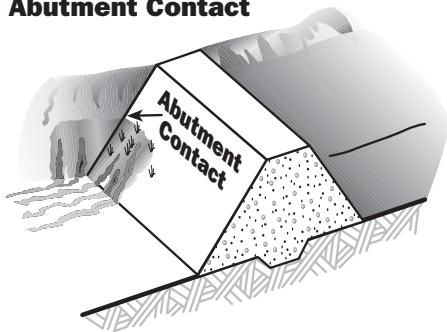


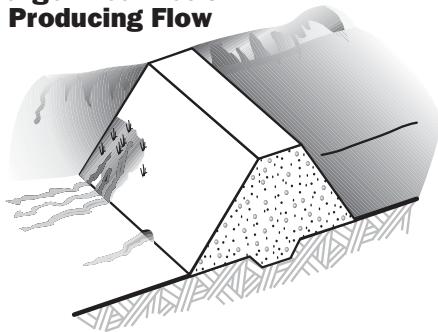
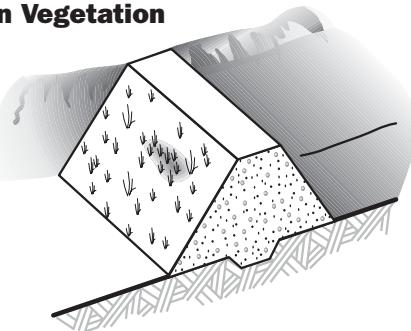
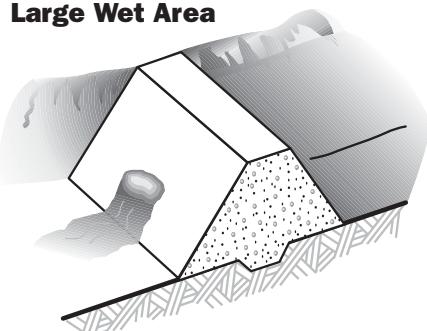
Figure 5.4d

Problem	Probable Cause and Possible Consequences	Recommended Actions
<p>Seepage Water Exiting as a Boil in the Foundation <i>(Figure 5.4c)</i></p>	<p>Some part of the foundation material is supplying a flow path. This could be caused by a sand or gravel layer in the foundation. Increased flows can lead to erosion of the foundation and failure of the dam.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Examine the boil for transportation of foundation materials. 2. If soil particles are moving downstream, sandbags or earth should be used to create a dike around the boil. The pressures created by the water level with the dike may control flow velocities and temporarily prevent further erosion. 3. If erosion is becoming greater, the reservoir level should be lowered. 4. A qualified engineer should inspect the condition and recommend further actions.
<p>Seepage Exiting at Abutment Contact <i>(Figure 5.4d)</i></p>	<p>1. Water flowing through pathways in the abutment. 2. Water flowing through the embankment. Can lead to erosion of embankment materials and failure of the dam.</p>	<p>1. Study leakage area to determine quantity of flow and extent of saturation. 2. Inspect daily for developing slides. 3. Water level in reservoir may need to be lowered to assure the safety of the embankment. 4. A qualified engineer should inspect the condition and recommend further actions.</p>

ENGINEER REQUIRED

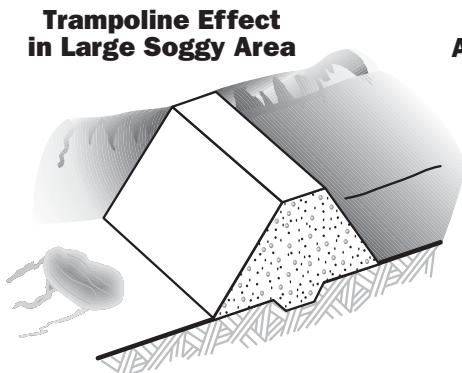
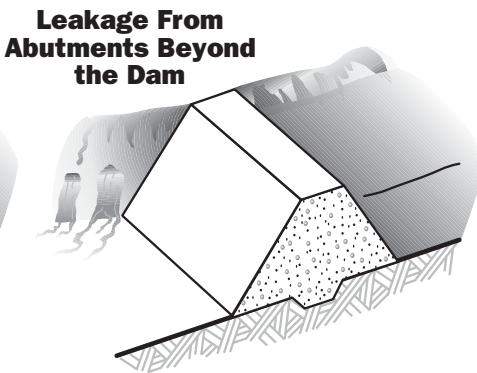
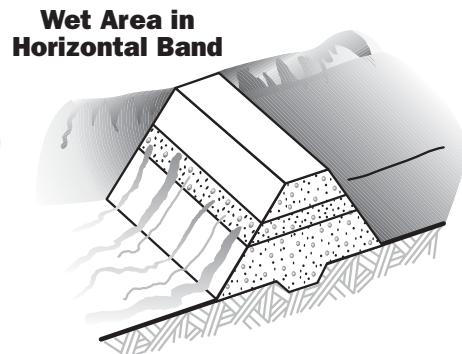
ENGINEER REQUIRED

Figure 5.4 (cont.)
Inspection Guidelines - Embankment Seepage Areas

Large Area Wet or Producing Flow**Figure 5.4e****Marked Change in Vegetation****Figure 5.4f****Bulge in Large Wet Area****Figure 5.4g**

Problem	Probable Cause and Possible Consequences	Recommended Actions
Large Area Wet or Producing Flow <i>(Figure 5.4e)</i>	<p>A seepage path has developed through the abutment or embankment materials and failure of the dam can occur.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Increased flows could lead to erosion of embankment material and failure of the dam. 2. Saturation of the embankment can lead to local slides which could cause failure of the dam. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Stake out the saturated area and monitor for growth or shrinking. 2. Measure any outflows as accurately as possible. 3. Reservoir level may need to be lowered if saturated areas grow at a fixed storage level or if flow increases. 4. A qualified engineer should inspect the condition and recommend further actions. <p style="text-align: center;">ENGINEER REQUIRED</p>
Marked Change in Vegetation <i>(Figure 5.4f)</i>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Embankment materials are supplying flow paths. 2. Natural seeding by wind. 3. Change in seed type during early post-construction seeding. <p>Can show a saturated area.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Use probe and shovel to establish if the materials in this area are wetter than surrounding areas. 2. If area shows wetness, when surrounding areas are dry or drier, a qualified engineer should inspect the condition and recommend further actions. <p style="text-align: center;">ENGINEER REQUIRED</p>
Bulge in Large Wet Area <i>(Figure 5.4g)</i>	<p>Downstream embankment materials have begun to move.</p> <p>Failure of the embankment resulting from massive sliding can follow these early movements.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Compare embankment cross-section to the end of construction condition to see if observed condition may reflect end of construction. 2. Stake out affected area and accurately measure outflow. 3. A qualified engineer should inspect the condition and recommend further actions. <p style="text-align: center;">ENGINEER REQUIRED</p>

Figure 5.4 (cont.)
Inspection Guidelines - Embankment Seepage Areas

**Figure 5.4h****Figure 5.4i****Figure 5.4j**

Problem	Probable Cause and Possible Consequences	Recommended Actions
Trampoline Effect (bouncy when jumped on) in Large Soggy Area (Figure 5.4h)	<p>Water moving rapidly through the embankment or foundation is being controlled or contained by a well-established turf root system.</p> <p>Condition shows excessive seepage in the area. If control layer of turf is destroyed, rapid erosion of foundation materials could result in failure of the dam.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Carefully inspect the area for outflow quantity and any transported material. 2. A qualified engineer should inspect the condition and recommend further actions. <p>ENGINEER REQUIRED</p>
Leakage From Abutments Beyond the Dam (Figure 5.4i)	<p>Water moving through cracks and fissures in the abutment materials.</p> <p>Can lead to rapid erosion of abutment and evacuation of the reservoir. Can lead to massive slides near or downstream from the dam.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Carefully inspect the area to determine quantity of flow and amount of transported material. 2. A qualified engineer or geologist should inspect the condition and recommend further actions. <p>ENGINEER REQUIRED</p>
Wet Area in Horizontal Band (Figure 5.4j)	<p>Frost layer or layer of sandy material in original construction.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Wetting of areas below the area of excessive seepage can lead to localized instability of the embankment, resulting in slides. 2. Excessive flows can lead to accelerated erosion of embankment materials and failure of the dam. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Determine as closely as possible the flow being produced. 2. If flow increases, reservoir level should be reduced until flow stabilizes or stops. 3. Stake out the exact area involved. 4. Using hand tools, try to identify the material allowing the flow. 5. A qualified engineer should inspect the condition and recommend further actions. <p>ENGINEER REQUIRED</p>

Figure 5.5
Inspection Guidelines - Concrete Upstream Slope

Large Increase in Flow or Sediment in Drain Outfall

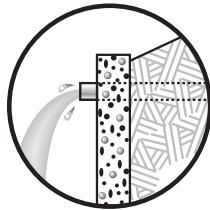


Figure 5.5a

Cracked Deteriorated Concrete Face

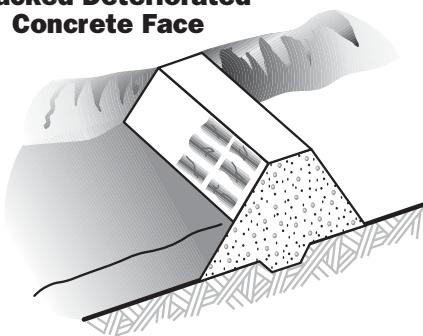


Figure 5.5b

Cracks Due to Drying

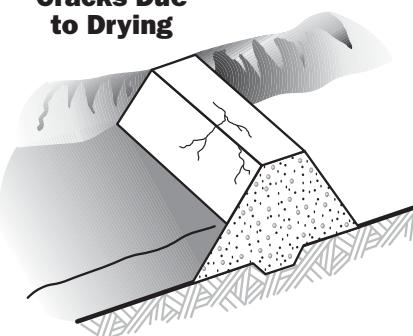


Figure 5.5c

Problem	Probable Cause and Possible Consequences	Recommended Actions
Large Increase in Flow or Sediment in Drain Outfall (Figure 5.5a)	<p>Shortened seepage path or increased storage levels.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Higher-velocity flows can cause erosion of drain, then embankment materials. 2. Can lead to piping failure. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Accurately measure outflow quantity and determine amount of increase over previous flow. 2. Collect jar samples to compare turbidity. 3. If either quantity or turbidity has increased by 25%, a qualified engineer should evaluate the condition and recommend further actions. <p>ENGINEER REQUIRED</p>
Cracked Deteriorated Concrete Face (Figure 5.5b)	<p>Concrete deteriorated from weathering. Joint filler deteriorated or displaced.</p> <p>Soil is eroded behind the face and caverns can be formed. Unsupported sections of concrete crack. Ice action may displace concrete.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Determine cause. Either patch with grout or contact engineer for permanent repair method. 2. If damage is extensive, a qualified engineer should inspect the condition and recommend further actions. <p>ENGINEER REQUIRED</p>
Cracks Due to Drying (Figure 5.5c)	<p>Soil loses its moisture and shrinks, causing cracks. <i>Note:</i> Usually limited to crest and downstream slope.</p> <p>Heavy rains can fill cracks and cause small parts of embankment to move along internal slip surface.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Monitor cracks for increases in width, depth, or length. 2. A qualified engineer should inspect condition and recommend further actions. <p>ENGINEER REQUIRED</p>

Figure 5.6
Inspection Guidelines - Spillways

Excessive Vegetation or Debris in Channel

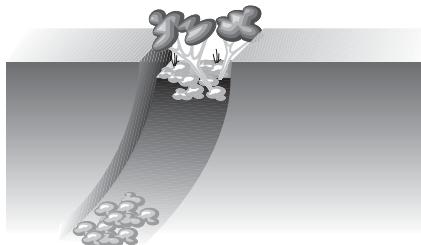


Figure 5.6a

Erosion Channels

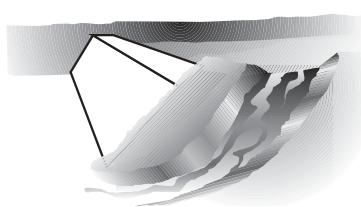


Figure 5.6b

Excessive Erosion in Earth-Slide Causes Concentrated Flows

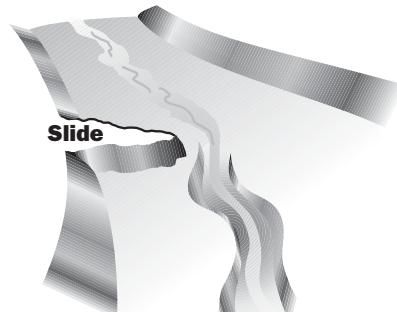
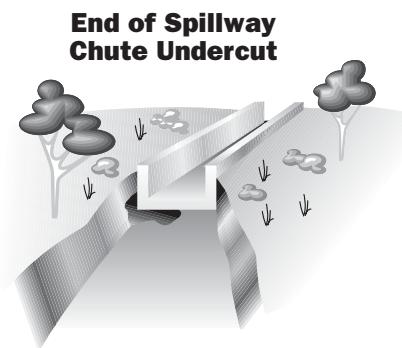
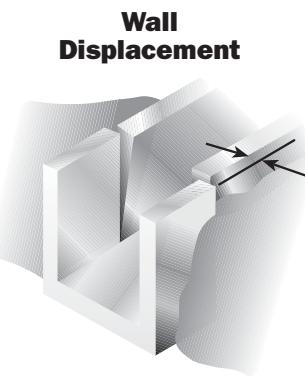
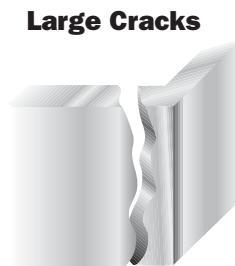


Figure 5.6c

Problem	Probable Cause and Possible Consequences	Recommended Actions
Excessive Vegetation or Debris in Channel (Figure 5.6a)	<p>Accumulation of slide materials, dead trees, excessive vegetative growth, etc., in spillway channel.</p> <p>Reduced discharge capacity; overflow of spillway, overcropping of dam. Prolonged overtopping can cause failure of the dam.</p>	<p>Clean out debris periodically; control vegetative growth in spillway channel. Install log boom in front of spillway entrance to intercept debris.</p>
Erosion Channels (Figure 5.6b)	<p>Surface runoff from intense rainstorms or flow from spillway carries surface material down the slope, resulting in continuous troughs. Livestock traffic creates gullies where flow concentrates varies.</p> <p>Unabated erosion can lead to slides, slumps or slips which can result in reduced spillway capacity. Inadequate spillway capacity can lead to embankment overtopping and result in dam failure.</p>	<p>Photograph condition. Repair damaged areas by replacing eroded material with compacted fill. Protect areas against future erosion by installing suitable rock riprap. Re-vegetate area if appropriate. Bring condition to the attention of the engineer during next inspection.</p>
Excessive Erosion in Earth-Slide Causes Concentrated Flows (Figure 5.6c)	<p>Discharge velocity too high; bottom and slope material loose or deteriorated; channel and bank slopes too steep; bare soil unprotected; poor construction protective surface failed.</p> <p>Disturbed flow pattern; loss of material, increased sediment load downstream, collapse of banks; failure of spillway; can lead to rapid evacuation of the reservoir through the severely eroded spillway.</p>	<p>Minimize flow velocity by proper design. Use sound material. Keep channel and bank slopes mild. Encourage growth of grass on soil surface. Construct smooth and well- compacted surfaces. Protect surface with riprap, asphalt or concrete. Repair eroded portion using sound construction practices.</p>

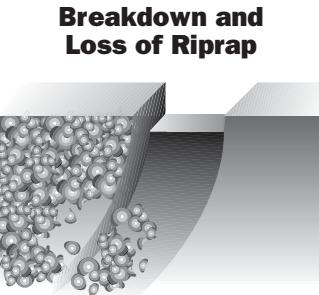
Figure 5.6 (cont.)
Inspection Guidelines - Spillways

**Figure 5.6d****Figure 5.6e****Figure 5.6f**

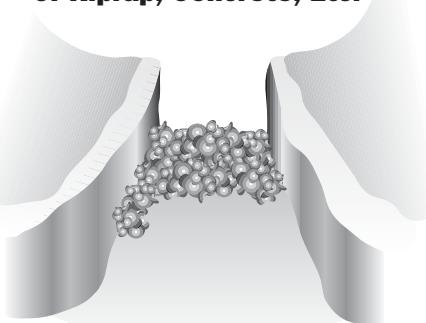
Problem	Probable Cause and Possible Consequences	Recommended Actions
End of Spillway Chute Undercut <i>(Figure 5.6d)</i>	Poor configuration of stilling basin area. Highly erodible materials. Absence of cutoff wall at end of chute. Structural damage to spillway structure; collapse of slab and wall lead to costly repair.	Dewater affected area; clean out eroded area and properly backfill. Improve stream channel below chute; provide properly sized riprap in stilling basin area. Install cutoff wall.
Wall Displacement <i>(Figure 5.6e)</i>	Poor workmanship; uneven settlement of foundation; excessive earth and water pressure; insufficient steel bar reinforcement of concrete. Minor displacement will create eddies and turbulence in the flow, causing erosion of the soil behind the wall. Major displacement will cause severe cracks and eventual failure of the structure.	Reconstruction should be done according to sound engineering practices. Foundation should be carefully prepared. Adequate weep holes should be installed to relieve water pressure behind wall. Use enough reinforcement in the concrete. Anchor walls to prevent further displacement. Install struts between spillway walls. Clean out and backflush drains to assure proper operations. Consult an engineer before actions are taken.
Large Cracks <i>(Figure 5.6f)</i>	Construction defect; local concentrated stress; local material deterioration; foundation failure, excessive backfill pressure. Disturbance in flow patterns; erosion of foundation and backfill; eventual collapse of structure.	Large cracks without large displacement should be repaired by patching. Surrounding areas should be cleaned or cut out before patching material is applied. (See Chapter 7.) Installation of weep holes or other actions may be needed.

ENGINEER REQUIRED

Figure 5.6 (cont.)
Inspection Guidelines - Spillways

**Figure 5.6g****Figure 5.6h**

**Material Deterioration—
Spalling and Disintegration
of Riprap, Concrete, Etc.**

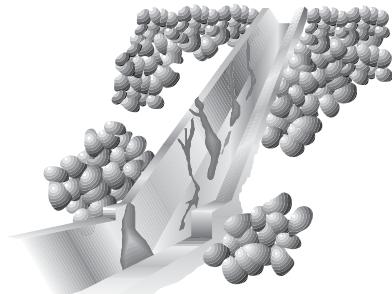
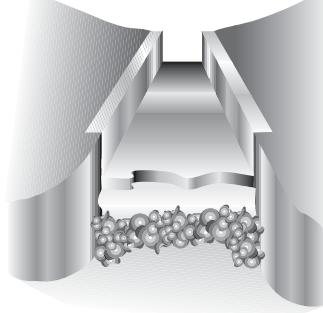
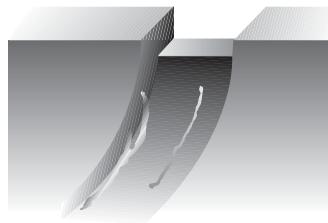
**Figure 5.6i**

Problem	Probable Cause and Possible Consequences	Recommended Actions
Open or Displaced Joints <i>(Figure 5.6g)</i>	Excessive and uneven settlement of foundation; sliding of concrete slab; construction joint too wide and left unsealed. Sealant deteriorated and washed away. Erosion of foundation material may weaken support and cause further cracks; pressure induced by water flowing over displaced joints may wash away wall or slab, or cause extensive undermining.	Construction joint should be no wider than $1/2"$. All joints should be sealed with asphalt or other flexible materials. Water stops should be used where feasible. Clean the joint, replace eroded materials, and seal the joint. Foundations should be properly drained and prepared. Under-side of chute slabs should have ribs of enough depth to prevent sliding. Avoid steep chute slope.
Breakdown and Loss of Riprap <i>(Figure 5.6h)</i>	Slope too steep; material poorly graded; failure of subgrade; flow velocity too high; improper placement of material; bedding material or foundation washed away. Erosion of channel bottom and banks; failure of spillway.	Design a stable slope for channel bottom and banks. Riprap material should be well-graded (the material should contain small, medium and large particles). Subgrade should be properly prepared before placement of riprap. Install filter fabric if necessary. Control flow velocity in the spillway by proper design. Riprap should be placed according to specification.
Material Deterioration— Spalling and Disintegration of Riprap, Concrete, Etc. <i>(Figure 5.6i)</i>	Use of unsound or defective materials; structures subject to freeze-thaw cycles; improper maintenance practices; harmful chemicals. Structure life will be shortened; premature failure.	ENGINEER REQUIRED

ENGINEER REQUIRED

Avoid using shale or sandstone for riprap. Add air-entraining agent when mixing concrete. Use only clean, good-quality aggregates in the concrete. Steel bars should have at least 1" of concrete cover. Concrete should be kept damp and protected from freezing during curing.

Figure 5.6 (cont.)
Inspection Guidelines - Spillways

Poor Surface Drainage**Figure 5.6j****Concrete Erosion, Abrasion, and Fracturing****Figure 5.6k****Leakage in or Around Spillway****Figure 5.6l**

Problem	Probable Cause and Possible Consequences	Recommended Actions
Poor Surface Drainage (Figure 5.6j)	<p>No weep holes; no drainage facility; plugged drains.</p> <p>Wet foundation has lower supporting capacity; uplift pressure resulting from seepage water may damage spillway chute; accumulation of water may also increase total pressure on spillway walls and cause damage.</p>	<p>Install weep holes on spillway walls. Inner end of hole should be surrounded and packed with graded filtering material. Install drain system under spillway near downstream end. Clean out existing weep holes. Backflush and rehabilitate drain system under the supervision of an engineer.</p> <p>ENGINEER REQUIRED</p>
Concrete Erosion, Abrasion, and Fracturing (Figure 5.6k)	<p>Flow velocity too high (usually occurs at lower end of chute in high dams); rolling of gravel and rocks down the chutes; cavity behind or below concrete slab.</p> <p>Pockmarks and spalling of concrete surface may progressively worsen; small hole may cause undermining of foundation, leading to failure of structure.</p>	<p>Remove rocks and gravels from spillway chute before flood season. Raise water level in stilling basin. Use good-quality concrete. Assure concrete surface is smooth.</p> <p>ENGINEER REQUIRED</p>
Leakage in or Around Spillway (Figure 5.6l)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Cracks and joints in geologic formation at spillway are permitting seepage. 2. Gravel or sand layers at spillway are permitting seepage. 1. Could lead to excessive loss of stored water. 2. Could lead to a progressive failure if velocities are high enough to cause erosion of natural materials. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Examine exit area to see if type of material can explain leakage. 2. Measure flow quantity and check for erosion of natural materials. 3. If flow rate or amount of eroded materials increases rapidly, reservoir level should be lowered until flow stabilizes or stops. 4. A qualified engineer should inspect the condition and recommend further actions. <p>ENGINEER REQUIRED</p>

Figure 5.6 (cont.)
Inspection Guidelines - Spillways

Too Much Leakage From Spillway Under Drains

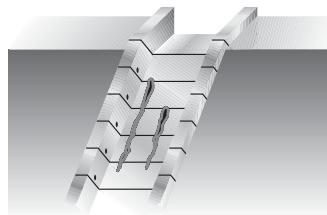


Figure 5.6m

Seepage From a Construction Joint or Crack in Concrete Structure

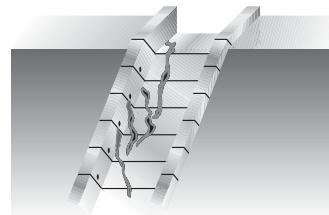


Figure 5.6n

Problem

Probable Cause and Possible Consequences

Recommended Actions

Too Much Leakage From Spillway Under Drains
(Figure 5.6m)

Drain or cutoff may have failed.

1. Excessive flows under the spillway could lead to erosion of foundation material and collapse of parts of the spillway.
2. Uncontrolled flows could lead to loss of stored water.

1. Examine exit area to see if type of material can explain leakage.
2. Measure flow and check for erosion of natural materials.
3. If flow rate or amount of eroded materials increases rapidly, reservoir level should be lowered until flow stabilizes or stops.
4. A qualified engineer should inspect the condition and recommend further actions.

ENGINEER REQUIRED

Seepage From a Construction Joint or Crack in Concrete Structure
(Figure 5.6n)

Water is collecting behind structure because of insufficient drainage or clogged weep holes.

1. Can cause walls to tip in and over. Flows through concrete can lead to rapid deterioration from weathering.
2. If spillway is located within embankment, rapid erosion can lead to failure of the dam.

1. Check area behind wall for puddling of surface water.
2. Check and clean as needed; drain outfalls, flush lines and weep holes.
3. If condition persists, a qualified engineer should inspect the condition and recommend further actions.

ENGINEER REQUIRED

Figure 5.7
Inspection Guidelines - Inlets, Outlets, and Drains

Outlet Pipe Damage

Crack**Figure 5.7a-1****Hole****Figure 5.7a-2****Joint Offset****Figure 5.7a-3**

Problem	Probable Cause and Possible Consequences	Recommended Actions
Outlet Pipe Damage: Crack <i>(Figure 5.7a-1)</i>	Settlement; impact. Excessive seepage, possible internal erosion.	Check for evidence of water either entering or exiting pipe at crack, hole, etc.
Outlet Pipe Damage: Hole <i>(Figure 5.7a-2)</i>	Rust (steel pipe); erosion (concrete pipe); cavitation. Excessive seepage, possible internal erosion.	Tap pipe in vicinity of damaged area, listening for hollow sound which indicates a void has formed along the outside of the conduit.
Outlet Pipe Damage: Joint Offset <i>(Figure 5.7a-3)</i>	Settlement or poor construction practice. Provides passageway for water to exit or enter pipe, resulting in erosion of internal materials of the dam.	If a progressive failure is suspected, request engineering advice.

Figure 5.7 (cont.)
Inspection Guidelines - Inlets, Outlets, and Drains

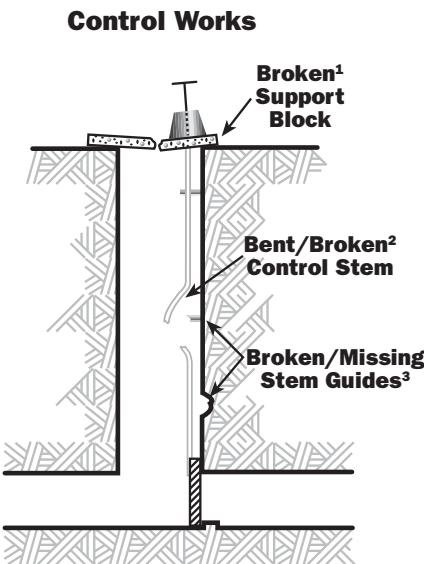


Figure 5.7b

Problem	Probable Cause and Possible Consequences	Recommended Actions
Damage to Control Works <i>(Figure 5.7b)</i>	<p>1. BROKEN SUPPORT BLOCK Concrete deterioration. Excessive force exerted on control stem by trying to open gate when it was jammed. Causes control support block to tilt; control stem may bind. Control head works may settle. Gate may not open all the way. Support block may fail completely, leaving outlet inoperable.</p> <p>2. BENT/BROKEN CONTROL STEM Rust. Excess force used to open or close gate. Inadequate or broken stem guides. Outlet is inoperable.</p> <p>3. BROKEN/MISSING STEM GUIDES Rust. Inadequate lubrication. Excess force used to open or close gate when jammed. Loss of support for control stem. Stem may buckle and break under normal use (as in this example).</p>	Any of these conditions can mean the control is either inoperable or, at best, partly operable. Use of the system should be minimized or discontinued. If the outlet system has a second control valve, consider using it to regulate releases until repairs can be made. Engineering help is recommended.

Figure 5.7 (cont.)
Inspection Guidelines - Inlets, Outlets, and Drains

Failure of Concrete Outfall Structure

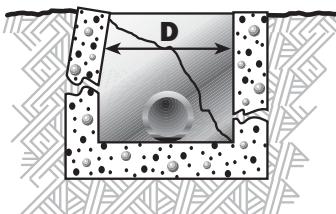


Figure 5.7c

Outlet Releases Eroding Toe of Dam

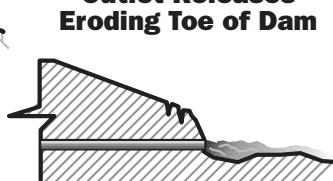


Figure 5.7d

Valve Leakage



Figure 5.e-1



Figure 5.e-2



Figure 5.e-3

Problem

Probable Cause and Possible Consequences

Recommended Actions

**Failure of Concrete Outfall Structure
(Figure 5.7c)**

Excessive side pressures on nonreinforced concrete structure. Poor concrete quality. Loss of outfall structure exposes embankment to erosion by outlet releases.

1. Check for progressive failure by monitoring typical dimension, such as "D" shown in figure.
2. Repair by patching cracks and supplying drainage around concrete structure. Outfall structure may need total replacement.

**Outlet Releases Eroding Toe of Dam
(Figure 5.7d)**

Outlet pipe too short. Lack of energy-dissipating pool or structure at downstream end of conduit. Erosion of toe oversteepens downstream slope, causing progressive sloughing.

1. Extend pipe beyond toe (use pipe of same size and material, and form watertight connection to existing conduit).
2. Protect embankment with riprap over suitable bedding.

**Valve Leakage:
Debris Stuck Under Gate
(Figure 5.7e-1)**

Trashrack missing or damaged. Gate will not close. Gate or stem may be damaged in effort to close gate.

1. Raise and lower gate slowly until debris is loosened and floats past valve. When reservoir is lowered, repair or replace trashrack.

**Valve Leakage:
Cracked Gate Leaf
(Figure 5.7e-2)**

Ice action, rust, affect vibration, or stress resulting from forcing gate closed when it is jammed. Gate-leaf main fail completely, evacuating reservoir.

1. Use valve only in fully open or closed position. Minimize use of valve until leaf can be repaired or replaced.

**Valve Leakage:
Damaged Gate Seat
or Guides
(Figure 5.7e-3)**

Rust, erosion, cavitation, vibration or wear. Leakage and loss of support for gate leaf. Gate may bind in guides and become inoperable.

1. Minimize use of valve until guides or seats can be repaired. If cavitation is the cause, check to see if air-vent pipe exists, and is unobstructed.

Figure 5.7 (cont.)
Inspection Guidelines - Inlets, Outlets, and Drains

Seepage Water Exiting From a Point Adjacent to the Outlet

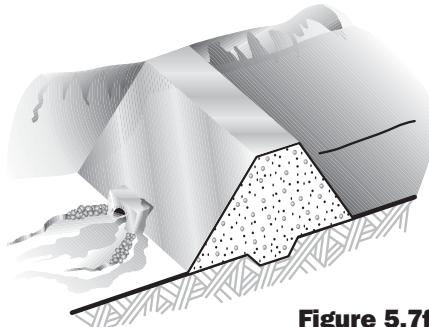


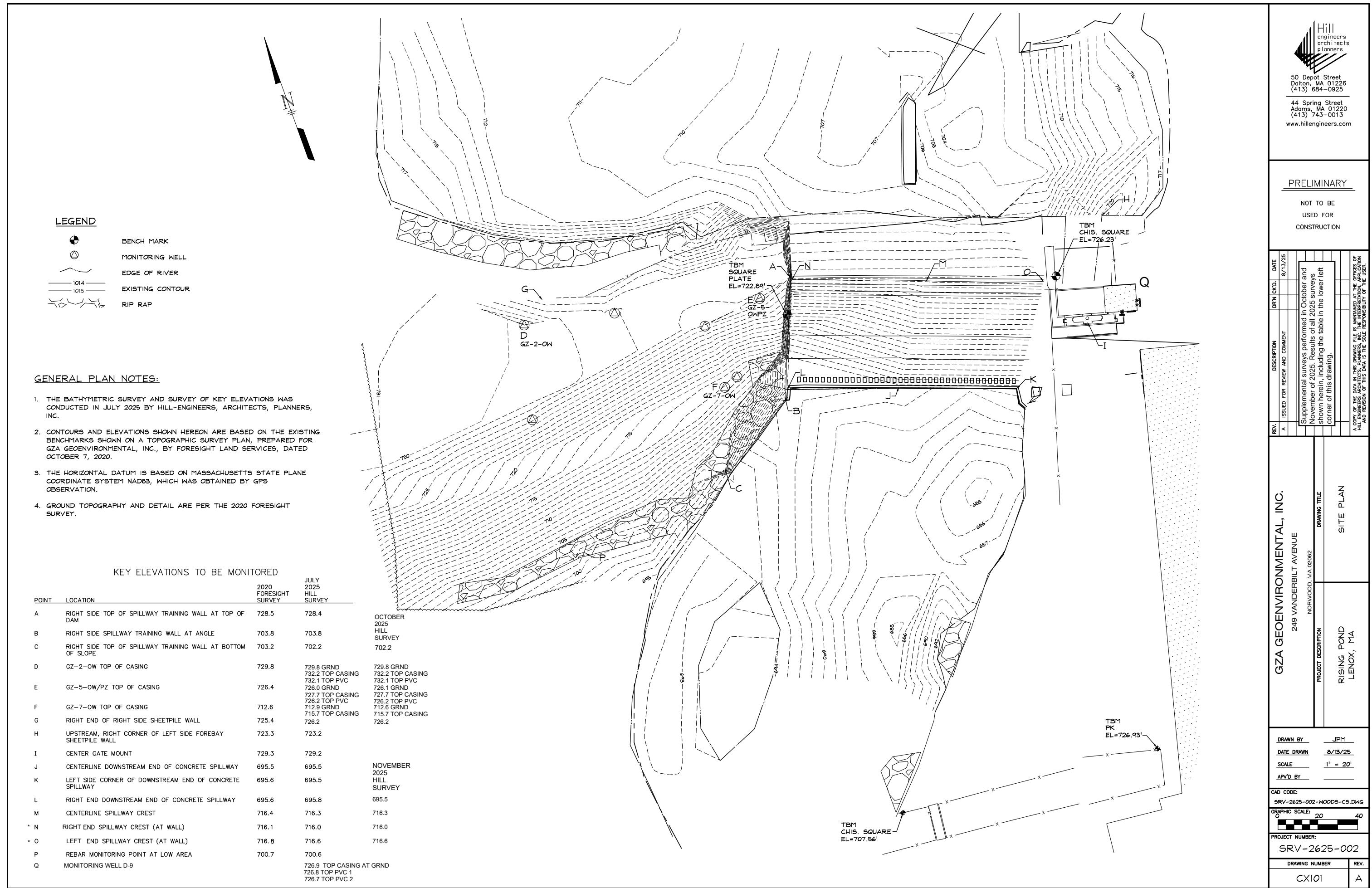
Figure 5.7f

Problem	Probable Cause and Possible Consequences	Recommended Actions
<p>Seepage Water Exiting From a Point Adjacent to the Outlet <i>(Figure 5.7f)</i></p>	<p>1. A break in the outlet pipe. 2. A path for flow has developed along the outside of the outlet pipe.</p> <p>Continued flows can lead to erosion of the embankment materials and failure of the dam.</p>	<p>1. Thoroughly investigate the area by probing and/or shoveling to try to determine cause. 2. Determine if leakage water is carrying soil particles. 3. Determine quantity of flow. 4. If flow increases or is carrying embankment materials, reservoir level should be lowered until leakage stops. 5. A qualified engineer should inspect the condition and recommend further actions.</p>

ENGINEER REQUIRED



APPENDIX C – 2025 TOPOGRAPHIC AND BATHYMETRIC SURVEY





APPENDIX D – QUARTERLY MAINTENANCE INSPECTION CHECKLIST



Rising Pond Dam
Quarterly Maintenance Inspection Checklist*



1.0 GENERAL COMMENTS

Date of Inspection: _____ Weather: _____

Inspection By:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____

Surface Water Readings (all elevations presented in NGVD29 datum):

Location	Elevation at Benchmark (ft) (a)	Depth to Water (ft) (b)	Water Elevation (ft) (a) – (b)	Depth Above Spillway Crest (ft)	River Flow (cfs)	Staff Gage Reading (ft)
Reservoir	727.0±					
River (downstream)	n/a	n/a		n/a	n/a	Same as Water Elev.

Note: The benchmark elevation is based on the report titled "Revised Design for Raising Portions of Rising Pond Dam Above 500-Year Flood Elevation" (GZA, August 10, 2020).

Measuring Points for Surface Water Readings

Reservoir: Measure from the top of the galvanized steel toe plate on the forebay platform at the left side of the spillway, El. 727.0 feet NGVD29. Staff gage zero reading is El. 716.6 feet (left side of the spillway).

River: Use painted staff gage on the spillway downstream right training wall.

Depth Above Spillway Crest: Record depth above left-side spillway crest, El. 716.6 feet.

River Flow: [USGS Gage at Great Barrington \(01197500\) National Water Prediction Service \(NWPS\).](#)

Comments:

* The specific items listed in this checklist may be modified or expanded to reflect findings during a given inspection.



Rising Pond Dam
Quarterly Maintenance Inspection Checklist*



1.0 GENERAL COMMENTS (continued)

Forebay Sediment Levels (all elevations presented in NGVD29 datum):

Location	Elevation at Benchmark (ft) (a)	Depth to top of Sediment (ft) (b)	Sediment Elevation (ft) (c) = (a) - (b)	Forebay Base Slab Elevation (ft) (d)	Sediment Thickness (ft) (e) = (c) - (d)
Upstream (trashracks)	726.23			699.0±	
Downstream (gate)	726.23			699.0±	

Note: The benchmark elevation is noted as "TBM CHIS. Square El. 726.23 feet", based on the July, October and November 2025 Topographic and Bathymetric Surveys conducted by Hill Architects, Engineers, and Planners. The Forebay Base Slab Elevation is based on the internal penstock surveys conducted by Hill Architects, Engineers, and Planners, documented in the GZA report titled "2024 Penstock Investigations End-of-Year Report".

Measuring Points for Sediment Readings

Upstream and Downstream: Measure from the top of the concrete walkway/deck on the right side of the forebay, El. 726.23 feet NGVD29.

Comments:

* The specific items listed in this checklist may be modified or expanded to reflect findings during a given inspection.



Rising Pond Dam
Quarterly Maintenance Inspection Checklist*



2.0 LEFT (EAST) ABUTMENT

Item	Condition Description	Observed during this inspection?		Observed during previous inspection?		Condition similar to or changed from previous inspection?
		YES	NO	YES	NO	
A.	Local subsidence, sinkholes, animal burrows, or depressions?					
B.	Erosion at the water line?					
C.	Surface cracking on the crest (top of embankment)?					
D.	Settlement/rutting or low spots in crest?					
E.	Seepage or wetness on downstream face of embankment, within 30 feet of the embankment toe, along the embankment and underground conveyance structure at the forebay, along the penstock or surge chamber boundary, around the blow-off drain valve, or within the surge chamber? (If YES, comment on clarity of seepage water.)					
F.	Trees, heavy brush or other woody vegetation?					
G.	Change in vegetation, including on upstream slope and in downstream area, that may indicate presence of seepage?					
H.	Deterioration of grass cover?					
I.	Sloughing, slides, scarps or erosion gullies?					
J.	Bowing, openings in or deterioration of sheetpile next to low-level outlet structures?					
K.	Adverse conditions at material interfaces (i.e., earth fill/concrete, sheetpile/concrete, earth fill/sheetpile interfaces), such as displacement or gaps, seepage, erosion, deterioration of concrete?					
L.	Deterioration or loss of safety signage?					
M.	Unusual conditions?					
N.	Vandalism?					

Comments:



3.0 LOW-LEVEL OUTLET, PENSTOCK, & SURGE CHAMBER/DIVERSION CHANNEL

Item	Condition Description	Observed during this inspection?		Observed during previous inspection?		Condition similar to or changed from previous inspection?
		YES	NO	YES	NO	
A.	Missing or damaged trash racks or supports?					
B.	Excessive debris on trash racks (causing more than one-foot difference in water level across the trashracks)?					
C.	Cracking or displacement of concrete/masonry walls?					
D.	Vegetation growth in joints of masonry/concrete?					
E.	Deterioration of masonry/concrete?					
F.	Settlement of fill adjacent to the structure or at ground surface above the penstock?					
G.	Damage to gate leaf, gate stem, or operator?					
H.	Leakage visible downstream of the gate?					
I.	Debris in surge chamber or diversion channel that could block flow?					
J.	Surge chamber concrete in good repair?					
K.	Adverse conditions at material interfaces (i.e., earth fill/concrete or earthfill/masonry), such as displacement or gaps, seepage, erosion, deterioration of concrete, steel, or masonry?					
L.	Deterioration or loss of safety signage?					
M.	Unusual conditions?					
N.	Vandalism?					

Note: A low area or "belly" is present in the penstock near the midpoint (about 110 feet downstream of gate). This condition is monitored annually during internal visual inspections and ovality surveys. DO NOT enter the penstock during quarterly inspections to verify this condition.

Comments:



Rising Pond Dam
Quarterly Maintenance Inspection Checklist*



4.0 CONCRETE OVERFLOW SPILLWAY

Item	Condition Description	Observed during this inspection?		Observed during previous inspection?		Condition similar to or changed from previous inspection?
		YES	NO	YES	NO	
A.	Accumulation of debris upstream or downstream of spillway including upstream safety buoys or downstream energy dissipators?					
B.	Vortices or other unusual flow patterns upstream of the spillway?					
C.	Discontinuity of smooth flow over spillway?					
D.	Damage to sheetpile at upstream or downstream ends of spillway slab (bowing, interlock separation, bending)?					
E.	Cracking, deterioration, settlement, displacement or other damage to upstream concrete apron slab, crest plate, energy dissipators, or downstream concrete apron slab or joints?					
F.	Visible missing or displaced riprap at the toe?					
G.	Visible erosion or scour of the riverbed near the toe?					
H.	Unusual flow coming from the weepholes in the downstream face?					
I.	Signs of seepage or unusual flow at the toe? (If YES, comment on clarity of seepage water.)					
J.	Adverse conditions at concrete or concrete/steel interfaces, such as displacement or gaps, leakage, erosion, deterioration of concrete, crest plate, or upstream edges of energy dissipaters?					
K.	Unusual conditions?					
L.	Vandalism?					
M.	Damage or debris on energy dissipaters?					
N.	Grout bags visibly damaged?					
O.	Damage to forebay wall?					

Comments:



5.0 SPILLWAY TRAINING WALLS

Item	Condition Description	Observed during this inspection?		Observed during previous inspection?		Condition similar to or changed from previous inspection?
		YES	NO	YES	NO	
A.	Cracking or deterioration of concrete/masonry?					
B.	Displacement/rotation/settlement of wall(s)?					
C.	Displacement/offset at joints?					
D.	Missing mortar in joints?					
E.	Seepage or leaks through walls or joints? (If YES, comment on clarity of seepage water.)					
F.	Seepage/wet areas/unusual flow at base of walls? (If YES, comment on clarity of seepage water.)					
G.	Adverse conditions at concrete/masonry/earthfill interfaces, such as displacement or gaps, leakage, erosion, deterioration of concrete or masonry?					
H.	Damage or missing fencing or Lexan panels?					
I.	Unusual conditions?					
J.	Vandalism?					

Comments:



Rising Pond Dam
Quarterly Maintenance Inspection Checklist*

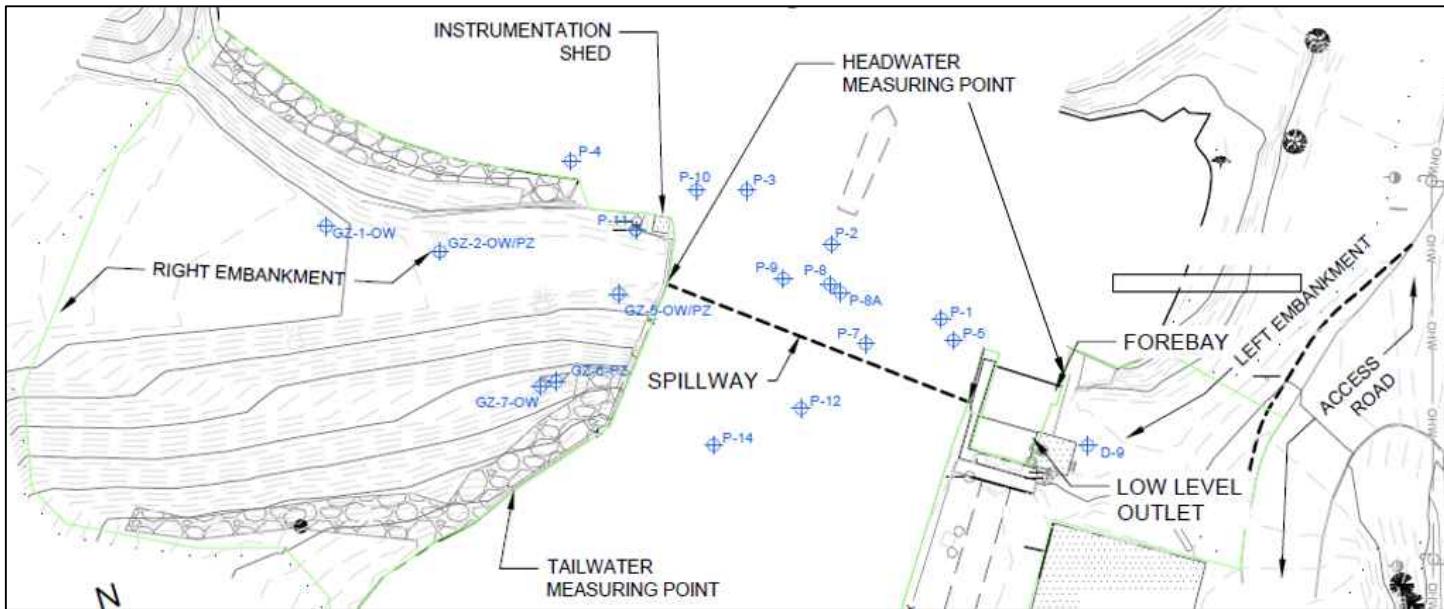


6.0 RIGHT (WEST) EMBANKMENT

Item	Condition Description	Observed during this inspection?		Observed during previous inspection?		Condition similar to or changed from previous inspection?
		YES	NO	YES	NO	
A.	Local subsidence, sinkholes, animal burrows, or depressions?					
B.	Missing or displaced riprap or material erosion on the upstream slope near normal water levels?					
C.	Missing or displaced riprap or material erosion at the downstream toe?					
D.	Surface cracking on the crest (top of embankment)?					
E.	Settlement/rutting or low spots in crest?					
F.	Seepage or wetness on downstream embankment slope or toe? (If YES, comment on clarity of seepage water.)					
G.	Trees, heavy brush, or other woody vegetation?					
H.	Change in vegetation on downstream portion of dam (including side slopes and beyond downstream toe) that may indicate presence of seepage?					
I.	Deteriorated grass cover?					
J.	Sloughs, slides, scarps or erosion gullies?					
K.	Damage to sheetpile on upstream side of the embankment (bowing, interlock separation, bending)?					
L.	Adverse conditions at material interfaces (i.e., earth fill/concrete, sheetpile/concrete, earth fill/sheetpile interfaces), such as displacement or gaps, seepage, erosion, deterioration of concrete?					
M.	Deterioration or loss of safety signage?					
N.	Unusual conditions?					
O.	Vandalism?					
P.	Damage to sheet pile on upstream side of the embankment (bowing, interlock separation, bending)?					

Comments:

7.0 OBSERVATION WELLS



There are five observation wells installed at Rising Pond Dam; three wells (GZ-2, GZ-5, and GZ-7) are located on the top and downstream slope of the Right Embankment; one well which contains two riser pipes (D-9 shallow and D-9 deep) located on the left abutment next to the pumphouse.

Observation Well Water Level Readings (depths from the top of metal standpipes/casings/road box)

Well	Elevation at Top of Casing (ft) (a)	Depth of Water (ft) (b)	Water Elevation (ft) (a) – (b)	Expected Water Elevation Range (ft)**	Within Range (Y/N)***
GZ-2	732.1			699.8 to 705.1	
GZ-5	727.2			697.2 to 706.0	
GZ-7	715.1			694.4 to 699.7	
D-9 (shallow)*	727.0			704.8 to 725.0	
D-9 (deep)*	727.0			701.7 to 725.0	

* Wells are encased in a road box, installed flush with the ground. The elevation at top of the road box to be confirmed during the 2025 topographic survey.

** Expected ranges based on measurements from 2011 to 2024.

*** Circle readings outside the expected water elevation range.



Rising Pond Dam
Quarterly Maintenance Inspection Checklist*



7.0 OBSERVATION WELLS (continued)

Observation Well Sediment Level Readings (depths from the top of metal standpipes/casings/road boxes)

Well	Bottom of Well Depth (ft) (a)*	Sounded Bottom of Well Depth (b)	Bottom Feel during Sounding (Hard, Firm or Soft)**	Approx. Silt Buildup (ft) (a) – (b)***
GZ-2	42.2			
GZ-5	38.4			
GZ-7	27.7			
D-9 (shallow)	22.5			
D-9 (deep)	41.3			

* Actual bottom of well depth based on boring logs.

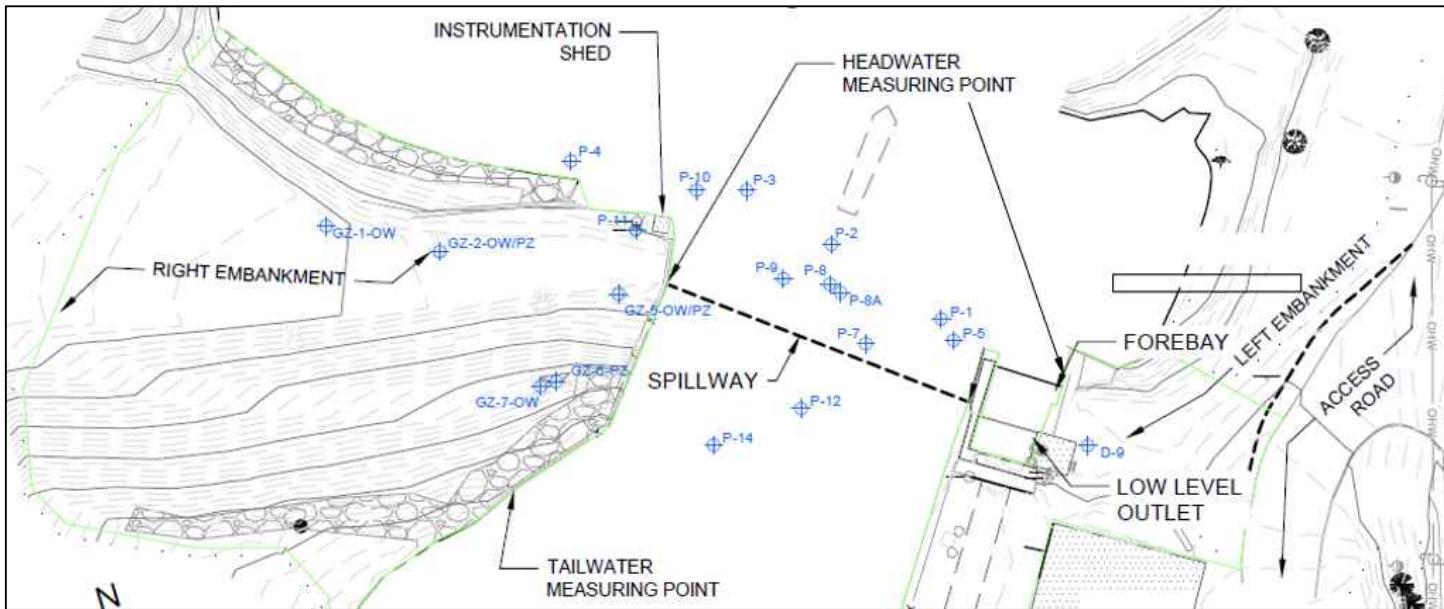
** Record bottom sounding method (e.g., weighted tape, measuring tape).

*** Circle readings equal to or greater than 1 foot.

Item	Condition Description	GZ-2 (Y/N)	GZ-5 (Y/N)	GZ-7 (Y/N)	D-9 (Shallow) (Y/N)	D-9 (Deep) (Y/N)
A.	Damage to casing?					
B.	Broken, frost-heaved, or missing security cover?					
C.	Damaged or missing lock?					
D.	Broken or chipped PVC riser?					
E.	Debris or other obstruction inside the casing?					
F.	Ice inside the casing?					
G.	Settlement around the well? (If YES, note amount of settlement in Comments)					
H.	Unusual conditions?					
I.	Vandalism?					

Comments:

8.0 VIBRATING WIRE PIEZOMETERS



Vibrating wire piezometers are located in the spillway and right embankment sections of the Dam. Vibrating wire piezometers are read from the instrumentation shed on the top of the right embankment, except for GZ-2, GZ-5, and GZ-6, which are read directly at the standpipe for each instrument.

Method for reading vibrating wire piezometers within instrumentation shed:

1. Plug the two leads into the connectors below the first dial inside the terminal box. Connect the GK-403 Readout Box to the lead using the provided connector with alligator clips. Connect green to green, red to red, etc.
2. Turn the GK-403 readout selector to Channel “B”.
3. Turn the dial in the terminal box to “1”. Record the reading from the GK-403 in the table below for Piezometer Number P-1B (Dial Selection “1”).
4. Cycle through all selections in the first dial, then repeat the process for the other two dials. Note that dial selections 23 and 24 have been moved to the bottom dial and have replaced dial selections 35 and 36.

Method for reading vibrating wire piezometers at protective casing standpipe (GZ-2, GZ-5, and GZ-6):

1. Connect the GK-403 Readout Box to the bare wire in the casing using the provided connector with alligator clips. Connect green to green, red to red, etc.
2. Turn the GK-403 readout selector to Channel “B”.
3. Record the number on the GK-403 in the table below.



Rising Pond Dam
Quarterly Maintenance Inspection Checklist*



8.0 VIBRATING WIRE PIEZOMETERS (continued)

Piezometer Number	Dial Selection	Reading (digits)*	Expected Reading Range (digits)**	Piezometer Action Level (min. digit)	Water Elevation (ft)***	Piezometer Action Level (water elevation)
Instrumentation Shed						
P-1B	1		8570.6 to 8606.3	-		-
P-2C	4		8115.0 to 8163.2	-		-
P-3C	6		7995.0 to 8045.1	-		-
P-4C	8		8567.4 to 8618.0	-		-
P-5A	9		8541.8 to 8581.2	-		-
P-5B	10		8494.1 to 8520.8	-		-
P-5C	11		8035.0 to 8079.3	-		-
P-7A	13		9794.4 to 9822.1	9442.3		715.0
P-7B	14		9345.3 to 9369.5	8858.7		715.0
P-8A	15		9795.4 to 9835.8	9293.1		715.0
P-8B	16		8786.1 to 8810.7	8341.4		715.0
P-8C	17		5731.1 to 5755.1	-		-
P-9A	18		9516.6 to 9542.1	9103.6		715.0
P-9B	19		8691.6 to 8719.3	8261.8		715.0
P-10B	20		9030.3 to 9062.5	-		-
P-10C	21		8669.6 to 8707.8	-		-
P-12B	23		9150.8 to 9170.0	8654.0		715.0
P-12C	24		8326.6 to 8375.0	7338.5		715.0
P-14C2	12		7478.1 to 7522.1	7105.0		715.0
P-14B	27		8020.5 to 8044.1	7334.1		715.0
Standpipe Piezometers						
GZ-2	-		8084.3 to 8143.1	-		-
GZ-5	-		7939.6 to 7994.3	-		-
GZ-6	-		8290.6 to 8337.2	-		-

* Circle readings outside the expected reading range (digits).

** Expected reading ranges (digits) based on measurements from 1993 to 2024.

*** Water elevation calculated based on vibrating wire piezometer equations provided on the instrumentation calibration sheets. Calculation performed in Excel in the office (not in the field).



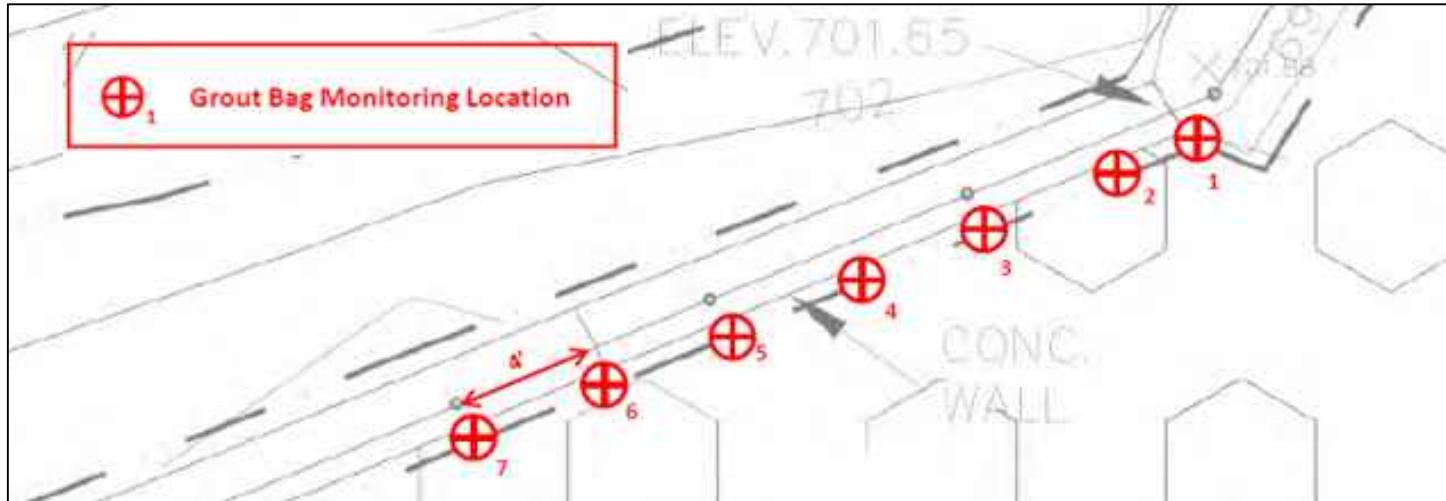
Rising Pond Dam Quarterly Maintenance Inspection Checklist*



8.0 VIBRATING WIRE PIEZOMETERS (continued)

Comments:

9.0 GROUT BAG MEASUREMENTS (TYPICALLY PERFORMED DURING THE Q3 INSPECTION ONLY)



As shown above, there are seven monitoring points located along the top of the right downstream spillway training wall. These monitoring points are measured annually (once per year) during a low- or no-flow period, typically the third quarterly inspection.

The depth is measured from the top of the training wall to the top of riprap or grout bag at these seven points using a moveable guide placed on top of the wall. Care should be taken on riprap measuring points to measure depth to top point of riprap stone being measured. During times of low- or no-spillway flows, if conditions allow access to the base of the training wall, depth measurements may be made directly from the grout bag or top of riprap to top of wall and the condition of the grout bags and riprap can be directly observed. The depth to channel bottom data is recorded as follows:

Monitoring Point	Riprap or Concrete	Depth to Bottom (ft)	*Expected Depth to Bottom (ft)
1	Concrete		9.7 to 9.9
2	Grout Bag		10.5 to 11.0
3	Grout Bag		10.8 to 11.2
4	Potential Riprap		10.5 to 11.7
5	Top of Riprap		8.7 to 9.3
6	Top of Riprap		8.4 to 9.0
7	Top of Riprap		8.2 to 9.8

*Expected depth to bottom is based on selected measurements from 2022 to 2024.



Rising Pond Dam
Quarterly Maintenance Inspection Checklist*



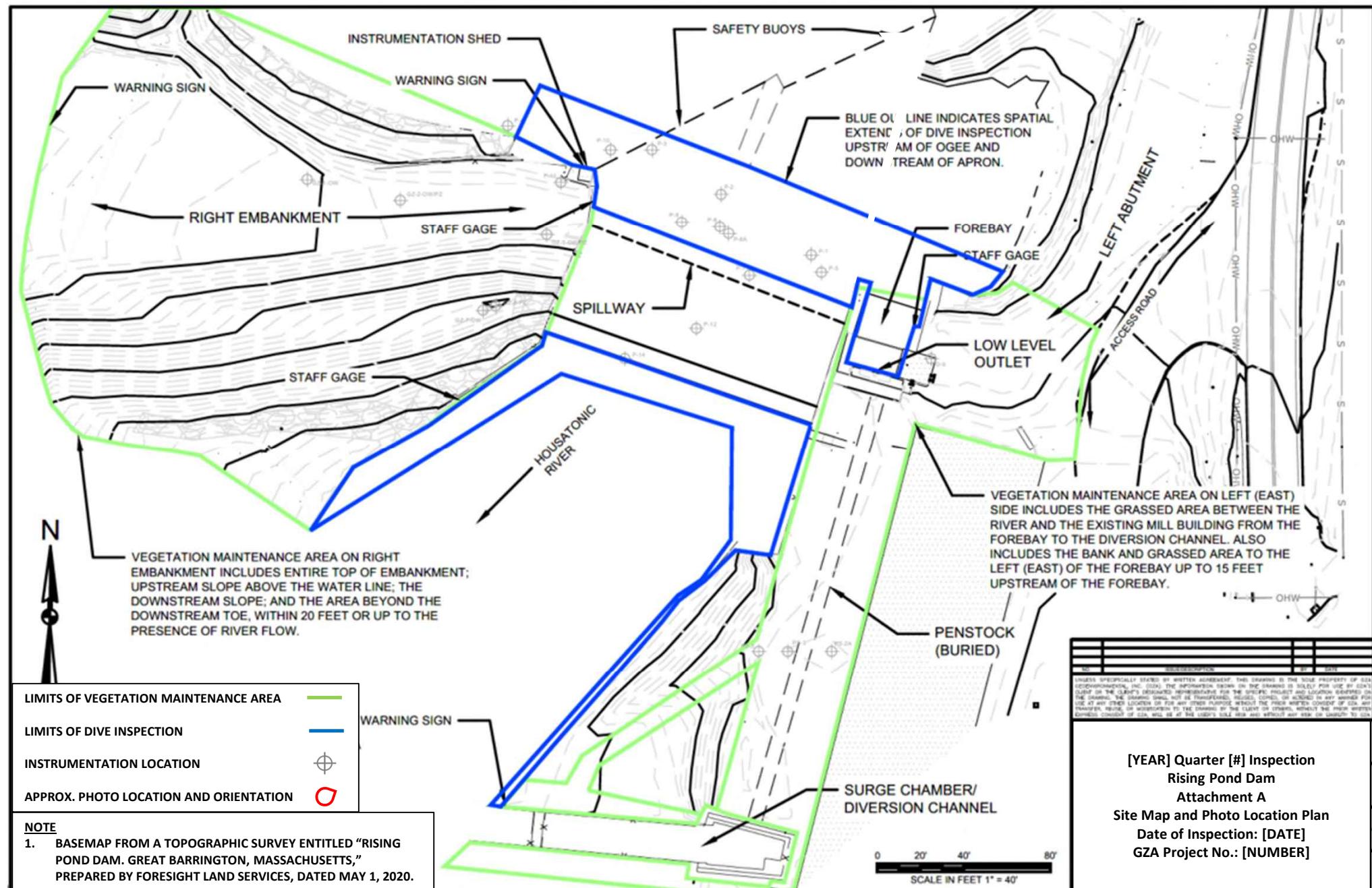
Comments:



Rising Pond Dam
Quarterly Maintenance Inspection Checklist*



ATTACHMENT A – SITE MAP AND PHOTO LOCATION PLAN





Rising Pond Dam
Quarterly Maintenance Inspection Checklist*



ATTACHMENT B – PHOTO LOG



[#] Quarterly Inspection Photographic Log

Client Name: General Electric Company		Site Location: Rising Pond Dam (MA00250), Great Barrington, MA	Project No.
Photo No. 1	Date:		
Direction Photo Taken:			
Description:			

Photo No. 2	Date: 9/3/2024	
Direction Photo Taken:		
Description:		



[#] Quarterly Inspection Photographic Log

Client Name: General Electric Company		Site Location: Rising Pond Dam (MA00250), Great Barrington, MA	Project No.
Photo No. 3	Date:		
Direction Photo Taken:			
Description:			

Photo No. 4	Date:	
Direction Photo Taken: Upstream		
Description:		



[#] Quarterly Inspection Photographic Log

Client Name: General Electric Company		Site Location: Rising Pond Dam (MA00250), Great Barrington, MA	Project No.
Photo No. 5	Date:		
Direction Photo Taken:			
Description:			

Photo No. 6	Date:	
Direction Photo Taken:		
Description:		



[#] Quarterly Inspection Photographic Log

Client Name: General Electric Company		Site Location: Rising Pond Dam (MA00250), Great Barrington, MA	Project No.
Photo No. 7	Date:		
Direction Photo Taken:			
Description:			

Photo No. 8	Date:	
Direction Photo Taken:		
Description:		



[#] Quarterly Inspection Photographic Log

Client Name: General Electric Company		Site Location: Rising Pond Dam (MA00250), Great Barrington, MA	Project No. 01.0019896.80
Photo No. 9	Date:		
Direction Photo Taken:			
Description:			

Photo No. 10	Date:	
Direction Photo Taken:		
Description:		



[#] Quarterly Inspection Photographic Log

Client Name: General Electric Company		Site Location: Rising Pond Dam (MA00250), Great Barrington, MA	Project No. 01.0019896.80
Photo No. 11	Date:		
Direction Photo Taken:			
Description:			

Photo No. 12	Date:	
Direction Photo Taken:		
Description:		



[#] Quarterly Inspection Photographic Log

Client Name: General Electric Company		Site Location: Rising Pond Dam (MA00250), Great Barrington, MA	Project No. 01.0019896.80
Photo No. 13	Date:		
Direction Photo Taken:			
Description:			

Photo No. 14	Date:	
Direction Photo Taken:		
Description:		



Rising Pond Dam
Quarterly Maintenance Inspection Checklist*



ATTACHMENT C – MONITORING TRACKING TABLE



Rising Pond Dam
Monitoring Tracking Table



Rising Pond Dam – Monitoring Tracking Table – (based on [DATE] Inspection)				
Condition Observed Requiring Monitoring	When was the condition first observed?	Observed during this inspection?	Proposed Response	Status
1.0 General				
2.0 Left (East) Abutment				
3.0 Low-Level Outlet, Penstock, and Surge Chamber/Diversion Channel				
4.0 Concrete Overflow Spillway				
5.0 Spillway Training Walls				
6.0 Right (West) Embankment				
7.0 Observation Wells				
8.0 Vibrating Wire Piezometers				
9.0 Grout Bag Measurements				



Rising Pond Dam
Quarterly Maintenance Inspection Checklist*



ATTACHMENT D – MAINTENANCE TRACKING TABLE



Rising Pond Dam
Maintenance Tracking Table



Rising Pond Dam – Maintenance Tracking Table – (based on [DATE] Inspection)				
Condition Observed Requiring Maintenance	When was the condition first observed?	Observed during this inspection?	Proposed Response	Status
1.0 General				
2.0 Left (East) Abutment				
3.0 Low-Level Outlet, Penstock, and Surge Chamber/Diversion Channel				
4.0 Concrete Overflow Spillway				
5.0 Spillway Training Walls				
6.0 Right (West) Embankment				
7.0 Observation Wells				
8.0 Vibrating Wire Piezometers				
9.0 Grout Bag Measurements				



APPENDIX E – BIENNIAL ENGINEERING PHASE 1 INSPECTION/EVALUATION CHECKLIST

DAM SAFETY INSPECTION CHECKLIST

NAME OF DAM: _____	STATE ID #: _____
REGISTERED: <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	NID ID #: _____
STATE SIZE CLASSIFICATION: _____	STATE HAZARD CLASSIFICATION: _____ CHANGE IN HAZARD CLASSIFICATION REQUESTED?: _____
<u>DAM LOCATION INFORMATION</u>	
CITY/TOWN: _____	COUNTY: #N/A
DAM LOCATION: _____ (street address if known)	ALTERNATE DAM NAME: _____
USGS QUAD.: _____	LAT.: _____ LONG.: _____
DRAINAGE BASIN: _____	RIVER: _____
IMPOUNDMENT NAME(S): _____	
<u>GENERAL DAM INFORMATION</u>	
TYPE OF DAM: _____	OVERALL LENGTH (FT): _____
PURPOSE OF DAM: _____	NORMAL POOL STORAGE (ACRE-FT): _____
YEAR BUILT: _____	MAXIMUM POOL STORAGE (ACRE-FT): _____
STRUCTURAL HEIGHT (FT): _____	EL. NORMAL POOL (FT): _____
HYDRAULIC HEIGHT (FT): _____	EL. MAXIMUM POOL (FT): _____
<u>FOR INTERNAL MADCR USE ONLY</u>	
FOLLOW-UP INSPECTION REQUIRED:	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
	CONDITIONAL LETTER: <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO

NAME OF DAM: <u>0</u>	STATE ID #: <u>0</u>	
INSPECTION DATE: <u>January 0, 1900</u>	NID ID #: <u>0</u>	
<u>INSPECTION SUMMARY</u>		
DATE OF INSPECTION: _____	DATE OF PREVIOUS INSPECTION: _____	
TEMPERATURE/WEATHER: _____	ARMY CORPS PHASE I: <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO If YES, date _____	
CONSULTANT: _____	PREVIOUS DCR PHASE I: <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO If YES, date _____	
BENCHMARK/DATUM: _____	_____	
OVERALL PHYSICAL CONDITION OF DAM: <u>#N/A</u>	DATE OF LAST REHABILITATION: _____	
SPILLWAY CAPACITY: <u>#N/A</u>	EL. TAILWATER DURING INSP.: _____	
<u>PERSONS PRESENT AT INSPECTION</u>		
<u>NAME</u>	<u>TITLE/POSITION</u>	<u>REPRESENTING</u>
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
<u>EVALUATION INFORMATION</u>		
Click on box to select E-code E1) TYPE OF DESIGN E2) LEVEL OF MAINTENANCE E3) EMERGENCY ACTION PLAN E4) EMBANKMENT SEEPAGE E5) EMBANKMENT CONDITION E6) CONCRETE CONDITION E7) LOW-LEVEL OUTLET CAPACITY		Click on box to select E-code E8) LOW-LEVEL OUTLET CONDITION E9) SPILLWAY DESIGN FLOOD CAPACITY E10) OVERALL PHYSICAL CONDITION E11) ESTIMATED REPAIR COST ROADWAY OVER CREST BRIDGE NEAR DAM
NAME OF INSPECTING ENGINEER:		SIGNATURE:

NAME OF DAM: 0	STATE ID #: 0
INSPECTION DATE: January 0, 1900	NID ID #: 0
<p>OWNER: ORGANIZATION _____</p> <p>NAME/TITLE _____</p> <p>STREET _____</p> <p>TOWN, STATE, ZIP _____</p> <p>PHONE _____</p> <p>EMERGENCY PH. # _____</p> <p>FAX _____</p> <p>EMAIL _____</p> <p>OWNER TYPE _____</p>	
<p>CARETAKER: ORGANIZATION _____</p> <p>NAME/TITLE _____</p> <p>STREET _____</p> <p>TOWN, STATE, ZIP _____</p> <p>PHONE _____</p> <p>EMERGENCY PH. # _____</p> <p>FAX _____</p> <p>EMAIL _____</p>	
PRIMARY SPILLWAY TYPE _____	
SPILLWAY LENGTH (FT) _____	SPILLWAY CAPACITY (CFS) _____
AUXILIARY SPILLWAY TYPE _____	
AUX. SPILLWAY CAPACITY (CFS) _____	
NUMBER OF OUTLETS _____	OUTLET(S) CAPACITY (CFS) _____
TYPE OF OUTLETS _____	TOTAL DISCHARGE CAPACITY (CFS) _____
DRAINAGE AREA (SQ MI) _____	SPILLWAY DESIGN FLOOD (PERIOD/CFS) _____
HAS DAM BEEN BREACHED OR OVERTOPPED <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO IF YES, PROVIDE DATE(S) _____	
FISH LADDER (LIST TYPE IF PRESENT) _____	
DOES CREST SUPPORT PUBLIC ROAD? <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO IF YES, ROAD NAME: _____	
PUBLIC BRIDGE WITHIN 50' OF DAM? <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO IF YES, ROAD/BRIDGE NAME: _____	
MHD BRIDGE NO. (IF APPLICABLE) _____	

NAME OF DAM: 0

STATE ID #: 0

INSPECTION DATE: January 0, 1900

NID ID #: 0

EMBANKMENT (CREST)

NAME OF DAM: 0

STATE ID #: 0

INSPECTION DATE: January 0, 1900

NID ID #: 0

EMBANKMENT (D/S SLOPE)

NAME OF DAM: 0		STATE ID #: 0		
INSPECTION DATE: January 0, 1900		NID ID #: 0		
EMBANKMENT (U/S SLOPE)				
AREA INSPECTED	CONDITION	OBSERVATIONS		
U/S SLOPE	1. SLIDE, SLOUGH, SCARP			
	2. SLOPE PROTECTION TYPE AND COND.			
	3. SINKHOLE/ANIMAL BURROWS			
	4. EMB.-ABUTMENT CONTACT			
	5. EROSION			
	6. UNUSUAL MOVEMENT			
	7. GRASS COVER CONDITION			
	8. WOODY VEGETATION (TREES/BRUSH)			
ADDITIONAL COMMENTS:				
<hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>				

NAME OF DAM: 0

STATE ID #: 0

INSPECTION DATE: January 0, 1900

NID ID #: 0

INSTRUMENTATION

AREA INSPECTED	CONDITION	OBSERVATIONS		
INSTR.		NO ACTION	MONITOR	REPAIR
1. PIEZOMETERS 2. OBSERVATION WELLS 3. STAFF GAGE AND RECORDER 4. WEIRS 5. INCLINOMETERS 6. SURVEY MONUMENTS 7. DRAINS 8. FREQUENCY OF READINGS 9. LOCATION OF READINGS				

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS:

NAME OF DAM: 0

STATE ID #: 0

INSPECTION DATE: January 0, 1900

NID ID #: 0

DOWNSTREAM AREA

AREA INSPECTED	CONDITION	OBSERVATIONS		
D/S AREA	1. ABUTMENT LEAKAGE	NO	ACTION	
	2. FOUNDATION SEEPAGE			
	3. SLIDE, SLOUGH, SCARP			
	4. WEIRS			
	5. DRAINAGE SYSTEM			
	6. INSTRUMENTATION			
	7. VEGETATION WITHIN 15 FT			
	8. ACCESSIBILITY			
	9. DOWNSTREAM HAZARD DESCRIPTION			

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS:

NAME OF DAM: 0	STATE ID #: 0			
INSPECTION DATE: January 0, 1900	NID ID #: 0			
MISCELLANEOUS				
AREA INSPECTED	CONDITION	OBSERVATIONS		
MISC.	1. RESERVOIR DEPTH (AVG)			
	2. RESERVOIR SHORELINE			
	3. RESERVOIR SLOPES			
	4. ACCESS ROADS			
	5. SECURITY DEVICES			
	6. WATER PUBLIC HAZARDS & PROTECTION			
	7. LAND-SIDE PUBLIC HAZARDS & PROTECTION			
	7. VANDALISM OR TRESPASS	<input type="checkbox"/> YES	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO	WHAT:
	8. AVAILABILITY OF PLANS	<input type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO	DATE:
	9. AVAILABILITY OF DESIGN CALCS	<input type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO	DATE:
	10. AVAILABILITY OF EAP/LAST UPDATE	<input type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO	DATE:
	11. AVAILABILITY OF O&M MANUAL	<input type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO	DATE:
	12. CARETAKER/OWNER AVAILABLE	<input type="checkbox"/> YES	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO	DATE:
13. CONFINED SPACE ENTRY REQUIRED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO	PURPOSE:	
ADDITIONAL COMMENTS:				
<hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>				

NAME OF DAM: 0

STATE ID #: 0

INSPECTION DATE: January 0, 1900

NID ID #: 0

PRIMARY SPILLWAY

NAME OF DAM: 0

STATE ID #: 0

INSPECTION DATE: January 0, 1900

NID ID #: 0

AUXILIARY SPILLWAY

NAME OF DAM: 0

STATE ID #: 0

INSPECTION DATE: January 0, 1900

NID ID #: 0

OUTLET WORKS

AREA INSPECTED	CONDITION	OBSERVATIONS	NO ACTION	MONITOR	REPAIR
OUTLET WORKS	TYPE				
	INTAKE STRUCTURE				
	TRASHRACK				
	PRIMARY CLOSURE				
	SECONDARY CLOSURE				
	CONDUIT				
	OUTLET STRUCTURE/HEADWALL				
	EROSION ALONG TOE OF DAM				
	SEEPAGE/LEAKAGE				
	DEBRIS/BLOCKAGE				
	UNUSUAL MOVEMENT				
	DOWNSTREAM AREA				
	MISCELLANEOUS				

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS: _____

NAME OF DAM: 0

STATE ID #: 0

INSPECTION DATE: January 0, 1900

NID ID #: 0

CONCRETE/MASONRY DAMS (CREST)

AREA INSPECTED	CONDITION	OBSERVATIONS		
CREST	TYPE			
	SURFACE CONDITIONS			
	CONDITIONS OF JOINTS			
	UNUSUAL MOVEMENT			
	HORIZONTAL ALIGNMENT			
	VERTICAL ALIGNMENT			

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS: _____

NAME OF DAM: 0

STATE ID #: 0

INSPECTION DATE: January 0, 1900

NID ID #: 0

CONCRETE/MASONRY DAMS (DOWNSTREAM FACE)

AREA INSPECTED	CONDITION	OBSERVATIONS		
D/S FACE	TYPE			
	SURFACE CONDITIONS			
	CONDITIONS OF JOINTS			
	UNUSUAL MOVEMENT			
	ABUTMENT CONTACT			
	LEAKAGE			
ADDITIONAL COMMENTS:				

NAME OF DAM: 0		STATE ID #: 0	
INSPECTION DATE: January 0, 1900		NID ID #: 0	
CONCRETE/MASONRY DAMS (UPSTREAM FACE)			
AREA INSPECTED	CONDITION	OBSERVATIONS	
U/S FACE	TYPE		
	SURFACE CONDITIONS		
	CONDITIONS OF JOINTS		
	UNUSUAL MOVEMENT		
	ABUTMENT CONTACTS		
ADDITIONAL COMMENTS:			



APPENDIX F – 2020 DIVE INSPECTION REPORT



Kevin Mooney
Senior Project Manager
Global Operations - Environment, Health & Safety

General Electric Company
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Pittsfield, MA 01201

T (413) 553-6610
kevin.mooney@ge.com

Via Electronic Mail

August 14, 2020

Mr. Joshua Fontaine
Project Manager
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region I
Five Post Office Square, Suite 100
Boston, MA 02109

**Re: GE-Pittsfield/Housatonic River Site
Rest of River (GECD850)
Revised Report on January 2020 Dive Inspection at Rising Pond Dam**

Dear Mr. Fontaine:

On March 24, 2020, GE submitted a report on the January 8, 2020 dive inspection conducted at Rising Pond Dam to evaluate the integrity of submerged portions of the spillway and forebay and adjacent structures that cannot be seen from above the water surface. On June 16, 2020, EPA issued a conditional approval letter for that report and directed GE to submit a revised report addressing EPA's comments. Attached is a revised report on that dive inspection, prepared by GE's dam consultants at GZA GeoEnvironmental, Inc.

Please let me know if you have any questions about the attached revised report.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Kevin Mooney".

Kevin Mooney
Senior Project Manager

Attachment

cc: Dean Tagliaferro, EPA*
Tim Conway, EPA*
Christopher Ferry, ASRC Primus*
Thomas Czelusniak, Weston Solutions*
Deb Jones, Bluestone Environmental*
Robert Leitch, USACE*
Michael Gorski, MassDEP*
Elizabeth Stinehart, MassDEP*
Ben Guidi, MassDEP*
John Ziegler, MassDEP*

Cathy Kiley, MassDEP*

Traci Iott, CT DEEP*

Susan Peterson, CT DEEP*

Andrew Silfer, GE*

Eric Merrifield, GE*

Jonathan Andrews and Laurie Gibeau, GZA

James Bieke, Sidley Austin*

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MEMORANDUM

To: Kevin Mooney (General Electric Company)

From: Laurie Gibeau, P.E. (GZA)
Jonathan Andrews, P.E. (GZA)

Date: August 14, 2020

File No.: 01.0019896.50

Re: Revised Underwater Dive Inspection Summary
Rising Pond Dam
Great Barrington, Massachusetts

GZA GeoEnvironmental (GZA) has prepared this revised memorandum to describe the dive inspection performed by Seaway Diving and Salvage Co. (Seaway), a subcontractor to GZA, at the Rising Pond Dam in Great Barrington, Massachusetts, on behalf of the General Electric Company (GE). This report has been revised from an initial report dated March 24, 2020, to address conditions specified by EPA in a conditional approval letter dated July 16, 2020.

The dive inspection was conducted on January 8, 2020. It was performed in accordance with Section 3.0 of GE's Operation, Monitoring, and Maintenance Plan (OM&M Plan) for Rising Pond Dam, prepared by GZA, dated August 14, 2019. The OM&M Plan states that a dive inspection will be conducted, at a minimum, every five years and when deemed warranted by a dam safety engineer. The objective of the dive inspection was to observe and document submerged portions of the spillway, forebay, and adjacent structures that cannot be seen from above the water surface. To accomplish the stated objective, Seaway performed an underwater tactile, physical inspection and a qualitative visual assessment through a manned dive survey. The results of this inspection will be used to assist in evaluating the integrity of inspected structures. These results will also be maintained in GE's files to provide a history of observed conditions.

BACKGROUND

Rising Pond Dam is a run-of-the-river structure located on the Housatonic River, consisting of left and right side earthen embankments, a 127-foot-long central ogee-shaped spillway, upstream and downstream concrete aprons, and outlet works to the left of the spillway. The spillway is a concrete-faced timber crib structure with a steel crest plate. The spillway training walls are a combination of concrete, mortared stone masonry, and steel sheet piles.

The low-level outlet is located directly to the left of the spillway. The low-level outlet works consist of a mortared stone masonry forebay with a steel trash rack, a concrete-walled gate chamber with sluice gate, and a 14-foot-diameter steel penstock that transitions to a tailrace discharging into the Housatonic River approximately 230 feet downstream of the dam. The elevation at the invert of the penstock is reported to be



699 feet NGVD (National Geodetic Vertical Datum of 1929). A fire-protection pumphouse that services the Rising Paper Mill is located to the left of and adjacent to the forebay on the left (east) embankment. The pumphouse is unrelated to dam operations. A wide embankment/fill area is present on the left side of the spillway and outlet structures. The upstream slopes are steep and have some riprap protection near the low-level outlet.

METHODOLOGY

The inspection of the underwater portions of the spillway system structures was conducted by Seaway on January 8, 2020 with a GZA representative on-site to review and observe. The three-person dive team included the diver, the site supervisor, and a dive tender. The dive inspection was performed using a live video feed, viewable by the GZA representative in real time. Video recordings with audio narration were also provided as part of the deliverable package for the inspections. Screenshots of video frames ("still images") are included in **Appendix B**. Areas inspected and screenshot locations are shown in **Figure 1**.

LB Corporation General Contractors (LB) operated the gate at Rising Pond Dam to enhance diver safety near the spillway and the low-level outlet. Prior to the dive, the impoundment was temporarily lowered by diverting the flow through the penstock. LB removed unwanted vegetation from the Rising Pond Dam, such as woody brush and tall grass on the right embankment, to allow the diving team access to the underwater inspection area.

INSPECTION TERMINOLOGY AND DEFINITIONS

In accordance with Section 3.0 of the OM&M Plan, the dive inspection was performed to document underwater conditions, including, but not limited to, potential cracks or voids, erosion and undermining, structural separations at material boundaries, and/or concrete of questionable or deteriorated quality. Based on the inspection, the conditions were assessed using the following terms:

- Sound – Intact, stable, free from deficiency (unless otherwise noted).
- Separated – Concrete present, but not in contact with adjoining material (e.g. sheet pile or stone masonry).
- Missing – Void in the area of a joint, base, or riprap.

The conditions of concrete surfaces were typically evaluated using the following terms:

- Spall – Generally circular or oval depression in the concrete surface.
- Crack – Horizontal, vertical or transverse gap in the concrete or masonry.

FIELD INVESTIGATIONS AND OBSERVATION SUMMARIES

As previously noted, Seaway conducted the dive inspection upstream and downstream of the Rising Pond Dam spillway on January 8, 2020. This inspection was intended to provide information regarding the overall condition and integrity of the upstream spillway and training walls, forebay, slide gate, sheet pile, and riprap underwater areas. Below is a general summary of the conditions observed at each component of the spillway system that was inspected. The Seaway team initially set up its land-side support equipment on the right embankment to access the downstream area, the upstream face of the spillway, and the right side sheetpile. Seaway then moved the equipment to the left embankment to access the forebay area. Visual assessments of the underwater areas were performed by a Seaway diver with an audio and video helmet camera communication. Seaway observed the video feed and communicated with the diver from the shore-based trailer, with observation by GZA. The



general path taken by the divers in the spillway approach and discharge areas is shown as a green line in Figure 1. The downstream left limit of the dive inspection was at the location where the short sheetpile wall transitions to the high sheetpile wall. The dive inspection concluded with inspection of the forebay walls, trash rack and slide gate (path around forebay not shown in Figure 1).

The 2025 dive inspection will include the left side to a distance 20 feet beyond the end of the diversion channel. Corrosion, where observed, will be quantified during the 2025 dive inspection and the bottom half of the trash rack will be inspected from the forebay side.

DOWNSTREAM TRAINING WALLS AND RIPRAP PROTECTION:

The two downstream training walls are a combination of concrete, mortared stone masonry, and steel sheet pile. Water depths were about four feet along the left training wall and an average of about two feet along the right training wall. Surficial conditions of the training walls generally appeared free of cracks or spalls in the concrete or stone masonry; some minor pitting and rust were found in a limited area near the intersection of the spillway and the left training wall. No loose material, undermining, or missing material was observed along either training wall. No separations were observed at the interface joints between the spillway sheet piles or at the concrete/stone masonry portions of each training wall.

During the November 2019 Phase I inspection at the Rising Pond Dam, the above-water deficiencies noted along the downstream training walls included a minor concrete spall around the waterline at the bottom of the right training wall, and some minor erosion at the downstream end of the left training wall. These deficiencies were not within the line of sight of the diver and were therefore not noted.

Material at the base of both spillway training walls was riprap that slowly transitioned to natural river rock, sand, and construction debris as the diver moved downstream. Smaller rocks were encountered closer to the transition point between riprap and natural river rock; wooden sticks, logs, and pieces of reinforcing bar were encountered mixed in with riprap or river rock at various locations along both walls. The training walls and riprap appeared to be in generally sound condition.

As part of the 2011 through 2013 rehabilitation work at Rising Pond Dam, voids under the downstream portion of the right training wall were filled with diver-placed grout bags. The diver observed grout bags in place along the right training wall. Filter fabric was observed integrated with riprap at the downstream toe of the dam approximately 20 to 40 feet downstream of the dam. The filter fabric is likely from the 1991 rehabilitation. Logs and smaller wooden pieces were observed lodged in the riprap throughout the inspection area. Construction debris such as rebar embedded in concrete pieces were observed intermittently near both training walls.

SPILLWAY DOWNSTREAM APRON AND TOE

The ogee-shaped spillway is concrete-faced with a steel crest plate, upstream concrete apron and steel sheet piles, and downstream concrete apron with concrete energy dissipaters and steel sheet piles. As described above, riprap is present downstream of the spillway apron and energy dissipators. Flow over the spillway was significantly lowered during the morning of January 8, 2020, in order to facilitate inspection. Water depths at the toe of the spillway during the dive ranged from about 2.5 to 4 feet. Riprap downstream of the apron is described above.

Conditions along the steel sheet piling along the toe of the downstream apron appeared sound, with no signs of undermining, missing material, or corrosion. Riprap was observed along the sheet piles. No separation between



the concrete apron, steel sheet piles, and downstream riprap was observed. Riprap coverage along the toe of the dam was continuous and appeared to be in sound condition. A section of debris was observed to have accumulated along the toe of the dam, roughly two feet from the left training wall.

SPILLWAY AND UPSTREAM APRON

Concrete conditions on the upstream spillway, right embankment sheetpiles, and apron appeared sound with no pitting, cracking, or spalling observed. The concrete apron was in contact with the upstream, left, and right sheet piles. No undercutting was noted along the concrete/sheetpiling/river bottom interfaces. The sheet piling was noted to extend above the concrete apron by about 6 inches in a few locations near the left side of the spillway; some sediment, logs, and other wood debris had collected in this area. The river bottom upstream of the apron base ranged from muddy to rocky and muddy with wood, leaves, and other organic matter. Greater water depth was observed near the forebay. No scour holes were observed in the river bottom. An abandoned piezometer casing was observed near the left end of the spillway.

Deficiencies were not observed on the left upstream training wall (dividing wall between spillway and forebay). The interfaces between the concrete/stone masonry wall, sheetpile, and concrete were observed to be in sound condition, with no signs of separation. Joints were observed to be free of erosion and scouring. Some loose rock debris was encountered on top of the sheet piling.

Spillway deficiencies noted during the November 2019 Phase I inspection at Rising Pond Dam included a log in the approach area between the warning buoys and the spillway. During the January 2020 dive inspection, the log was no longer present and no other large pieces of debris were noted in approach area or at the spillway crest. Minor debris floating in the approach area is generally captured by the trash rack and would not be expected to affect the sluice gate functionality.

FOREBAY WALLS, TRASH RACK, AND SLIDE GATE:

The low-level outlet works to the left of the spillway consist of a mortared stone masonry forebay with steel trash rack, a concrete-walled gate chamber with slide gate that controls flow to the a 14-foot-diameter steel penstock that discharges downstream. The slide gate was closed to the point of resistance at the actuator during the dive inspection. However, flow through the closed gate was still present, and the diver was not able to approach the gate closely. Debris had previously been reported under the slide gate, and it is possible that debris prevented full closure. GZA conducted a gate inspection from the top of the forebay on June 16, 2020. A report on that inspection, including a proposal for additional investigations to develop a plan for repair of the gate, is being submitted to EPA on August 14, 2020.

No deficiencies were observed in the forebay sheetpiles. The river bottom upstream of the sheetpile appeared to be soft sediment. No undermining, erosion, or scouring was observed; but some rust and pitting were observed near the steel trash rack. The interface between the sheet pile and concrete near the trash rack generally showed sound contact, but a two- to three-inch-thick layer of mud hindered continuous observations.

A steel plate was observed on the upstream side of the trash rack, generally covering the lower half of the trash rack. Mud and logs were encountered within the forebay and along the base of the steel trash rack. The plate was measured to be seven feet tall and spanned the width of the trash rack. The upstream plate hindered observation of the upstream lower portion of the trash rack. A horizontal steel I-beam spans the forebay along the upstream face of the trash rack. The I-beam was covered by a thin layer of mud. Two steel cables are connected using shackles to the steel plate, likely for removal of the plate as needed. The cables appear sound



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Underwater Inspection of Rising Pond Dam
Page | 5

with slight wear. Overall, the upstream face of the trash rack and its corresponding components appeared to be in sound condition. Components appeared to be in place with no breakage, significant wear or deterioration, or cracks. Mild rust was observed in a few locations. The bottom half of the trash rack will be inspected during the 2025 dive inspection.

The walls of the forebay downstream of the trash rack were generally observed to be sound, with minor pitting. The sealing surface between the wall and the slide gate was observed to be slightly scoured, but still intact with full contact in place. Deficiencies that had been noted within the forebay and associated systems during the November 2019 Phase I inspection included minor concrete and safety railing deterioration on the forebay platform and non-functioning vibrating wire piezometers. These deficiencies were not within the line of sight of the diver and were therefore not noted. A minor crack in the concrete of the western forebay wall downstream of the trash rack was also previously identified, but this crack did not extend below the waterline.

OVERALL EVALUATION

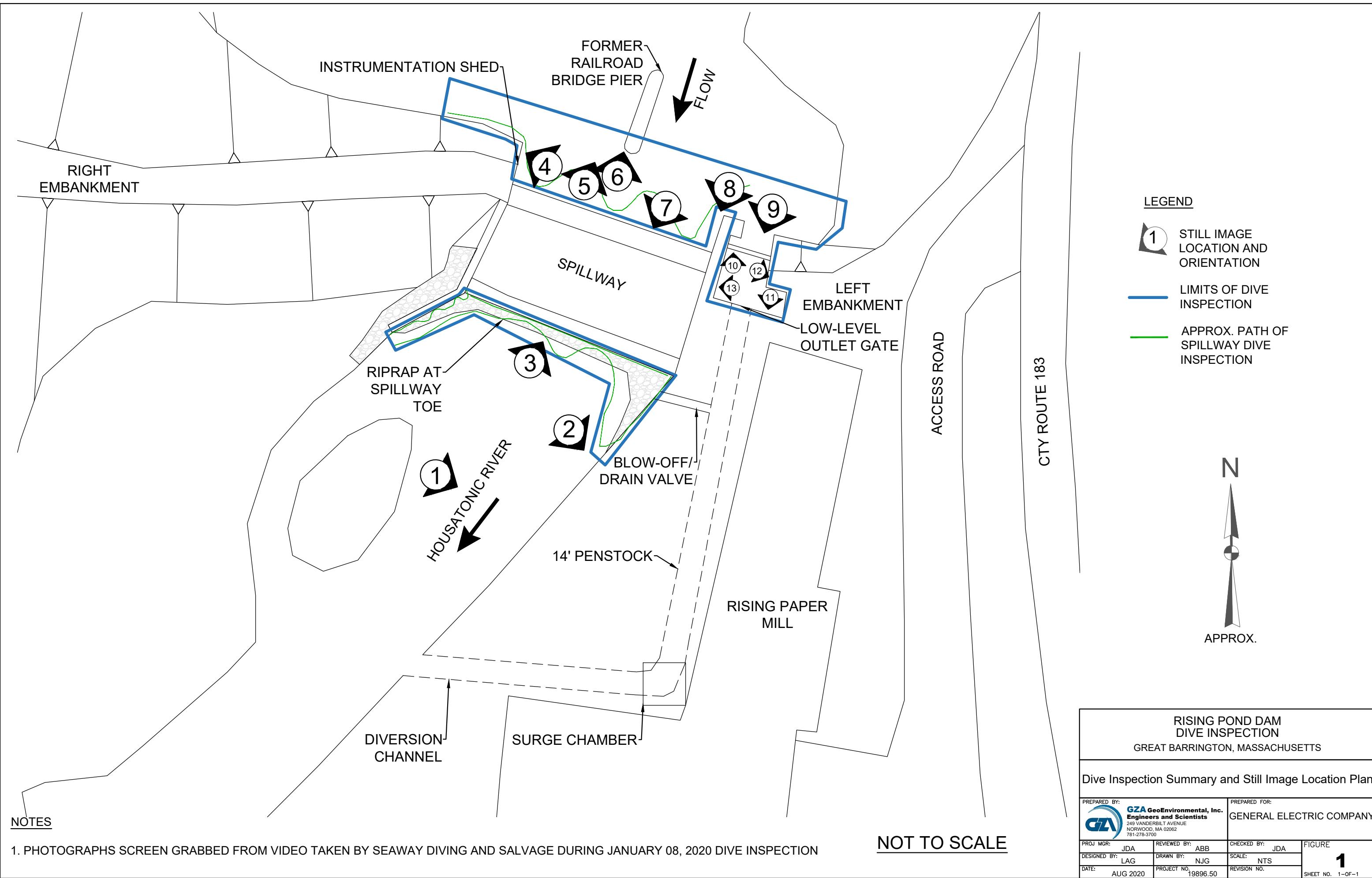
Based on the results of the January 8, 2020 underwater inspection, the underwater portions of the dam that were inspected all appeared to be in satisfactory condition. No underwater maintenance or repairs are recommended at this time. However, as noted above, a separate gate inspection was conducted to observe the condition of the gate from the forebay surface and propose next steps for evaluation, and a report on that inspection, including a proposal for further investigations to develop a repair plan, is being submitted to EPA on August 14, 2020. The next scheduled underwater inspection will be conducted in 2025 in accordance with the OM&M Plan.

Please feel free to contact us if you have any questions or comments regarding the content of this memorandum.

Attachments: Figure 1 - Dive Inspection Summary and Still Image Location Plan

Attachment A: Limitations

Attachment B: Still Imagery





USE OF REPORT

1. GZA GeoEnvironmental, Inc. (GZA) prepared this report on behalf of, and for the exclusive use of the General Electric Company (Client) for the stated purpose(s) and location(s) identified in the Report. Use of this report, in whole or in part, at other locations, or for other purposes, may lead to inappropriate conclusions; and we do not accept any responsibility for the consequences of such use(s). Further, reliance by any party not identified in the agreement, for any use, without our prior written permission, shall be at that party's sole risk, and without any liability to GZA.

STANDARD OF CARE

2. Our findings and conclusions are based on the work conducted as part of the Scope of Services set forth in the Report and/or proposal, and reflect our professional judgment. These findings and conclusions must be considered not as scientific or engineering certainties, but rather as our professional opinions concerning the limited data gathered during the course of our work. Conditions other than described in this report may be found at the subject location(s).
3. Our services were performed using the degree of skill and care ordinarily exercised by qualified professionals performing the same type of services at the same time, under similar conditions, at the same or a similar property. No warranty, expressed or implied, is made.

GENERAL

4. The observations described in this report were made under the conditions stated therein. The conclusions presented were based solely upon the services described therein, and not on scientific tasks or procedures beyond the scope of described services or the time and budgetary constraints imposed by the Client.
5. In preparing this report, GZA relied on certain information provided by the Client, state and local officials, and other parties referenced therein available to GZA at the time of the evaluation. GZA did not attempt to independently verify the accuracy or completeness of all information reviewed or received during the course of this evaluation.
6. Observations were made of the site and of structures on the site as indicated within the report. Where access to portions of the structure or site, or to structures on the site was unavailable or limited, GZA renders no opinion as to the condition of that portion of the site or structure. Excessive vegetation, when present, also inhibits observations.
7. In reviewing this Report, it should be realized that the reported condition of the dam is based on observations of field conditions during the course of this study along with data made available to GZA. It is important to note that the condition of a dam depends on numerous and constantly changing internal and external conditions, and is evolutionary in nature. It would be incorrect to assume that the present condition of the dam will continue to represent the condition of the dam at some point in the future. Only through continued inspection and care can there be any chance that unsafe conditions be detected.

COMPLIANCE WITH CODES AND REGULATIONS

8. We used reasonable care in identifying and interpreting applicable codes and regulations. These codes and regulations are subject to various, and possibly contradictory, interpretations. Compliance with codes and regulations by other parties is beyond our control.
9. This report does not include an assessment of the need for fences, gates, swimming/boating barriers, no-trespassing signs, repairs to existing fences and railings and other items which may be needed to minimize trespass and provide greater security for the facility and safety to the public. An evaluation of the project for compliance with OSHA rules and regulations is also excluded.

ADDITIONAL SERVICES

10. It is recommended that GZA be retained to provide services during any future: site observations, explorations, evaluations, design, implementation activities, construction and/or implementation of remedial measures recommended in this Report. This will allow us the opportunity to: i) observe conditions and compliance with our design concepts and opinions; ii) allow for changes in the event that conditions are other than anticipated; and iii) assess the consequences of changes in technologies and/or regulations.

Client Name: General Electric Company	Site Location: Rising Pond Dam Great Barrington, MA	Project No.: 01.0019896.50
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Photo 1	Date: 1/8/2020	
Direction Photo Taken: Left		
Description: Filter fabric under downstream riprap (placed as part of 1992 repairs).		

Photo 2	Date: 1/8/2020	
Direction Photo Taken: Left		
Description: At downstream left training wall base. Slight pitting observed. Bottom material is rip rap with debris/logs.		

Client Name: General Electric Company	Site Location: Rising Pond Dam Great Barrington, MA	Project No.: 01.0019896.50
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Photo 3	Date: 1/8/2020	
Direction Photo Taken: Upstream		
Description: Sheet pile downstream of spillway.		

Photo 4	Date: 1/8/2020	
Direction Photo Taken: Right		
Description: Corner of upstream sheet pile below instrumentation shed.		

Client Name: General Electric Company	Site Location: Rising Pond Dam Great Barrington, MA	Project No.: 01.0019896.50
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Photo 5	Date: 1/8/2020	
Direction Photo Taken: Upstream		

Photo 6	Date: 1/8/2020	
Direction Photo Taken: Down		

Client Name: General Electric Company	Site Location: Rising Pond Dam Great Barrington, MA	Project No.: 01.0019896.50
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Photo 7	Date: 1/8/2020	Direction Photo Taken: Downstream	
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Photo 8	Date: 1/8/2020	Direction Photo Taken: Downstream	
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Client Name: General Electric Company		Site Location: Rising Pond Dam Great Barrington, MA	Project No.: 01.0019896.50
Photo 9	Date: 1/8/2020		
Direction Photo Taken: Downstream			
Description: Upstream side of the trash rack.			
Photo 10	Date: 1/8/2020		
Direction Photo Taken: Upstream/Right			
Description: Downstream side of the trash rack.			

Client Name: General Electric Company		Site Location: Rising Pond Dam Great Barrington, MA	Project No.: 01.0019896.50
Photo 11	Date: 1/8/2020	Direction Photo Taken: Downstream	
Description: Left side of low level outlet gate.			
Photo 12	Date: 1/8/2020	Direction Photo Taken: Left	
Description: Former fire pump intake at left wall of forebay.			

Client Name: General Electric Company		Site Location: Rising Pond Dam Great Barrington, MA	Project No.: 01.0019896.50
Photo 13	Date: 1/8/2020		
Direction Photo Taken: Downstream/Right			
Description: Bottom of the low level gate, which was not fully closed possibly due to debris at bottom.			



GZA GeoEnvironmental, Inc.