

Lake Petit Dam - Compliance, Inspection, and Reporting Issues

Created - 15-Feb 08:23am By - david hopkins
15-Feb 08:23am - david hopkins created Ticket



david hopkins

I have attached a Letter I received through an Open Records Request to the State of Georgia EPD. I have some questions related to that.

(1) In the letter, the State requests that Big Canoe send them copies of all inspection reports for the previous year. My question is... has that been done?

(2) The State says that they are planning a Compliance Inspection for sometime January - March of this year. Has that already occurred? if not, has a date for that inspection occurred?

Uploaded Files



18-Feb 11:16am - Scott Auer replied



Scott Auer

Hello David. Yes, all the 2020 reports have been sent to Georgia Safe Dams. Normally per their procedure, we send the previous years reports to GSD in March of the following year. And every other year at the same time, per their requirements, we also provide the engineering report that Geosyntec creates. This year we sent the inspection reports early as they requested.

Unfortunately we do not know if the GSD inspection has been completed. They specifically requested that we do not meet them or in any way "tour them" through the facility. I'm sure we will hear from them after they complete their work.

My best,

Scott Auer,
General Manager

18-Feb 01:36pm - David Hopkins replied



David Hopkins

Scott,

I just received the following from Ga Safe Dams in response to a recent ORR, literally minutes before your reply to me. To put this in perspective, I am going to quote from both of your communications today:

Big Canoe POA: *"Hello David. Yes, all the 2020 reports have been sent to Georgia Safe Dams. Normally per their procedure, we send the previous years reports to GSD in March of the following year. And every other year at the same time, per their requirements, we also provide the engineering report that Geosyntec creates. This year we sent the inspection reports early as they requested."*

SAFE DAMS/EPD: *"The Safe Dams program is not in receipt of any inspection records from 2020 for Lake Petit Dam (other than the Geosyntec Report you've identified in your request). All dam owners in Georgia have until April 30, 2021 to submit inspections conducted in 2020 to EPD."*

Note: The reference to the "Geosyntec Report you've identified in your request" was a reference I made in my ORR to the the March/April 2020 report, so the State is saying clearly that they have not received any quarterly inspection reports since then, nor the most recent Geosyntec Report (Sept/Oct I think)

The above statements were literally received within 12 minutes of each other. It doesn't appear possible that both statements are correct. I'm running another story on this in the near future, and this data is also being compiled as part of a report to the Governor's Office. Either somebody is dropping the ball here resulting in massive confusion, or somebody is lying. I do not wish to believe that any parties are lying, but again, there doesn't appear to be an explanation so far for the conflicting statements.

I AM OFFERING YOU THE OPPORTUNITY TO EXPLAIN THE DISCREPANCY. CAN YOU PROVIDE THE DATE YOU SUPPLIED THE STATE WITH THE REQUESTED RECORDS, AND THE METHOD OF DELIVERY / CONTACT?

18-Feb 02:25pm - Scott Auer replied



Scott Auer

Hello David. I just spoke to the DNR. Our reports were too big for their server and got lost in the ether. They are being resent as we speak. All is well.

Scott Auer,
General Manager