



ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION DIVISION

Richard E. Dunn, Director

Watershed Protection Branch

2 Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive
Suite 1152, East Tower
Atlanta, Georgia 30334
404-463-1511

FILE COPY

May 24, 2017

Mr. Bill Bates
Big Canoe Property Owners Association
10586 Big Canoe
Big Canoe, GA 30143

Subject: Petit Lake Dam (a.k.a. Big Canoe)
Pickens County
Permit #112-009-00462

Dear Mr. Bates:

There are several items the Safe Dams Program would like to share with you as an owner/operator of a Category I dam. If there are others you believe would benefit from this information, please feel free to share it.

Once again, we will be offering the ever popular Dam Owners Workshop. The workshop is an introduction to dams, their components and proper operation and maintenance, and will be presented on June 21st and July 12th. The information provided on each of these dates will be the same. More information, including registration information, can be found by going to www.damsafety.org and then clicking on the Dam Owner tab located on the right side of the page.

The Rules for Dam Safety (Rules) were amended in 2016 to clarify the requirement for submission of an Emergency Action Plan (EAP). The Rules state dam owners of Category I dams shall develop and submit to the Division for approval an EAP using a Division approved format. Owners of Category I dams must submit the EAP by July 1, 2017. Many of you have already completed your EAP or are working on completing it. To assist owners with completing an EAP, the program has developed a template for the text of the EAP along with instructions. These items, along with a list of Frequently Asked Questions and responses can be found on the Environmental Protection Division website at <http://epd.georgia.gov/watershed-protection-branch> under the Safe Dams Program heading. The EAP template will aid you in developing a significant portion of your EAP.

The Rules were also modified regarding inspections of dams. The Rules require dam owners to inspect their dam on a quarterly basis. The Rules specify that dam owners shall submit the inspection reports to the Division using an approved form by April 30 for all inspections conducted between April 1 of the preceding calendar year and March 31 of the current calendar year. A Division approved form

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as well as directions for filling it out can be found on the Environmental Protection Division website listed above. Additionally, the Rules require that a Professional Engineer be retained to perform an inspection of the dam at least every two years between October 1 and April 30. The requirement regarding inspection by a Professional Engineer begins on October 1, 2017.

We hope you will consider attending one of the workshops. Please follow the registration procedures outlined above so that we can be sure to accurately track registrations. If you have any questions, please contact this office at 404-463-2461.

Sincerely,



Dallon Thomas Woosley, P.E.

Program Manager

Safe Dams Program

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