

From: themtnsvoice@aol.com,
To: kate.betsill@dnr.ga.gov,
Subject: Lake Petit Dam: Video of New Leaks
Date: Tue, Jan 31, 2023 1:41 pm

Ms Betsill,

I am sharing this with you since I believe you are the lead on this for GSD. I have been watching the development of this area at the downstream base of the Lake Petit Dam, since shortly after the time that the previous "leak" was patched (*Which was only done after I also pointed that one out - because the POA/GEOSYNTEC is apparently not honestly reporting on these from my experience*). In the past month this seems to be getting worse. Actually I have seen decline in just the past 2 weeks. I am not suggesting imminent failure, or massive leakage, but from my perspective this is evidence of a rapidly deteriorating little patch of ground. The whole area in question is probably 10 - 15 feet across, and consists of an area from the roadside gravel trench up about 8 feet? You have areas of leakage, leach flow, and some minor boils popping up. and the entire area stays spongy in all weather conditions.

You can see a brief 1 min 15 sec video here: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7KDd_L5-3PA

I've made some notes in the description that bear reading, and that are going to be generalized in upcoming articles. This community is spending MASSIVE amounts of money that may end up being wasted expenditures if the Dam is deemed not stable after the upcoming analysis. Given the 1997/8 analysis by JJG & Piedmont that showed the Dam well under minimum stability levels - and the BLATANT misuse of data by Geosyntec (*under reporting the Volume of the lake by what, 20%?*) in their 98 Whitepaper - I don't see how this thing passes a seismic and stability review.

April 28 is a long way away. The Dam has no drawdown mechanism. The Dam has EXISTING studies that put it well below minimum requirements. **I continue to be amazed that GSD refuses to at a minimum demand that the lake levels be lowered until stability studies have completed, and even as a safety component of this sketchy LLO repair plan** (*which I do hope works, but will be in shock if they actually meet their deadline*) and which does **NOT** address stability.

Please consider giving a recommendation that lake levels be lowered. Your previous boss even provided some guidelines on the matter (see link: https://lakepetitdam.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/04/BC-LPD_2020-10-06_EPD-WoosleyEmailAboutLoweringLake-hilite.pdf)

Ms Betsill, I guess my concern is this.... I feel that not taking action is gambling, and is being forcibly pushed by the POA as they throw their weight and considerable influence around. I fail to see the harm in temporarily lowering the lake out of due diligence and erring on the side of caution. Not wanting to upset a small number of spoiled ass rotten richie riches is not a good reason to jeopardize greater regional safety.

My two cents. I honestly feel you are the only non-politician in this process, so you are who I am putting this in the hands of.

Peace,
- david hopkins / publisher
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10887 Big Canoe
Big Canoe, GA 30143
706-265-0010
themtnsvoice@aol.com