

Re: Lake Petit Dam - Pickens County - Low-level drain test

From: Dunn, Richard <richard.dunn@dnr.ga.gov>

Mon, Apr 24, 2023 at 8:32 AM EDT (GMT-04:00)

To: Griffin, David <David.Griffin@dnr.ga.gov>

Cc: Welte, Jennifer <Jennifer.Welte@dnr.ga.gov>; Barton, Clete <Clete.Barton@dnr.ga.gov>; Truszczynski, Anna <anna.truszczynski@dnr.ga.gov>; Lips, Sara <sara.lips@dnr.ga.gov>

Thanks David.

From: Griffin, David <David.Griffin@dnr.ga.gov>

Sent: Monday, April 24, 2023 8:30:43 AM

To: Dunn, Richard <richard.dunn@dnr.ga.gov>

Cc: Welte, Jennifer <Jennifer.Welte@dnr.ga.gov>; Barton, Clete <Clete.Barton@dnr.ga.gov>; Truszczynski, Anna <anna.truszczynski@dnr.ga.gov>; Lips, Sara <sara.lips@dnr.ga.gov>

Subject: Lake Petit Dam - Pickens County - Low-level drain test

Director Dunn –

I wanted to give you some additional information regarding the Lake Petit Dam low-level drain valve test, which you have received recent e-mails about. It is correct that it has been many years since the low-level drain valve at this dam was tested. We have been working with the dam owner for some time to either prove that the low-level drain valve worked or to design a replacement drain which would perform a similar function. After doing some preliminary design work on an alternate drain, the owner made the decision to test the low-level drain valve before pursuing the design work further.

The Lake Petit Dam is 126 feet tall and impounds 4,235 acre-feet of water at normal pool. The owner is concerned about the valve becoming stuck in an “open” position, which could lead to the lake draining, including a potential fish kill. This could be caused by something as simple as debris getting stuck in the valve seat. The owner has chosen to have a plug manufactured to prevent the release of the lake if the valve does not close. Additionally, having the plug in place will allow divers, if necessary, to be able to examine the valve while it is “open.” Due to the size of the dam and the volume of water impounded, the plug had to be specially manufactured, which has led to a delay in the valve testing. The plug has been delivered and has been installed. A secondary restraint for the plug to help with the pressure when the valve is opened was included and was to be installed over the weekend. Assuming that this installation over the weekend was completed, the test of the low-level drain valve at Lake Petit Dam should occur on this Wednesday. We anticipate having staff on site to observe the test.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

David

David M. Griffin, P.E.

Program Manager

Safe Dams Program

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