



NEWS RELEASE

U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS

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Corps to conduct East Branch Dam Safety Project, Public & Stakeholder Meetings to discuss contract award

WHO: The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Pittsburgh District

WHAT: The Corps of Engineers is conducting a stakeholders meeting and a public meeting to discuss the progress and activities of its East Branch Dam Safety Project. The goal of the stakeholders' meeting is to update local partners and agencies about the progress that has been made on the Dam Safety Project since the April meeting. The stakeholders will in turn provide an update about their organization's efforts throughout the region.

The goal of the public meeting is to provide an update about the Dam Safety Project, the new contractor, upcoming work and to give the community the opportunity to ask questions and provide feedback.

**WHEN/
WHERE** **Stakeholders Meeting, Wednesday, Oct. 15 at 10:30 a.m. at the East Branch Dam Maintenance Building, 631 East Branch Dam Road, Wilcox, PA 15870**

Public Meeting, Wednesday, Oct. 15 at 7 p.m. at the Johnsonburg High School Auditorium, 315 High School Road, Johnsonburg, PA 15845

WHY: Public safety is the number one priority of the Corps' Dam Safety Program. In 2008, the Pittsburgh District initiated a dam safety investigation into seepage-related concerns at East Branch Clarion River Lake near Johnsonburg in Western Pennsylvania. To reduce the risk to the public, Pittsburgh District implemented several interim risk reduction measures including increased monitoring, 24 hours-seven-days-a-week staffing, updated emergency action plans, and reduced water levels in the reservoir to relieve pressure on the dam. These and other short-term actions allow us to operate the dam and to meet our public safety objective until long term repairs are complete. A Dam Safety Modification Study was completed and approved in October 2010, and recommends a cutoff wall be constructed within the dam. Approval for construction was received in August 2011. Three construction contracts for site development in advance of cutoff wall construction have been completed. Proposals to construct the cutoff wall have been received and are being evaluated.

For more information, visit: www.lrp.usace.army.mil/Missions/Recreation/Lakes/EastBranchClarionRiverLake.aspx

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