



**DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY**  
U.S. ARMY ENGINEER DIVISION, GREAT LAKES AND OHIO RIVER  
CORPS OF ENGINEERS  
550 MAIN STREET  
CINCINNATI, OH 45202

CELRD-RBT

19 October 2009

MEMORANDUM FOR Commander, Pittsburgh CELRP, Room 2032, William S. Moorhead Fed. Bldg, 1000 Liberty Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15222-4186

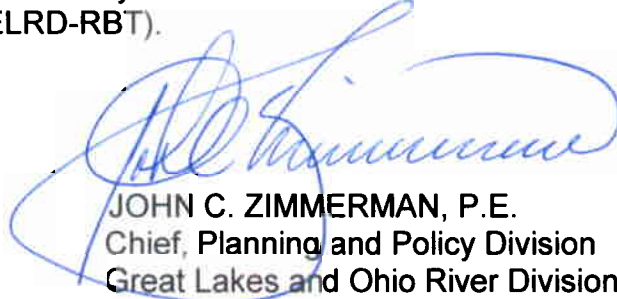
SUBJECT: Major Subordinate Command (MSC) Approval of the Review Plan for East Branch Dam, PA, Dam Safety Modification (DSM) Report

1. The Review Plan for the subject report (attachment 1) has been presented to the Great Lakes and Ohio River Division for approval in accordance with memorandum from Major General Don T. Riley, Director of Civil Works, and subject titled "Review Process" dated 30 March 2007.
2. East Branch Dam was authorized for construction by the Flood Control Act of December 22, 1944. The authorized project purposes of East Branch Dam include reduction of flood stages on the Clarion River, water conservation, water quality, low-flow augmentation, recreation and fish and wildlife management. Construction of the rolled earth embankment dam began in June 1947 when the initial construction contract was awarded. The dam was completed and put into full operation by June 1952. A primary reason for the DSAC II classification was concern over the structural integrity of the 1957 repair near the right abutment. The objective of the DSM Study is to reduce risk at East Branch below tolerable risk guidelines or as low as reasonably practicable and to provide adequate information to determine what permanent dam modifications are necessary for the Corps to operate East Branch Lake for the foreseeable future. Structural and non-structural risk reduction measures will be identified and used to formulate and evaluate alternatives for varying degrees of permanent risk reduction; and to ultimately recommend a cost effective, technically feasible alternative that minimizes adverse environmental, economic and social effects, which will allow the project to operate for the foreseeable future as originally authorized within tolerable risk guidelines.
3. The purpose of a review plan is to assign the appropriate level and review independence, establish the procedures, and assign responsibilities for conducting the Independent Technical Review (ITR) and External Peer Review (EPR). This review plan is compliant with the requirements of the Corps Review Process, which is documented in EC 1105-2-410, "Review of Decision Documents," dated 22 August 2008, and has been recommended by the National Flood Risk Management Planning Center of Expertise (FRM-PCX). Recommendations and approval from the FRM-PCX are provided as attachment 2.

4. Policy compliance and quality management verification for the subject Review Plan have been completed. Division staff has confirmed the Review Plan has been formulated in accordance with current policy and concurs with the recommendations by the FRM-PCX that an Independent External Peer Review of the project is necessary. Additionally, should uncertified Planning model(s) be required for the study, the FRM-PCX recommends model certification be coordinated with the FRM-PCX. The RP should be updated when the PMP is finalized and the revised RP should also be coordinated with the FRM-PCX.

5. The District is requested to post the Review Plan to its web site and provide a link to the FRM-PCX for their use. Prior to posting, the names of individuals in the RP should be removed.

6. The Review Plan for the subject report is approved by the Great Lakes and Ohio River Division, Chief of Planning and Policy Division. Point of Contact for this effort is Robert Taylor (513) 684-6084 (CELRD-RBT).



JOHN C. ZIMMERMAN, P.E.  
Chief, Planning and Policy Division  
Great Lakes and Ohio River Division

2 Encls

1. Review Plan – East Branch Dam
2. Memo dated 15 Oct 09, Encl Review Plan Checklist