



C. Earl Hunter, Commissioner

Promoting and protecting the health of the public and the environment

November 17, 2011

Mr. Junior Riffle
135 Heather Drive
Summerville, SC 29483

Re: Reinspection of Dam D-0037, Lake Satako
Berkeley County

Dear Mr. Riffle:

A routine inspection of the above referenced dam in Berkeley County was completed earlier today.

As you are aware, we have been inspecting this dam routinely for many years due to provisions in the SC Dams and Reservoirs Safety Act. This dam meets the requirements for being a regulated dam and it has historically been considered a significant hazard class dam. This was primarily due to the old road on the crest of the dam, Harvest Road. Since you have acquired ownership of the dam, and since the road has not been accessible to vehicular traffic for many years now, and since there are no downstream homes that would be affected by a catastrophic failure of the dam, we feel it appropriate to reclassify the dam as a low hazard dam. This does not alleviate you of any responsibility you have for the dam nor does it imply in anyway that you are exempt from the Dams and Reservoirs Safety Act. However, we may not be conducting routine inspections as frequently as we have been. Inspections will occur if a reason arises and may take place at any time the Department feels it necessary. The Department must still approve any work or alterations prior to commencing construction.

It was noted while there that the trash rack is still missing from the primary spillway and that debris has fallen into the concrete riser and is in danger of blocking the outfall. The emergency spillway near the edge of the dam behind your cabin is in good shape but it is strongly recommended that corrective actions be taken before the primary spillway gets any worse and possibly failing. We will likely be monitoring this situation until it is corrected and could possibly require corrective action should the Department feel it necessary.

Provisions in the S.C. Dams and Reservoirs Safety Act require the owner to notify us within thirty (30) days after transferring title or control of his dam to someone else. The notification must include the name and address of the new owner. Enclosed is a blank form for your use in notifying us when control of your dam is transferred. The emergency notification plan should be updated when transfer of the dam is complete. A copy should be maintained by the owner and a copy forwarded to this office.

If you have any questions, or if I can assist in any other way, do not hesitate to call me at 953-0181.

Sincerely,


Gregory S. Sams
SC DHEC Region 7 – Charleston EQC

cc: Bureau of Water – Agricultural and Dams Permitting Section

SOUTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENTAL CONTROL

Region 7

Serving Berkeley, Charleston and Dorchester Counties

Charleston EQC Office • 1362 McMillan Ave. • Suite 300 • Charleston, SC 29405 • Phone: (843) 953-0150 • www.scdhec.gov