

Spillway Update # 35 10/13/2022

On Friday afternoon, October 7th, Lapham Engineering hosted a Zoom Call attended by representatives from EGLE Dam Safety Unit (EGLE DSU), Ayers Consulting, USDA, and FLPOA.

The primary focus of the meeting was to ask Lapham Engineering to explain if they had considered the impact of the 6' rise on health and safety in low water conditions. EGLE indicated they did not typically see energy dissipation chutes with a design rise associated with Type III stilling basins. The concern was debris could potentially build up in the low elevation area and larger items such as logs could potentially damage the concrete or debris build-up could compromise the effectiveness of the design. The verbal explanations provided by Lapham Engineering did not immediately resolve the issue, and a commitment was made to forward additional supporting information to EGLE.

At the end of the meeting, FLPOA asked two questions: (1.) Would EGLE DSU be receptive to a peer review by a reputable engineering firm and (2.) Would EGLE DSU be receptive to a revised permit to allow FLPOA to begin demolition of the existing spillway and site balancing. The answer to both questions was yes. Our next step is to submit a new permit application for the limited scope of work, and Lapham tells us they can have a draft submission for our review by Friday, October 14th.

On Thursday, October 13th, Dan LeFevre of FLPOA contacted Spicer Engineering and reviewed the current status of our permit application. Spicer has agreed to review our drawings and make a recommendation within a few days that may include assisting Lapham Engineering in some capacity, a peer review of engineering design, or possibly providing owner's rep services. Spicer Engineering was recommended by USDA and we received positive feedback from EGLE and Fisher Contracting. We will provide another update once we receive feedback from Spicer Engineering.