



October 16, 2008

Manchaug Pond Association

Re: Manchaug Pond Dam, id no. MA00995  
Dam Safety Regulations 302 CMR 10.08 (7)

Dear Sir or Madam:

The Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) Office of Dam Safety (ODS) is in receipt of letters from 130 individuals residing near the above-referenced dam and pond that request an interpretation of 302 CMR 10.08 (7) as this section of the Dam Safety Regulations may apply to Manchaug Pond Dam located in Sutton.

302 CMR 10.08 (7) reads: *“When the spillway capacity of the existing dam does not meet stated criteria a relative impact analysis may be required to be performed by the owner. This analysis will address such factors as: downstream impact area; capacity and/or condition of outlet work(s); overtopping potential; operation plans; consideration of incremental impacts of possible failure; and emergency action plans. Upon review and approval by the Commissioner a reduction in the standard design flood may be allowed to such dam.”*


The letters request help from ODS “in determining if such a reduction in the standard design flood may be allowed to Manchaug Pond.”

ODS has been in communication with the dam’s owner, Interface Inc. and is aware of Interface’s dam operation plan. Interface informed ODS that the basis of the decision to implement the dam’s operation plan was to mitigate the hydraulic deficiency of the current spillway configuration, to better protect public safety and to limit the liability of the dam owner. ODS has no objection to this plan and has no current plan to require additional analysis to be performed by the dam owner.

In the event the dam owner proposes a different plan that would request a reduction in the standard design flood, ODS would review the submittal and issue a determination.

The form letter also mentions the dam Hazard Potential Classification. In the event the dam owner requests hazard class reconsideration and provides supporting engineering analysis, ODS will review the application and issue a decision.

Sincerely,

  
William C. Salomaa, Director  
Office of Dam Safety

CC: Town of Sutton Board of Selectmen  
Town of Sutton Conservation Commission Chairman  
Town of Douglas Board of Selectmen  
Town of Douglas Conservation Commission  
Interface Inc.  
Martin Suuberg, DEP Regional Director  
Jack Murray, DCR Deputy Commissioner for Operations  
Suzanne Wilson, DCR Director of External Affairs  
Noel Baratta, P.E., D.E.E., DCR Chief Engineer  
Michael Misslin, DCR Deputy Chief Engineer  
Ariana Johnson, DCR Assistant General Counsel

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