Potential changes to hazard categorisation and inflow design floods for reservoirs in the United Kingdom

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SYNOPSIS. UK reservoir legislation is in a time of change. With the introduction of the Flood and Water Management Act 2010, the way in which reservoirs are regulated is due to be altered in the near future. This change in legislation provides an opportunity to undertake a review of reservoir categorisation and the corresponding required safety standards such as inflow design floods. It would therefore seem prudent to look at what other countries use for categorisation of large dams and their selection of inflow design floods. This will not only provide a basis for comparison but will also aid further discussion on potential alternatives to categorising our reservoirs.