



The British Dam Society at the Institution of Civil Engineers

EVENING MEETING

MONDAY 19 MAY 2008 at 6pm
One Great George Street, London,

(Nearest tube: Westminster)

Post-incident reporting – one year on

by Alan Warren (Halcrow) and Liana Hamilton-King
(Environment Agency)

For a brief synopsis see overleaf

Admission Free

Teas Available from 5.30 pm

For more information please contact
Tim Fuller (BDS Secretary) on 020 7665 2234 or Email:
bds@ice.org.uk

Post-incident reporting - one year on

The new post-incident reporting system for UK reservoirs began on 1 January 2007. The system is administered by the Environment Agency on behalf of the reservoir industry and is overseen by an independent inspecting engineer. It draws on previous work carried out by the Building Research Establishment and the initial Defra Specification prepared by KBR Consultants. The system provides a consistent way of capturing, analysing and sharing information about incidents, which is a valuable tool for the industry and can be used to inform research and development priorities. The system is currently operated on a voluntary basis: there is currently no legislation in place to require a reservoir owner to share details of an incident when dam safety is threatened or even when dams fail. The flood events of summer 2007 and the Ulley dam incident in particular, highlighted the value of operating a robust system for capturing and sharing information.

The presentation will aim to:

- summarise the incidents reported in the first year of operation;
- explain how and why the nature of incident reporting has changed through the adoption of the new system;
- describe the methods by which the reservoir industry is being informed of lessons learnt;
- discuss the need for, and the methods of, capturing a better dataset of dam characteristics to inform analysis of incidents;
- discuss how the system of post-incident reporting for UK dams is likely to develop in the coming years and with respect to legislative changes.

The first annual report has been published and is available on the EA website.

To demonstrate the value of the existing database, we invite you to send any questions on past incidents to the system administrator and we will try to answer any such questions at the meeting. Please send your enquiries to Liana Hamilton-King at: liana.hamilton@environment-agency.gov.uk

Open Session on Incidents

At the end of the presentation there will be an opportunity to share your experience in dealing with an incident at a UK reservoir. We invite your brief contributions from the auditorium and suggest a time limit of 2 minutes per speaker. Explain how the incident came to light, how it arose, what was done and how successful the remedial works were. If you wish to show one or two photographs of the incident then these should be sent to Alan Warren at warrenal@halcrow.com ahead of the presentation.