ENGINEER CIRCULAR 1165-2-218

LEVEE SAFETY PROGRAM

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AGENDA

• Introductions
• Guidance Overview
• Round-robin Feedback
• Comment Period Reminder
USACE INTRODUCTIONS

- North Atlantic Division
- Baltimore District
- New England District
- New York District
- Norfolk District
- Philadelphia District
GUIDANCE OVERVIEW: LEVEE SAFETY PROGRAM CIRCULAR

- Provides a framework for USACE and levee sponsors to work together
- Describes roles and responsibilities for USACE and levee sponsors
- Directs USACE to plan ahead and include levee sponsors and FEMA
- Clarifies how and when risk assessments and levee inspections will be completed
- Highlights the importance of sharing levee information
- Describes how Levee Safety Program information is used
USACE AND LEVEE SPONSORS

• Levee sponsors are our partners in levee management
• USACE is committed to open communication and coordination
• Continued conversation about what is or is not working, and adapting is key
ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Levee sponsors:
- Ensure the levee is properly maintained and routinely inspected
- Perform response and recovery efforts
- Share levee condition information with community leaders and emergency managers
- Participate in Levee Safety Program activities

USACE:
- Facilitates levee risk assessments
- Works together with sponsors to inspect levees
- Provides technical assistance with engineering solutions to sponsors, as requested
- Supports levee sponsors with sharing levee condition and performance information with community leaders and emergency managers
PLANNING AHEAD

• USACE will plan ahead and include levee sponsors and FEMA
• Planning ahead helps USACE and levee sponsors prioritize levee management activities
• USACE Districts will develop program management plans and 10-year outlooks for Levee Safety Program activities that detail:
  • Regular interactions with levee sponsors
  • Frequency and sequence of program activities
  • Who should be involved, and their roles and responsibilities
LEVEE SAFETY PROGRAM RISK ASSESSMENTS

• Risk Assessments consider:
  • Hazard – how often, deep, and widespread flooding is
  • Performance – how the levee was designed and how it has performed during past events
  • Consequence – who and what could be harmed in the area behind the levee
• Provide information that:
  • Help levee sponsors prioritize levee management activities based on the most critical performance issues for their levee
  • When shared, helps others in the area behind the levee understand levee-related benefits and potential performance during flooding
• Updated every 10 years
LEVEE SAFETY PROGRAM INSPECTIONS

- Document the physical condition of a levee at a given point in time
- Completed every 5 years, but can be done more frequently
- Supported by site visits, which can be used to observe or verify any changed conditions between inspections
- Done using the existing inspection checklist with specific items related to the levee condition and performance
- Result in individual item ratings, but no overall system and segment ratings

CHECKLIST

- Levee Embankments (15 items)
- Floodwalls (9 items)
- Interior Drainage (15 items)
- Pump Stations (21 items)
- Channels (11 items)
Levee Embankments
1. Encroachments
2. Closure structures
3. Slope stability
4. Erosion/bank caving
5. Animal control
6. Culverts/discharge pipes
7. Underseepage relief wells/ toe drainage systems

Floodwalls
1. Encroachments
2. Closure structures
3. Tilting, sliding, settlement of concrete structures
4. Foundation of concrete structures
5. Underseepage relief wells/ toe drainage systems

Interior Drainage
1. Culverts/discharge pipes
2. Sluice/slide gates
3. Flap gates/ flap valves/ pinch valves

Pump Stations
1. Intake and discharge pipelines
2. Sluice/slide gates
3. Flap gates/ flap valves/ pinch valves
SHARING LEVEE INFORMATION

• Levee sponsors are the lead for sharing levee condition and performance information with community leaders and emergency managers
• Sharing levee information helps raise awareness about:
  • Why the levee is there and the benefits it provides
  • Potential performance issues associated with the levee
  • Actions taken by the community leaders and emergency managers before, during, and after a flood event
  • Actions being taken to preserve levee related benefits
• Levee information is helpful to others who have authority and responsibility in the area behind the levee
• USACE can assist levee sponsors with sharing levee information with others
FEEDBACK/COMMENTS

• Questions entered into the Chat window
• Take turns and provide feedback/comments
  • Please let us know that you’d like to speak by saying, “I’d like to speak.”
  • We will respond with, “Go ahead, speaker.”
  • Then, please tell us your name and your entity/organization, then your question or comment.

Where is this PowerPoint presentation posted?

Go to https://www.nad.usace.army.mil/, and look for a related link.
REMINDERS

• Comment period closes July 27, 2020
• Submit comments using the Federal Register: https://www.regulations.gov/docket?D=COE-2020-0003
• Guidance is an Engineer Circular, which will be active for a two-year period
• Intent is to learn together during this two-year period
RESOURCES

• Levee Safety Program Website:
  https://www.usace.army.mil/Missions/Civil-Works/Levee-Safety-Program/

• Levee Safety Engineer Circular:
  https://usace.contentdm.oclc.org/utils/getfile/collection/p16021coll9/id/1568

• Levee Safety Engineer Circular Fact Sheet:
  https://usace.contentdm.oclc.org/utils/getfile/collection/p16021coll9/id/1576

• The Sponsor’s Guide to the USACE Levee Safety Program: