

New York State Department of Environmental Conservation
Bureau of Flood Protection and Dam Safety
625 Broadway, Albany, New York 12233-3504

Visual Observations

DAM NAME ROME DAM
STATE ID 219-1082 Section A Hazard Code C
COUNTY ESSEX Inspection Date: 9/14/2015
NEAREST DS CITY/TOWN AUSABLE FORKS Inspector(s): DC/CS/TW/KB
OWNER'S NAME TOWN OF JAY
DOWNSTREAM HAZARD HIGH TOWNSHIP JAY

WATER LEVEL BEHIND DAM Spilling

DRAIN OPERATION Penstocks not operable

DEFICIENCIES

- | | | |
|---|--|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1) Seepage | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 4) Maintenance | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 7) Cracking |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 2) Slope Stability | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 5) Surficial Deterioration | <input type="checkbox"/> 8) Movement/Misalignment |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 3) Undesirable Growth | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 6) Voids | <input type="checkbox"/> 9) Data |

Accompanied by Robert Lincoln, Town of Jay, Highway Superintendent

- Penstocks inoperable, leaking - right side has heavier leakage
- Penstock intake structures deteriorated - mechanical and woody debris in intake
- Right spillway abutment wall has cracks and missing stone
- General deterioration

PHOTOGRAPH #'S _____



Photo 1 Dam ID# 219-1082 Rome Dam 9/15/15
Looking west across spillway



Photo 2 Dam ID# 219-1082 Rome Dam 9/14/15
Spillway crest



Photo 3 **Dam ID# 219-1082** **Rome Dam** **9/14/15**
Left spillway sidewall



Photo 4 **Dam ID# 219-1082** **Rome Dam** **9/14/15**
Right penstock intake



Photo 5 **Dam ID# 219-1082** **Rome Dam** **9/14/15**
Looking southeast at right abutment, penstock



Photo 6 **Dam ID# 219-1082** **Rome Dam** **9/14/15**
Right spillway wall - note leakage through right gate, missing stone and cracks in sidewall



Photo 7 Dam ID# 219-1082 Rome Dam 9/14/15
Left penstock



Photo 8 Dam ID# 219-1082 Rome Dam 9/14/15
Cracks, missing stone along sidewall



Photo 9 **Dam ID# 219-1082** **Rome Dam** **9/14/15**
Looking east across spillway



Photo 10 **Dam ID# 219-1082** **Rome Dam** **9/14/15**
Left penstock intake

New York State Department of Environmental Conservation

Division of Water

Bureau of Flood Protection and Dam Safety, 4th Floor

625 Broadway, Albany, New York 12233-3504

Phone: (518) 402-8185 • FAX: (518) 402-9029

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**Joe Martens
Commissioner**

November 22, 2013

Certified Mail

Town of Jay
Randall Douglas, Supervisor
11 School Lane
Au Sable Forks, New York 12912

**Re: Rome Dam, DEC ID#: 219-1082, Class C (High Hazard)
Town of Jay, Essex County**

Dear Supervisor Douglas:

I conducted a routine inspection of the Rome Dam on October 22, 2013 as part of the Department of Environmental Conservation's (Department) ongoing Dam Safety program. A copy of the visual observations generated from the inspection is enclosed.

The left/right nomenclature used in this letter and in the enclosed Visual Observation Report is based on looking downstream from the middle of the dam.

We inspected the left side of the dam by traversing an overpass near West Church Street and walking along the north bank up to the dam. Viewed from the left bank, it appears that at least one large stone is missing from the right abutment and smaller stones may also be missing. In addition, mortar is missing from many joints. Given the nearness of this void to the spillway flow, water is likely entering the openings causing continuing deterioration. This area must be monitored during your routine inspections for any movement or other change in condition.

The left abutment intake chamber is filled with significant debris. In addition the downstream training wall is collapsed, erosion is occurring along the downstream bank and trees and other vegetation are growing across most of the abutment.

I received the updated version of your Emergency Action Plan (EAP) which included the Flood Insurance Rate Maps that identify the potential impact area from a 100-year flood. This is a good step, but keep in mind this may not accurately identify impacts from a dam break, which are likely larger. An inundation map specific to the dam should be developed. You should review the EAP annually, update it as needed, and distribute any updates to those identified in the Notification Plan. You should have already distributed and reviewed the document with responders such that all are aware of their roles in the event the EAP is activated. Please confirm in writing that you have performed this promulgation and concurrence step.

Currently your Inspection & Maintenance (I&M) Plan identifies that you are to inspect the dam twice a year and after significant events. Because of the advanced deterioration of the structure, the frequency of your routine inspections should be modified such that you are

thoroughly inspecting the dam, from both sides, quarterly or better. You must also develop a plan to lower the impoundment until repairs or dam removal can be completed.

Please provide a written response by December 31, 2013 identifying your plan for the dam, including a plan for lowering the impoundment. Given the deterioration at the dam, you must move forward now with plans for repair or removal. In addition, please provide an update on the status of your EAP, in regards to distribution and review, by responders.

Please keep in mind that any repair or construction related to the dam may require permits from the Department. Well in advance of beginning work at the dam, please check with the Regional Permit Administrator in the Raybrook office (518-897-1234) to see if any permits are needed.

If you have any questions, please contact me at 518-402-8138, or by e-mail at decanest@gw.dec.state.ny.us.

Sincerely,



Donald E. Canestrari, P.E.
Environmental Engineer 2
Dam Safety Section

cc w/ encl: Chris Garrow, Highway Superintendent/Dept. of Public Works Director
Alon Dornitz, NYSDEC, Dam Safety Section, Chief
Dominic Fontana, NYSDEC, Region 5, Water
Bill Lupo, NYSDEC, Regional Water Engineer
Donald Jaquish, Director, Essex County Office of Emergency Management

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Inspected from the left side of the dam, walked over W. Church St. overpass to access north side;

Rgt. Abutment Appears stones missing from north (spillway side) abutment face, approx. 6-ft. down from spillway crest;

Missing mortar between stone masonry joints

Trees along downstream face

Left Abutment Downstream face of abutment and downstream bank has eroded;

Trees across abutment

Significant debris upstream of gate:

PHOTOGRAPH #'S _____



Photo 1 **Dam ID# 219-1082** **Rome Dam** **10/22/13**
Downstream view from lower north bank



Photo 2 Dam ID# 219-1082 Rome Dam 10/22/13
Right (south) abutment/ penstock - leakage through penstock



Photo 3 Dam ID# 219-1082 Rome Dam 10/22/13
Stone(s) missing in abutment, missing mortar along joints



Photo 4 Dam ID# 219-1082 Rome Dam 10/22/13
Left (north) abutment downstream face - downstream concrete training wall collapsed



Photo 5 Dam ID# 219-1082 Rome Dam 10/22/13
Left gate, intake structure



Photo 6 **Dam ID# 219-1082** **Rome Dam** **10/22/13**
Gate operator



Photo 7 **Dam ID# 219-1082** **Rome Dam** **10/22/13**
Looking across left intake from bank



Photo 8 **Dam ID# 219-1082** **Rome Dam** **10/22/13**
Right abutment - note missing stone, mortar, leakage



Photo 9 **Dam ID# 219-1082** **Rome Dam** **10/22/13**
Outlet channel