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

**Visual Observations**

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**DEFICIENCIES**

1) Seepage  
2) Slope Stability  
3) Undesirable Growth  
4) Maintenance  
5) Surficial Deterioration  
6) Voids  
7) Cracking  
8) Movement/Misalignment  
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 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
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 decanesti@gw.dec.state.ny.us.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Donald E. Canestrari

Environmental Engineer 2

Dam Safety Section

cc w/ encl: Chris Garrow, Highway Superintendent/Dept. of Public Works Director
            Alon Dominitz, 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
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
COUNTY    ESSEX
NEAREST DS CITY/TOWN  AUSABLE FORKS
OWNER'S NAME  TOWN OF JAY
DOWNSTREAM HAZARD   HIGH
TOWNSHIP  JAY

WATER LEVEL BEHIND DAM  Spilling
DRAIN OPERATION  Penstocks not operable

DEFICIENCIES

- [X] 1) Seepage
- [X] 2) Slope Stability
- [X] 3) Undesirable Growth
- [X] 4) Maintenance
- [X] 5) Surface Deterioration
- [ ] 6) Voids
- [ ] 7) Cracking
- [ ] 8) Movement/Misalignment
- [ ] 9) Date

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. 3-4' 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 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 8  Dam ID# 219-1082  Roma Dam  10/22/13
Right abutment - note missing stone, mortar, leakage

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