



United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF RECLAMATION
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INREPLYREFERTO:

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VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL ONLY

Memorandum

To: Chief, Dam Safety Office
Attn: 86-67100 (MRocha)

From: Katherine Strozinski
Program Manager, Dam Safety Office

Subject: Kachess Dam Certification Review - Safety of Dams (SOD) Modification Project,
Kachess Dam, Yakima Project, Washington

This memorandum documents the Kachess Dam Certification Review process, the disposition of significant certification review issues and comments, and the disposition of critical supporting documentation.

Certification Process:

The Kachess Dam Certification Team (Team) members and certification roles are summarized below:

- Katherine Strozinski, Program Manager, Dam Safety Office; Certification Team Leader
- Richard Eastland, Supervisory Engineer, Lower Colorado Region; Certifier
- Ryan Woodruff, Geotechnical Engineer, Technical Services Center; Certifier
- Jennifer Huggins, Structural Engineer, Technical Services Center; Certifier
- Bill Dressel, Engineer, Technical Services Center; Certifier
- Tom Hanke, Civil Engineer, Estimating, Technical Services Center; Certifier
- Matthew Elmer, Economist, Economics, Planning, and Technical Communications, Technical Services Center; Certifier
- Fernando Castro-Alvarez Program Analyst, Office of Policy and Administration; Certifier

The Kachess Dam SOD Project briefing was conducted on February 16, 2022, to the certification team members. The briefing summarized project activities and recommendations leading up to the completion of the Corrective Action Study and development of the Request for Approval.

The Team reviewed the draft of the Request for Approval memorandum for Kachess Dam SOD Modification in March 2022. Suggested revisions were incorporated into the memorandum and provided to the Dam Safety and Infrastructure management for review and comment in July 2022. The final version of the Request for Approval memorandum transmitted to the Washington Office forms the basis of the need for modification to ensure the continued safe operation of the dam.

Disposition of Significant Comments from the Certification Review

Table 1 summarizes the more critical comments and the current disposition of those issues. A listing of significant comments from some Team members and the current disposition of each issue is included in Appendix A. Other Team members only provided comments via track changes in word. These comments are available on request.

Table 1 – Summary of Certification Team’s Significant Comments and Current Disposition

Comment Number	Summary of Comment or Issue	Disposition of Comment or Issue
1	The full details of the repayment contract proposal are currently being analyzed in the context of the Basis of Negotiation. The Commissioner's office may add stipulations applicable to those contracts in the context of her approval to the Basis of Negotiation.	Comment is noted. The project team will continue to monitor the progress of the completion of the repayment contracts.
2	Economic benefit report shows power benefits are estimated to increase by \$1.9 million under Dam Breach while the table shows \$0. Should this benefit (negative lost benefit) be reflected in the table?	The table includes lost benefits. Negative lost benefits (positive benefit) are not typically included.
3	Confirm the OM&R values with cost estimator. Did not see OM&R costs in the economics report.	Data was confirmed by cost estimator certification team member and was included in Comparison of Economic Costs table.
4	Add a statement to include indexing of the project costs per Policy BGT-05	Made edits accordingly.
5	Verify reference documentation is available to support the costs shown in the Comparison of Economic Costs table and correct the minor errors.	Costs were verified and supporting documentation provided. Table and sections were updated accordingly.

Status of Supporting Documentation

Table 2 provides a summary of the status of all critical supporting documentation and information contained in the Kachess Dam Request for Approval Memo. All supporting documents will be finalized prior to the transmittal of the Request for Approval Memo to the Commissioner's Office for signature.

Table 2 – Summary of Status of Critical Supporting Documentation

Document or Activity Number	Description	Status of Documentation or Activity
1	Environmental Assessment	FONSI signed September 22, 2022
2	State and Tribal Historic Preservation Office Clearances	Completed
3	Basis of Negotiation	Completed
4	Project Economics, Damages, Payment Capacity, and Ability to Pay Study	The Feasibility Level Economics Benefit Analysis was transmitted March, 2022
5	Final Corrective Action Study Report and Decision Document	Transmitted on February 8, 2021

The content and conclusions in this memorandum were reviewed and discussed by Miguel Rocha, Katherine Strozinski, Peggy Mott, and Dawn Munger in the spring and summer of 2022.

Transmittal of this memorandum completes the Kachess Dam Certification review and comment disposition process. If you have any questions regarding this Memorandum, please contact Katherine Strozinski, Certification Team Leader, at (303) 445-3266.

cc: 94-0000 ([AShepet](#))
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