# HYDRAULIC MODEL STUDIES OF AN ENERGY DISSIPATOR FOR A FIXED CONE VALVE AT THE UTE DAM OUTLET WORKS 

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The final plans evolved from these studies were developed through the cooperation of the New Mexico Interstate Stream Commission and the Spillways and Outlet Works Section, Dams Branch, Division of Design, Office of Chief Engineer during the period January through July 1969.

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#### Abstract

PURPOSE The studies were made to develop an acceptable energy


 dissipator for the outlet works.
## CONCLUSIONS

1. In the initial arrangement of the energy dissipator the downstream tailwater partially submerged the control valve at the design discharge.
2. Diverging walls, ceiling, and floor and corner fillets prevented submergence of the valve.
3. Very little of the flow deflected upstream. Most of the jet followed the flaring surfaces to the $45^{\circ}$ inward projecting surfaces of the deflector.
4. Baffles installed in the basin intercepted and spread the jet in the pool and dissipated the eneryy before the flow entered the canal.
5. A sloping sill at the downstream end of the basin provided a smoother transition for the flow from the basin into the outlet channel.
6. A 6 -inch ( 15.24 centimeters) high sill in the channel 7.5 feet ( 2.29 meters) downstream from the basin increased flow depth in the basin and upstream end of the outlet channel, providing more efficient energy dissipation and a smoother water surface downstream.

## APPLICATIONS

The energy dissipator discussed in this report was developed for an existing outlet where the elevations of the conduit and outiet channel were fixed. Although some of the principles used in containing the flow and dissipating the jet energy will be useful in future designs, a more efficient structure probably would be used at new instaliations where submergence of the valve is not a problem.

## INTRODUCTION

Ute Dam in northeastern New Mexico, Figure 1, is part of the New Mexico Interstate Stream Commission's Canadian River Project. It is an existing structure having an overflow spillway crest and an outlet works, Figure 2. Plans are to modify the existing outlet works by installing a control structure where the 36 -inch( $91.44-\mathrm{cm}$-) diameter conduit discharges into the outlet
channel, Figure 4. The valve, a surplus 48 -inch ( $121.92-\mathrm{cm}$ ) horizontal cylinder fixed-cone) valve from the El Vado Project, is 12 inches ( 30.48 cm ) oversize and, therefore, requires a short transition from the 36 -inch ( $91.44 \cdot \mathrm{~cm}$ ) conduit to the valve. A stop to prevent a valve opening of more than about 60 percent was also required to insure retention of hydraulic control at the valve.

The outlet works is designed to discharge 275 cfs ( 7.79 cu $m$ per second) with the reservoir water surface at spillway crest elevation 3760 feet ( 1155.19 m ), 67 feet ( 20.42 m ) above the valve centerline. Some time in the future, gates may be added to the spillway, at which time the operating head for the design flow would be increased to 97 feet ( 29.57 rn).

Formal action for the design of the control structure by the Bureau of Reclamation was initiated by the State of New Mexico through the Bureau's Region 5 Office at Amarilto, Texas. These hydraulic model studies followed to aid in development of an aceptable energy dissipator for the discharge from the ofntrol valve.

## THE MODEL

The riodel, built to a scale of $1: 8$, included the valve, the energy dissipating enclosure, and a 64-foot $(15.90-\mathrm{m})$ length of the outlet channel downstream from the dissipator.

The 36 -inch- ( $91.44-\mathrm{cm}$-) diameter conduit and transition to the 48 -inch ( $121.92-\mathrm{cm}$ ) valve were not modeled. Instead, a 6 -inch. ( $15.24-\mathrm{cm}$-) diameter supply line, which actually represented a 48 -inch $(121.92-\mathrm{cm})$ conduit, was used. A piezometer tap at the conduit centerline elevation one pipe diameter upstream from the valve measured the pressure head. Thus, the correct quantity of water at the proper operating head to the valve was represented in the model. The curved alinement of the $64-$ foot $(15.90-\mathrm{m})$ length of the outlet channel was not represented in the model since it was not considered critical in the development of the energy dissipator and the model construction could be greatly simplified by using a straight channel. It was desirable to contain most of the flow within the concrete lining of the channel banks; therefore, the channel banks above the lining were not modeled except for a $3 / 4$-inch ( $19.05-\mathrm{mm}$ ) extension to the lining which represented 9 inches ( 22.86 cm ) of unlined rock cut.

A 6 -inch ( $15.24-\mathrm{cm}$ ) horizontal cylinder (fixed-cone) valve available in the Hydraulics Branch was used to represent the prototype. This valve was similar to but not an exact model of the 48 -inch ( $121.92-\mathrm{cm}$ ) El Vado valve. The major difference was in the seating arrangement for closure which was unimportant as far as hydraulic flow conditions in the energy dissipator were concerned. Another difference was that the 6 -inch ( $15.24-\mathrm{cm}$ ) model valve had four vanes to support the cone, whereas the 48 -inch ( $121.92-\mathrm{cm}$ ) valve has three.

## INVESTIGATION

The preliminary design of the energy dissipator, Figure 5, was tested for a range of discharges up to and beyond the design flow of 275 cfs at reservoir heads of 37,67 , and 97 feet ( $11.27,20.42$, and 29.57 meters) above the centerline of the valve. Calculations by the designers were used to determine the pressure head at the valve and gate openings required for a range of discharges. The calculations indicated that a valve opening of approximately 60 percent would be required to discharge the design flow of $275 \mathrm{cfs} \$ 7.79$ cu m per second) at present design operating head of 67 feet ( 20.42 m ), Figure 6. Therefore, an adjustable stop will be placed on the valve to limit the valve opening to about 60 percent to prevent the valve from discharging more than the design capacity.

Design flow conditions in the preliminary basin=and the downstream channel, Figures 7, and 8, were very unsatisfactory at both present and future design operating heads of 67 and 97 feet $\mathbf{2 0 . 4 2}$ and 29.56 $\mathrm{m})$. The portion of the control structure around the valves should be relatively dry, and the flow leaving: the dissipator to enter the outlet channel should be relatively smooth and steady. Neither was true in the operation of the preliminary design. At 67 feet (20.4气 m ) of head, much water splashed upstream over the valve, the valve was 50 percent submerged, and the waves in the channel downstream rose very high on the extended higher lining near the dissipator and overtopped the existing concrete lining fürther downstream. At the anticipated future operating head of 97 feet ( 29.56 m ) much water sprayed from the roof over the valve. The valve suitmergence was reduced to approximately 25 percerit, but the magnitude of the waves in the basin and outlet channel increased. At both heads the high waves frequently splashed and surged to the roof of the downstream portion of the energy dissipator and a turbulent eddy persisted under the valve.

Several modifications of the jreliminary design were made and tested in arriving at he recommended design showi on Figure 4. Some of the aims of the modifications were to reduce the amount of spray traveling upstream over the tralve to keep the portion of control structure around the valve relatively dry and to reduce the amount of submergence of the valve which might cause vibration or cavitation damage. Other aims were to stabilize the turbulent flow in the downstream portion of the energy dissipator, to provide steady, uniformly distributed flow from the stilling basin and to cortain the flow in the outlet channel within the wills of tine existing lining extension.

The various modificaticins tested included: placing a large fillet at the upstream end of the dissipator under the jet to reduce the/ eddy and valve submergence; changing the angle of the upstream face of the deflector on the walls and ceiling from $45^{\circ}$ to $60^{\circ}$, and extending the deflector across the floor to accomplith, more effectively, energy dissipation; placing al: for various parts of the floor of the dissipator at higher elevations; and sloping the basin floor upward to the downstream channel.

All of these modifications partially accomplished their purpose but created other problems. For example, many of the modifications that provided better energy dissipation in the stilling basin and better flow conditions in the outlet channel increased the valve súbmergence. Modifications that were effective and that were used in the recommended design, Figure 4, included: (1) placing the floor of the dissipator 2.5 feet ( 76.20 cm ) higher, which eliminated the large eddies and reduced the volume of turbulent water resulting in a smoother more steady flow from the basin: (2) shortening and streamlining the upstream portion of the dissipator by adding fillets to the lower corners and flaring the walls, ceiling, and floor from a point near the end of the valve so that the cone-shaped jet from the valve intercepted these surfaces at a flat angle and prevented spray over the valve; (3) placing the deflector at the downstreany end of the flared section, 4 feet ( 1.22 m ) closer to the vaive, provided a longer stilling portion; (4) installing three large baffles in this section more effectively dissipated the energy; (5) placing a $1-1 / 2$ :1 sloping floor at the end of the basin allowad the flow to enter the channel more smoothly and increased the self-cleaning capabilities of the basin; and (6) placing a 4 -foot- $(1.22-\mathrm{m}$-) wide by 6 -inch-(15.24-cm-) high sill in the canal 7.5 feet ( 2.29 m ) downstream from the basin, increased the flow depth in the basin and upstream portion of the channel and
reduced the wave heights in the outlet channel. These modifications made it possible to reduce the height of the additional lining on both sides of the first 20 feet $(6.10 \mathrm{~m})$ of the channel downstream of the dissipator by sloping the top of the linings to a minimum height of 2.5 feet ( 0.76 m ) above the existing lining at the downstream end.

The performance of the recommended energy dissipator, Figures 9 and 10, was much improved over the performance of the preliminary design, Figures 7 and 8 . At the 67 -foot $(20.42-\mathrm{m}$ ) head the water level in the upstream portion of the control structure was about 2 or 3 inches ( 50 or 75 mm ) below the valve invert; at the 97 -foot ( $29.57-\mathrm{m}$ ) head the water level was 10 to 12 inches ( 250 to 300 mm ) below the valve. A clear plastic tube was inserted in the flow to observe the flow inside the cone-shaped jet. This observation showed that the water was well entrained with air and that the pool surface was near the elevation of valve centerline for the 67 -foot ( $20.42-\mathrm{m}$ ) head and about a foot below the valve centerline for the 97 -foot (29.57 $\mathrm{m})$ head. Since the total head at the valve will not exceed 25 and 55 feet ( 7.62 and 16.76 m ) for reservoir heads of 67 and 97 feet ( 20.42 and 29.57 m ), respectively; and since the valve is adequately aerated; no cavitation or vibration in the valve is expected. Even by lowering the reservoir to elevation 3730 feet
$(1136.9 \mathrm{~m})$, which reduced the total head at the valve to 16 feet ( 488 m ), the water level under the valve rose only to the valve invert.

Average flow depths through the energy dissipator and the outlet channel downstream, Figure 11, showed the average velocity in the channel to be approximately 10 to 10.5 feet ( 3.00 to 3.2 m ) per second for the design flow of 275 cfs ( 7.9 cu m per second) discharging from reservoir elevations 3760 feet ( 1136.9 m ) and 3790 feet ( 1155.19 m ). At these flows, waves occasionally overtopped the existing wall linings downstream of the lining extensions by 2 or 3 inches ( 50 or 75 mm ). However, due to the curvature of the channel, which was not represented in the model, overtopping will be greater in the prototype. Occasional overtopping of the lining can be tolerated because the rock-cut banks extend above the lining.

Other operating conditions were observed, Figures 12 through 16, including operating with the valve 100 percent open at reservoir elevation $\geqslant 790$ feet (1155.71 mi . Figure 12. The dissipator and channel was satisfactory in discharging at this 100 percent opening of the valve, as well as at any of the anticipated operating conditions.

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(1)
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HIGURE 6




UTE DAM OUTLET WORKS
DISCHARGE VS VALVE OPENING

FIGURE 7


Turbulence and waves are excessive in the channel. Photos P1199-D-66228 and P1199-D-66229


NOTE:
Top of the canal lining in the downstream portion is 1-1/2 model inches higher than the top of the existing concrete lining in the prototype.

Reservoir elevation 3760 . Discharging 275 cfs with the valve 60 percent open. Total head is 67 feet assuming design mean losses to valve. (See Figure 6)

Turbulence in the basin. Photo P1199-D-66231
UTE DAM OUTLET WORKS ${ }^{-}$
PRELIMINARY DES!GN DISCHARGING AT DESIGN HEAD 1:8 SCALE MODEL

FIGURE 8


Turbulence and waves are excessive in the channel. Photos P1199-D-66232 and P1199-D-66233


NOTE:
Top of the canal lining in the downstream portion is 1-1/2 model inches higher than the top of the existing concrete lining in the prototype.

Part of the valve in the control structure is submerged by overhead spray and backwater effect. Photo Pi199-D-66234


Reservoir elevation 3790. Discharging 275 cfs with the valve 60 percent open. Total head is 97 feet assuming design mean losses to valve. (See Figure 6)

Turbulence in basin. Photo P1199-D-66235
UTE DAM OUTLET WORKS
PRELIMINARY BASIN DISCHARGING AT FUTURE DESIGN HEAD
1:8 SCALE MODEL

## FIGURE 9



Reservoir elevation 3760 discharging 275 cfs with the valve 60 percent open. Total head is 67 feet assuming mean iosses
to valve. Compare with Figure 7.
(See Figure 6)

UTE DAM OUTLET WORKS
RECOMMENDED DESIGN DISCHARGING AT DESIGN HEAD 1:8 SCALE MODEL


Reservoir elevation 3790 discharging
275 cfs with the valve 37 percent open.
'Total head is 97 feet assuming mean losses to valve. Compare with Figure 8.
(See Figure 6)

UTE DAM OUTLET WORKS
RECOMMENDED DESIGN DISCHARGING AT FUTURE DESIGN HEAD 1:8 SCALE MODEL



Reservoir Elevation 3790
100 Percent Valve Opening Discharge 400 cfs


Reservoir Elevation 3790 60 Percent Valve Opening Discharge 360 cfs

NOTE: Head losses to valve were assumed to be above the average computed values. These are not anticipated operating conditions. (See Figure 6)

UTE DAM OUTLET WORKS FLOW IN RECOMMENDED DESIGN 1:8 SCALE MODEL.


NOTE: Head losses to value were assumed to be the minimum
computed values. These are not anticipated =operating conditions. (See Figure 6)

## UTE DAM: OUTLET WORKS

FLOW IN RECOMMENDED DESIGN 1:8 SCALE MODEL


Feservoir Elevation 3790
60 Percent Valve Opening Discharge 330 cfs

NOTE: Head losses to valve were assumed to be the average
computed valui" "(See Figure 6)

UTE DAM OUTLET WORKS FLOW IN RECOMMENDED DESIGN

1:8 SCALE MODEL


0


Reservoir Elevation 3760
32 Percent Valve Opening Discharge 210 cfs

Reservoir Elevation 3730
30 Percent Valve Opening Discharge 155 cfs

NOTE: Head losses to valve were assumed to be the average
computed values. (See Figure 6)

> UTE DAM OUTLET WORKS FLOW IN RECOMMENDED DESIGN $1: 8$ SCALE MODEL.


NOTE: Head losses to valve were assumed to be the average between the computed maximum and minimum.

UTE DAM OUTLET WORKS
FLOW IN RECOMMENDED DESIGN 1:8 SCALE MODEL

## CONVERSION FACTORS--BRITISH TO METRIC UNITS OF MEASUREMENT

The following conversion factors adopted by the Bureau of Reclamation are those published by the American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM Metric Practice Guide, E $380-68$ ) except that additional fanters ( ${ }^{*}$ ) commonly used in the Eureau have been added. Further discussion of definitions of quartities and units is given in the ASTM Metric Prantice Guide.

The metric units and conversion factors adopted by the ASTM are based on the "International System of Units" (dezignated SI for Systeme International d'Unites), fixed by the International Committee for Veights and Measures; this system is also known as the (fiorgi or MKSA (meter-kilogram (mass)-sscond-ampere) system. This system has been adoptcid by the International Organization for Standardization in ISO Recommendation R-31.

The metric technical unit of force is the kilogram-force; this is the force which, when applied to a body having a mass of 1 kg , gives it an acceleration of $9.80665 \mathrm{~m} / \mathrm{sec} / \mathrm{sec}$, the standard acceleration of free fall toward the earth's center for sea level at 45 dey latitude. The metric unit of force in $S I$ units is the newton ( N ), which is defined as that force which, when arplifd to a body having a mass of 1 kg , gives it an acceleration of $1 \mathrm{~m} / \mathrm{sec} / \mathrm{sec}$. These units must be distinguished from the (invonslant) Iocal weight of a body having a mass of 1 kg ; that is, the weight of a body is that force with which a body is attracted to the earth and is equal to the mass of a bory multiplied by the acceleration due to gravity. However, because it is gensral practice to use "pound" rather than the technically correct term "pound-force, " the term "kilogram" (or derived mass unit) has been used in this guide iastead of "kilogramforce" in expressing the conversion factors for forces. The newton unit of force will find increasing use, and is essential in SI units.

Where approximate or nominal English units axe used to express a value or range of values, the converted metric units in parentheses are also approximate or nominal. Where precise English units are used, the converted metric units are expressed as equally significant values.

Table I
QUANTITIES AND UNITS OF SPACE


Table II
QUANTTTIES :AND UNITS OF MECHANICS



Table III



## REC-OCE-70-1

Beichley, G L
HYDRAULIC MODEL STUDIES OF AN ENERGY DISSIPATOR FOR A FIXED CONE VALVE AT THE UTE DAM OUTLET WORKS
Bur Reclam Lab Rep REC-OCE-70-11, Hydraul Br, Mar 1970. Bureau of Reclamation, Denver 19 p, 16 fig, 3 tab

DESCRIPTORS-/ outlet works/ discharges/ head loss/channels/ hydraulic models/steady flow/ *energy dissipation/ *stilling basins/ New Mexico/ jets/ baffles/ model studies/ control structures/discharge (water)/ hydraulic valves
IDENTIFIERS-/ New Mexico Interstate Stream Comm/ *energy dissipators/ *fixed-cone valve/ horizontal cylinder valve

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