



July 9, 2024

Files: 35050-20/Mailout &
35050-20/IOD Dike Files

To: British Columbia Diking Authorities

Re: **Annual Dike Inspection Reporting and *Dike Maintenance Act* Approvals**

To help reduce the risk of dike failure and impacts of flooding in British Columbia, **every diking authority is required** to submit an annual dike inspection report to the Inspector of Dikes by **October 31st**.

The contents and attachments of this letter provide information on:

- A. Dike Inspection Reporting
- B. *Dike Maintenance Act* Approvals for Changes to Dikes

A. DIKE INSPECTION REPORTING

Annual dike inspection reporting is important to public safety because it provides an opportunity for Diking Authorities to:

- Better understand the structural integrity of all regulated dikes,
- Ensure dikes are in proper operating conditions to protect against the design flood event.
- Convey completed and planned maintenance, repair, and remediation work to Provincial Flood Safety staff.

These reports provide vital information to Provincial Flood Safety staff and help communities mitigate the impacts of flooding.

Diking authorities that do not submit reports or submit reports that fall below minimum standards may be required to conduct a more comprehensive inspection of their dikes and/or result in a formal audit by the Inspector of Dikes, under the *Dike Maintenance Act*.



Reporting Standards

The minimum requirements for the annual dike inspection report are as follows:

- a. Fill in the attached Dike Inspection Checklist (mobile app output no longer accepted).
- b. Use **ONLY** the official dike name and Dike Number. To obtain this information please visit the [Flood Protection Works Database](#).
- c. Include a detailed descriptions and images of observed deficiencies.
 - o If any deficiencies were observed, please discuss proposed remediation measures and expected timelines for completion.
- d. Provide a summary of any upgrades completed since the last inspection report and confirm that all as-builts, surveys and O&M manual updates have been provided to the diking authority's regional Deputy Inspector of Dikes in accordance with the DMA approval process.
- e. Provide a summary of maintenance/repair work completed in the past 12 months and for the next 12 months.
- f. Provide a copy of any consultant reports related to the dike completed in the past year (if available).

Please note that the minimum standards for the annual dike inspection report listed above are not a substitute for a comprehensive dike inspection and maintenance program. Furthermore, it is recommended that diking authorities **inspect their dikes often** (during high and low flows) and collect as much information as is required to effectively inspect and maintain their dikes.

By October 31, 2024, diking authorities are required to email a colour PDF file of the inspection report to floodsafety@gov.bc.ca or mail a colour hardcopy to Rudy Sung at the mailing address listed above.

Regional Deputy Inspectors of Dikes (see attached contact list) are available to provide information and advice on inspections and dike safety. Additionally, the [Flood Protection Works Inspection Guide 2000](#) can be accessed to assist with completing the dike inspection report.

If a diking authority discovers that the dike is compromised or at risk of failure, the diking authority should contact the regional Deputy Inspector of Dikes to discuss the diking authority's plans to address the problem. Regional Deputy Inspectors of Dikes may be able to provide information on available funding programs for non-maintenance related repairs.

B. DIKE MAINTENANCE ACT APPROVALS FOR CHANGES TO DIKES

Routine maintenance of a dike by a diking authority does **not** require an Approval under the *Dike Maintenance Act* (DMA); however, major repairs or changes, as listed below, do require an Approval under Section 2(4) of DMA.

- Changes or alterations to the cross section or crest elevation of a dike;
- Installation of culverts, pipes, flood-boxes, utility lines, pump stations, or any structure through, on or over a dike;
- Construction of any works on or over a dike or dike right of way, including structures, excavations and placement of fill or other materials;
- Alteration of the foreshore or stream channel where the work, such as dredging, construction or erosion protection and other in-stream works, could impact the integrity of a dike; and
- Construction of a new dike.

DMA Approval application forms, approval requirements, design guidelines, and general information are available at <http://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/environment/air-land-water/water/drought-flooding-dikes-dams/integrated-flood-hazard-management/dike-management/approvals>

Please note that other permits and/or approvals under other legislation/regulations may be required in addition to a DMA Approval or in the absence of a DMA approval requirement.

If you have any questions or comments relating to flood preparedness, dike safety or the DMA approval process, please contact your regional Deputy Inspector of Dikes.

Sincerely,



Yannic Brugman, P.Eng.
Inspector of Dikes

List of Attachments

1. 2024 Dike Inspection Checklist
2. 2024 Dike Safety Program Contact List

pc: Regional Deputy Inspectors of Dikes, Regional Offices, WLRS
Andrew Giles, Manager River Forecast and Flood Safety, Water Management Branch, WLRS