

US EPA ARCHIVE DOCUMENT



REPLY TO  
ATTENTION OF

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY  
NEW ENGLAND DISTRICT, CORPS OF ENGINEERS  
696 VIRGINIA ROAD  
CONCORD, MASSACHUSETTS 01742-2751

June 29, 1998

Civil/Military Project Management Branch

Honorable John H. Chafee  
United States Senator  
10 Dorrance Street, #221  
Providence, Rhode Island 02903-2018

Dear Senator Chafee:

I am writing regarding the Allendale Dam Repair Project in North Providence, Rhode Island. On June 12, 1998, Mr. Bocchino of my staff met with Ms. Janet Coit of your staff and local officials. A great deal of concern was registered regarding the scope of the Federal project. This letter is to provide a status report and apprise you of our plans.

The Dam was naturally breached in 1991 when its wooden crib failed. The Town of North Providence hired a consultant who prepared plans to repair the breach and estimated the construction cost at \$90,000. This project scope and its estimate was the basis for the project's first authorization at \$90,000 in the Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) of 1994 directing the "reconstruction" of the Dam. Upon initiation of Corps efforts, it became clear that the \$90,000 estimate was low and that construction at that estimate was not possible. In coordination with our Headquarters and your staff, we prepared revised draft plans and specifications to repair the breach within available funds and provided them in 1995 to the Town for its use, with the recognition that NEPA and other appropriate regulatory requirements would need to be satisfied before beginning repair.

The project was later re-authorized at \$350,000 in WRDA 96 based on an estimate we provided at your request. The updated estimate reflected the effort necessary to repair the breach. Our Environmental Assessment, in accordance with NEPA, found no significant impact from repair activity. Several important matters were resolved at this time including: compensatory storage for that storage lost by replacement of the wooden crib, architectural treatments to address historic preservation concerns, and agreement to postpone sampling of sediments behind the Dam until construction.

There may be a need for non-Federal attention to elements of the Allendale Dam not within the scope, or funds available, of the Federal Project. These include maintenance of the earth embankment and the gated sluiceway. The non-Federal owners of the Dam will be made aware of all their future maintenance responsibilities.

We were prepared to process a Decision Document (Letter Report) for approval to act as the basis for a Project Cooperation Agreement (PCA) between the Corps and the non-Federal sponsor when we were alerted by EPA to possible contamination of sediments behind the Dam. The Rhode Island DEM has requested we postpone approval of the project until they conduct a Risk Assessment and make recommendations accordingly. Any required cleanup of contamination by hazardous materials would be the responsibility of the non-Federal sponsor in accordance with standard provisions of the PCA.

Upon receipt of RI DEM's recommendations, we will coordinate with your staff as to our course of action. If cleanup of contamination is required, an estimate of this cost for non-Federal financing purposes will be prepared. Should you have any questions please call me at (978) 318-8220 or the Project Manager, Mr. Joseph A. Bocchino at (978) 318-8620.

Sincerely,



Michael W. Pratt  
Colonel, Corps of Engineers  
District Engineer

Copy Furnished:  
Honorable John H. Chafee  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510-3902

Honorable A. Ralph Mollis  
Mayor of North Providence  
2000 Smith Street  
North Providence, Rhode Island 02911

Mr. Leo J. Perrotta  
Director, Planning and Development  
2000 Smith Street  
North Providence, Rhode Island 02911

Allendale Dam Repair Committee  
c/o Mr. Stephen Patassi  
One Turks Head Place  
Suite 600  
Providence, Rhode Island 02903

d shall execute a release  
kind a inst the United  
the date of the enactment  
r any successor in interest

any jurisdiction over any  
y the United States and  
neers in connection with

e zoning designations of,  
which a presently des-

#### REGION AND WASHINGTON.

Willamette and Columbia  
Portland Oregon, author-  
"An Act making appropriation,  
and completion of projects,  
and for other purposes",  
is modified to direct the

and to carry out improvement  
channel between the mouth  
st not to exceed \$2,400,000;

advance maintenance dredg-  
authorized channel dimen-

#### ON, PENNSYLVANIA.

flood control, Lackawanna  
authorized by section 101(17)  
ct of 1992 (106 Stat. 4803),  
carry out the project for  
edge sections of the project.  
ST RATIO WAIVER AUTHOR-  
the project, the Secretary  
participate in the financing  
ction 903(c) of the Water  
10 Stat. 4184), to the extent  
s that applying such section

#### EX, SNYDER COUNTY, PENN-

sources Development Act of  
7 striking "\$3,000,000" and

#### ANIA.

Schuylkill River, Pennsylvania  
Act entitled "An Act making  
pair, and preservation of cer-  
ors, and for other purposes"  
252), is modified to provide  
l of sediment to provide for  
the Fairmount pool between

the Fairmount Dam and the Columbia Bridge, generally within  
the limits of the channel alignments referred to as the Schuylkill  
River Racecourse and return lane, and the Belmont Water Works  
intakes and Boathouse Row.

#### SEC. 345. SOUTH CENTRAL PENNSYLVANIA.

(a) COST SHARING.—Section 313(d)(3)(A) of the Water Resources  
Development Act of 1992 (106 Stat. 4846) is amended to read  
as follows:

"(A) IN GENERAL.—Total project costs under each local  
cooperation agreement entered into under this subsection  
shall be shared at 75 percent Federal and 25 percent non-  
Federal. The Federal share may be provided in the form  
of grants or reimbursements of project costs. The non-  
Federal interests shall receive credit—

"(i) for design and construction services and other  
in-kind work, whether occurring subsequent to, or  
within 6 years prior to, entering into an agreement  
with the Secretary; and

"(ii) for grants and the value of work performed  
on behalf of such interests by State and local agencies,  
as determined by the Secretary."

(b) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—Section 313(g)(1) of  
such Act (106 Stat. 4846) is amended by striking "\$50,000,000"  
and inserting "\$80,000,000".

(c) SECTION HEADING.—The heading to section 313 of such  
Act is amended to read as follows:

#### SEC. 313. SOUTH CENTRAL PENNSYLVANIA ENVIRONMENT IMPROVE- MENT PROGRAM."

#### SEC. 346. WYOMING VALLEY, PENNSYLVANIA.

The project for flood control, Wyoming Valley, Pennsylvania,  
authorized by section 401(a) of the Water Resources Development  
Act of 1996 (100 Stat. 4124), is modified to authorize the Secretary—

(1) to include as part of the construction of the project  
mechanical and electrical upgrades to stormwater pumping sta-  
tions in the Wyoming Valley; and

(2) to carry out mitigation measures that the Secretary  
would otherwise be authorized to carry out, but for the General  
Design Memorandum for phase II of the project, as approved  
by the Assistant Secretary of the Army having responsibility  
for civil works on February 15, 1996, providing that such meas-  
ures are to be carried out for credit by the non-Federal interest.

#### SEC. 347. ALLENDALE DAM, NORTH PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND.

The project for reconstruction of the Allendale Dam, North  
Providence, Rhode Island, authorized by section 358 of the Water  
Resource Development Act of 1992 (106 Stat. 4861), is modified  
to authorize the Secretary to reconstruct the dam, at a total cost  
of \$350,000, with an estimated Federal cost of \$262,500 and an  
estimated non-Federal cost of \$87,500.

#### SEC. 348. NARRAGANSETT, RHODE ISLAND.

Section 361(a) of the Water Resources Development Act of  
1992 (106 Stat. 4861) is amended—

(1) by striking "\$200,000" and inserting "\$1,900,000";

(2) by striking "\$150,000" and inserting "\$1,425,000"; and

(3) by striking "\$50,000" and inserting "\$475,000".