

M E M O R A N D U M

DATE: July 19, 2010
TO: Kansas Water Authority
FROM: Tracy Streeter
SUBJECT: Dam Safety and Rehabilitation Policy Update

At the May 2010 Kansas Water Authority meeting, a proposal was endorsed to re-visit the 2005 dam safety policy and determine what changes or additions should be considered in advance of the 2011 Legislative session. As a result Chief Engineer David Barfield and I are convening an Advisory Committee to review the existing policy, rules and regulations, and provide input into any new policy or rule and regulation recommendations to present to the KWA and Chief Engineer.

In 2005, the Kansas Water Authority adopted the Dam Safety and Rehabilitation Policy containing 21 recommendations. Several of the policy recommendations were implemented but most of the larger policy issues remain unresolved.

Last year, legislation was introduced in the House to eliminate the dam hazard classification requirements. While the bill did not receive favorable consideration, it did point out that safety implications to dam owners and the effects of downstream development need to be addressed. Most of the 2005 policy recommendations that were not resolved pertain to these issues.

The committee that provided advice for the 2005 policy has been updated with current personnel representing designated agencies. Several additional organization representatives have been added. A list of those invited to participate is contained on the following page.

The first meeting of the Advisory Committee is scheduled for August 10, 2010 at 1:30 pm. The meeting will be held in Topeka at the Kansas Department of Agriculture Conference Room at 109 SW 9th Street, Suite 400.

This is for information only. No action is needed.