



08/23/2013

IP-NO-2013-58-01501

Sawyer County
Dale Olson
10610 Main St., Suite 49
Hayward, WI 54843

RE: Application to remove Carlson Road dam on the Little Round Lake, located in the Town of Hayward, Sawyer County, also described as in the SW1/4 of the SE1/4 of Section 36, Township 41 North, Range 8 West.

Dear Dale:

DNR dam safety and water regulation programs have reviewed the county submittal for removal of the dam at the man-made channel outlet on Little Round Lake. This letter shall serve as comments on the application, request for clarification of logistics/process, and notice of incomplete application requiring basic supplemental information for which the department requires to make an informed decision on the application for the dam removal.

- 1). Is Sawyer County also petitioning for the rescission of the 1941 PSC water level order? While the order seems to be a moot subject if the dam abandonment is approved, it would most certainly be a cleaner, less vague issue for the future, if the county also sought rescission of the water level order along with the application for dam abandonment.
- 2). All dam abandonment documents and submittals (other than the actual DNR abandonment application form) need to be signed and stamped by a Wisconsin registered professional engineer. Make sure that the documents that are modified or additional submittals comply with this requirement.
- 3). All elevations need to be tied to and referenced to benchmark 1127C, using the historical datum for 1127C benchmark. There have been numerous interpretations of what the benchmark elevation is. For consistency sake everything shall be based on the original NAV88 and local elevation of that benchmark.
- 4). A narrative and table shall be included with the plans that specifically state the pre and post-construction elevations (again, based on the historical, original NAV88 and local datum for benchmark 1127C) of the dam, sill, and the proposed culvert floor installation (upgradient and downgradient). It should not be left to an interpretation off of a graphic design submittal. It needs to be stated specifically in the narrative and in tabular format.
- 5). There is no discussion, design, nor identification of the appropriate erosion controls to be deployed for neither the dam removal nor the culvert installation. Will a coffer dam be part of the process, and if so, how will that be designed and deployed? At a minimum, there needs to be turbidity curtain enclosing the project site to prevent suspended solids from leaving the construction site. There is no upland erosion controls identified for the removal process of the bridge and side walls. With proposed 1:1 excavation out some 10-12 feet on either side, and to a depth of 8-10

feet, some type of erosion controls need to be proposed for temporary and final stabilized project in the application.

6). A step-by-step sequence and anticipated timeline for each sequence is in order to evaluate the appropriateness of the controls that will be deployed.

7). The document would appear to have a box culvert, but no bridge proposed over the culverts. Are the culverts going to be the only means of crossing over the channel?

8). Have contingencies/logistics been identified for providing residence on the east side of Carlson a means of accessing their property/structures? Will there be a temporary crossing during the removal/construction phase?

9). The C1 plan sheet cross sectional would indicate that the box culvert placement is above the existing channel contours. This needs to be discussed with the DNR as to the reasoning and whether this constitutes a new dam (a structure that is intended to hold back water at a certain elevation).

10). Finally, is Sawyer County going to request a public informational hearing as part of the submittal process? There's a likely chance that such a hearing will be requested, so it probably makes more sense for the applicant to request such a hearing to be scheduled when the application is deemed to be complete.

The dam abandonment and water level order are activities that are reviewed under Chapter 31, Wisconsin Statute. The culvert (and bridge?) are activities that are regulated by Chapter 30, Wisconsin Statute. While somewhat the same, there are differences. We will work to have these proposed projects combined where feasible, but there may be situations where the review and noticing procedures are separated due to their different regulatory processes and implications.

If you have any questions about this correspondence, please contact Frank Dallam at Frank.Dallam@wisconsin.gov or Dave Kafura at David.Kafura@wisconsin.gov.

Sincerely,



Dave Kafura
Water Management Specialist

Cc: Tom Aartila (via e-mail)
Bruce Paulson (via e-mail)
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