

FY 97 CF2

OBJECTIVES AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS: Dam Safety & Construction

- Complete permitting process for the Kensington Mine Tailings Dam and Illinois Creek Tailings Dam.
- Continue monitoring construction and operation of the Fort Knox Water and Tailings Dams.
- Supervise periodic dam safety inspections for ten dams.
- Test Emergency Action Plans for the City of Kodiak Bettinger Complex and Pillar Creek Dams.
- Maintain the state database of 72 jurisdictional dams as required by FEMA, ASDSO, and for monitoring and inspections.
- Insure all jurisdictional dams are in compliance with laws and regulations.
- Conduct second public awareness workshop on Emergency Action Plans.
- Coordinate Emergency Action Plans for tailings dams with ADEC to lessen burden on dam owner.
- Work with mining personnel to improve the safety of small sedimentation and tailings dams.
- Complete permitting process and approve operation of the Cabin Creek Water Supply Dam at Petersburg.

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Major projects under review by the Dam Safety Program are the Fort Knox Tailings and Water Storage Dam near Fairbanks, the Cabin Creek Water Supply Dam near Petersburg, and the Illinois Creek Tailings near Kaltag. Emergency Action Plans for the Bettinger Complex and Pillar Creek Dams at Kodiak were approved. A dam safety workshop was held in conjunction with the Alaska Miners Associate on the design of safety mining dams with an emphasis on permafrost foundations. The addition of excess mine rock to the downstream slope of the Red Dog Tailings Dam was approved.

During FY 97 work will continue on the monitoring of the construction and operation of the Fort Knox Mine Dams. It is anticipated that a permit application will be processed for the Illinois Creek Tailings Dam and construction monitoring will take place on the first valley leach dam in Alaska. Based on pending federal legislation the Snettersham (sp ???) and Eklutna Dams will come under the state dam safety program which entails a significant workload to get up to speed on the dam safety aspects of the dams. Several other mining related dam construction applications are also anticipated. Another public workshop will be held pending availability of funding from ASDSO on emergency action plans. Periodic dam safety inspections will be accomplished according to the schedule.