

ICE Reservoirs Committee Minutes

Meeting

Date	Thursday 22 February 2024
Time	14:00 to 17:30
Venue	MS Teams
Chair	Ed McCann

Panel members

Sub-Committee 1

Alan Brown (Chair)
Rachel Pether
Stuart King
Craig Goff
Tom Wanner

Sub-Committee 2

Jeremy Benn (Chair)
Dave Crook
Ian Scholefield
Dominic Molyneux

Alice Baverstock – Defra
Tony Deakin – Environment Agency
James Ashworth – SEPA
Quinton Campbell - Department of Infrastructure, NI
Violeta Morosan - Department of Infrastructure, NI
Ryan Robinson - Department of Infrastructure, NI
Matt O’Brien – Natural Resources Wales
Kelly Murphy – Welsh Government

By Invite

Chris Scott – PEC Chair

Apologies

Andrew Kirby
Jan Kiernan – Defra
Claire Dodd – Scottish Government

Secretariat

Brendan van Rooyen (BvR)
Rabinder Phull (ICE)
Kerrie McPeake (ICE)

Summary of Applications in February 2024

New Applications

5 new applications were submitted to the Supervising Engineers Panel this cycle.

2 Supervising Engineer applicants have been recommended for appointment in England and Wales, and 1 Supervising Engineer applicant has been recommended for appointment in England, Wales and Scotland and Northern Ireland.

1 new application was submitted to the All Reservoirs Panel this cycle.

Re-applications

9 re-applications were made to the Supervising Engineers Panels.

9 Supervising Engineers Panel re-applications have been recommended for re-appointment: 4 of which are re-appointed to England, Wales and Scotland, 2 to England, Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland, and 3 to England and Wales.

Item no	PART A Updates from government and enforcement authorities	
2406	Legislative changes, jurisdictional impacts	
	<p>i. Update on current legislative situation in each of the jurisdictions:</p> <p>England – Alice Baverstock Nothing to report.</p> <p>Scotland- Claire Dodd CD was not in attendance and although JA is not Scottish Government, he was not aware of any legislative changes.</p> <p>Northern Ireland – Ryan Robinson RR from the Department of Infrastructure NI has replaced Fiona Lennon. NI Assembly has been restored and Officials are hoping to meet with the Minister as soon as possible to agree on progression of the secondary regulations to commence further sections of the Reservoirs Act (Northern Ireland) 2015.</p> <p>Wales – Kelly Murphy, Matt O’Brien KM is standing in for Sam Deeley (SD) who is currently on paternity leave. Nothing to report on legislation changes. MOB – None</p>	
2407	Reservoir Safety Review	
	<p>I. Update on progress. AB provided an update.</p> <p>a) The work on hazard classification is continuing in collaboration with JBA. Options are being drafted and what they might mean for each level and approach. Although it is early days, the first ideas are there.</p> <p>b) A survey is currently out which includes two sets of questions encompassing engineer reporting and onsite emergency plans. There is still time for engineers and owners to reply. They would like more responses, so AB urged the committee to help get the word out to colleagues and owners.</p> <p>c) The engineers' workstream is progressing and BVR is looking to appoint a project manager shortly to assist.</p> <p>MOB will discuss offline with AB whether there should be two separate surveys for Wales.</p>	

	<p>IS confirmed they have circulated the survey back to reservoir owners and asked them to complete by tomorrow.</p> <p>TD provided further updates to AB’s comments and the Reservoir Safety Reform (RSR) Programme. From tomorrow new guidance on S10 inspections is being published.</p> <p>In addition, guidance is being provided to owners and engineers stating that when undertakers appoint engineers, they should consider appointing different people for different roles i.e. engineers should not take SE and inspection roles at the same reservoir. The draft was shared with engineers and they provided feedback on the wording. This is currently advice only as it will require a primary legislation change via the RSR and hopefully within the next two years to implement as a mandatory requirement.</p> <p>Also within the RSR programme and workstreams, they are reviewing all current guidance to identify gaps and ensure it is fit for purpose.</p> <p>DM raised an issue with potential SE and employer conflicts of interest (COI) whereby an SE employed by an owner may not call for an S10 inspection by an ARPE. The employer/employee relationship could influence the SE’s decision making, having financial and other implications.</p> <p>In addition, DM raised a question on Professional Indemnity (PI) insurance. Although SEs who choose to work independently are advised to have PI insurance, what about those working on their own employer’s reservoirs such as water companies?</p> <p>Committee members provided comments and further discussion ensued. EMC suggested the PEC could review and feedback. CS confirmed the PEC already has an action to review roles and responsibilities.</p> <p>TD confirmed he is leading a project on roles and responsibilities which will be reviewing the code of conduct and good practice. This will include considering the roles of the engineer, the regulator and the owner. TD will look to the PEC to provide input from the engineers’ side. TD has already spoken to IS who chairs the owners rep group, and TD and colleagues are reviewing the regulators' side.</p> <p>II. Update from Panel Engineer Committee CS provided an update on three main elements and pointed out that although the PEC formed a while ago, it commenced work ‘in earnest’ in the middle of last year:</p> <p>a) ToR – The ToR has been agreed with EMC as the committee Chair and</p>	
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	<p>the ICE. The ToR will be published on the ICE website shortly.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">a) Logistics of meetings - To get the group started, monthly two hour Teams calls are in place. The PEC is seeking to meet with Defra and the EA every quarter and will be setting up meetings with the other enforcement agencies as soon as possible.b) Activities – The PEC sees its role as twofold. One is to provide feedback, comment and support on implementing the recommendations in the independent reservoirs safety review report but also to be a proactive provider of advice on how best to protect the public from the risk of flooding from dam failures. <p>To date, the majority of the PEC’s work has been more reactive from the RSR programme. Four PEC members (Alan Brown, Mark Hayward, Paul Fernell and John Foster) are on the high level hazard classification group and have been engaged with it since its inception in Autumn 2023. Claire French, the project manager has recently approached PEC for their involvement in two areas of work. One is related to risk assessment methods and the other is in reservoir design review. PEC will therefore be facilitating input from the engineers community.</p> <p>The second area of specific tasks is in Defra’s work stream related to engineers supply capacity. PEC is in the process of finalising a survey to go out to the panel engineer community likely in mid March, to identify inefficient processes within current practice and to identify the needs of SEs who are interested and able to transfer to ARPEs. They are also looking to identify ARPEs who are willing to mentor SEs and others in their journey onto the panels. BVR is helping with the survey although they are aware that the engineer community is currently being deluged with questionnaires.</p> <p>Other activities include conversations with TD and Mark on reservoir safety management plans and report quality assessments. Feedback has been provided regarding S10 reports which has been useful to Defra and EA. There is a workshop at the forthcoming BDS conference on the quality of S12 assessments. As mentioned previously, the PEC has been working on roles and responsibilities to review the current situation rather than advising on how it should be.</p> <p>EMC appreciates that members volunteer their time and thanked the PEC on behalf of the reservoirs committee for their time and effort in</p>	
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	<p>supporting the programme.</p> <p>EMC would like to ensure that EA and Defra are happy that the PEC is meeting their needs and to raise any issues if necessary.</p>	
	<p>PART B Reservoirs Committee policy and procedure</p>	
2409	<p>Reports</p> <p>i. British Dam Society (BDS)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The BDS AGM and International lecture will take place in April – the international lecture will be presented by Michael Rogers a Past ICOLD President. • The Young Professional CPD lunchtime talks are continuing on a regular basis and are reportedly being very well attended. • First Young Professional Forum will take place in April - 50 YPS have already signed up. Event will help them on their journey to become panel engineers and with networking. • Good progress is being made with this years BDS Conference at Keele University in September. There was a good response to the recent call for papers for the conference. • A proposal for new BDS website has been agreed and the website is currently in construction. It will be partially ready for registration of the BDS conference. <p>ii. Reservoir Safety Research Advisory Group (ReSRAG) Action: RP to circulate minutes</p>	RP
2410	<p>Reservoirs Committee membership.</p> <p>TW, AK, JB and RP leaving in October. RP was coopted for one year. The panel elections process will commence shortly for replacements. DC is in his 3rd year and can extend for one year. Those affected will be contacted via e-mail.</p>	



2411	Any Other Business MOB – Canadian Dams Seminar is running today.	
	Future meeting dates: 20 June 2024 17 October 2024	

