

**DAM SAFETY INSPECTION REPORT**

**ARGO DAM  
DAM ID 559**

**HURON RIVER  
WASHTENAW COUNTY  
SECTION 20, T2S, R6E**

**OWNER/OPERATOR:**

City of Ann Arbor Water Utilities  
Water Treatment Plant  
919 Sunset Road  
Ann Arbor, Michigan 48103-2924  
734-994-2840

**HAZARD POTENTIAL  
CLASSIFICATION:**

High

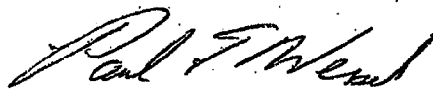
**INSPECTION DATE:**

August 2, 2007  
August 24, 2007

**REPORT DATE:**

September 12, 2007

**PREPARED AND INSPECTED BY:**



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## **INTRODUCTION**

The purpose of this inspection is to evaluate the structural condition and hydraulic capacity of this dam as required by Part 315, Dam Safety, of the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act, 1994 PA 451, as amended. This inspection was conducted by the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality in response to a request by the dam owner, the City of Ann Arbor. The report is limited to a discussion of observations based on a visual investigation and review of any previous inspection reports, plans, and data, which are available. This report should not be considered an in-depth engineering investigation.

All references to "right" and "left" in this report are based on the observer facing downstream.

## **CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

The principal spillway and main embankment of the Argo Dam are in good condition. However, the headrace embankment is in poor condition. The dam has adequate spillway capacity to pass the design flood. The following recommended actions are listed by priority.

1. Submit a copy of the contingency plan to block off flow from the millrace by February 29, 2008.
2. Remove overhanging and dead trees from the headrace embankment by July 31, 2008.
3. Monitor seepage emanating from the toe of the raceway embankment and at the base of the canoe portage path on a quarterly basis.
4. In conjunction with Ann Arbor Emergency Management, review and update the Emergency Action Plan (EAP) for the dam by May 1, 2008, providing a copy to the Dam Safety Program.
5. Review and update an Operation and Maintenance (O&M) Plan by May 1, 2008.

The high hazard potential rating for this dam remains appropriate.

## **PROJECT INFORMATION**

The Argo Dam was originally constructed in 1913 for Detroit Edison to generate hydroelectric power, replacing a previous dam at the same location. The dam is no longer used for power generation but is maintained by the City of Ann Arbor for flood control and recreation. A major rehabilitation of the dam was done in 1972.