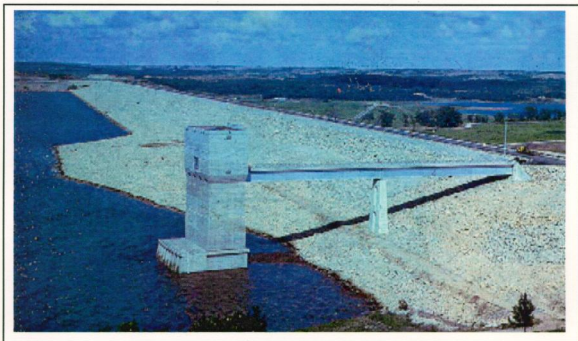




US Army Corps of Engineers, Kansas City District



**TUTTLE CREEK DAM SAFETY ASSURANCE PROGRAM
BIG BLUE RIVER, KANSAS**

RECORD OF DECISION

November 2002



RECORD OF DECISION

TUTTLE CREEK DAM SAFETY ASSURANCE PROGRAM BIG BLUE RIVER, KANSAS

TABLE OF CONTENTS:

RECOMMENDATION

RECORD OF DECISION

**APPENDIX I – Comments and responses to the Final
Evaluation Report and Final Environmental
Impact Statement**

APPENDIX II – Final Section 404(b)(1) Evaluation



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20314-1000

REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF:

RECORD OF DECISION

EVALUATION REPORT AND ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT

TUTTLE CREEK DAM SAFETY ASSURANCE PROGRAM BIG BLUE RIVER, KANSAS

I have reviewed the Tuttle Creek Dam Safety Assurance Program, Feasibility Report (Report) and Environmental Impact Statement, as well as comments received in response to this document. I find the plan, "Stabilize Foundation Soil without Drawdown Alternative" recommended by the District Engineer, Kansas City District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to be environmentally justified, technically feasible, cost-effective, in accordance with applicable environmental statutes, and in the public interests. Thus, I approve the recommended plan.

The construction of Tuttle Creek Dam and Lake, which is one unit in the general comprehensive plan for flood control and other purposes in the Missouri River Basin, was authorized by the Flood Control Act approved June 28, 1938 (Public Law 761, Seventy-fifth Congress, first session) as modified by the Flood Control Act approved August 18, 1941 (Public Law 228, Seventy-seventh Congress, first session) and expanded by the Flood Control Act approved December 22, 1944 [Public Law 534, Seventy-eighth Congress, second session (House Document No. 475 and Senate Documents Nos. 191 and 247, Seventy-eighth Congress, second session)]. This study was conducted under the authority of Section 1203 of the Water Resources Development Act of 1986 (P.L. 99-662).

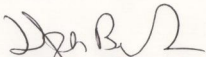
In addition to the "No Action" alternative, the Report evaluated the recommended plan and two other alternatives in detail. Implementation of the recommended plan, "Stabilize Foundation Soil without Drawdown Alternative" best meets the project purpose and needs and most effectively avoids and minimizes adverse impacts on the environment. In addition, the Report recommends interim measures to address public safety during implementation of the recommended plan and two minor measures to ensure hydrologic adequacy of the dam.

Implementation of the recommended plan will: (1) ensure satisfactory performance of the Tuttle Creek Dam should a major seismic event occur in the project area, (2) maintain the Congressionally authorized project purposes at their existing levels even after a major seismic event, and (3) avoid impacts associated with a

drawdown of the lake during a 7-10 year construction period. After completion of construction, the project would continue to be operated in accordance with the Congressionally authorized project purposes and would be expected to withstand a major seismic event and remain fully operational after inspection and with minimal expected repairs. The Report recommends appropriate measures to lessen the adverse effects of the project, which include improvements to recreation facilities in River Pond State Park and the Tuttle Cove Area.

The Corps has reviewed and evaluated documents concerning the proposed action; has considered the views of other agencies and the general public and responded to comments containing those views; and has examined the various practicable means to avoid and/or minimize environmental harm from construction of this project.

All practicable means to avoid and/or minimize adverse environmental effects have been incorporated into the recommended plan. The public interests will best be served by implementing the improvements identified and described in the Final Evaluation Report and Final Environmental Impact Statement.



DWIGHT A. BERANEK, P.E.
Chief, Engineering and Construction Division
Directorate of Civil Works

13 JAN 03

DATE