



United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF RECLAMATION

Snake River Area Office
230 Collins Road
Boise, Idaho 83702-4520

OCT 21 2008



SRA-6123
ADM-11.00

Subject: Request for Public Comments for Security Enhancements at Lower Deer Flat Dam

Dear Interested Party:

The Bureau of Reclamation is asking for your assistance in helping to identify issues and concerns associated with the proposed security enhancements at the Lower Embankment of Deer Flat Dams. Reclamation will use this information to help develop alternatives and analyze the environmental impacts of the project in an environmental assessment in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA).

Reclamation has identified security vulnerabilities at a number of its facilities and has determined that corrective action is needed at the Lower Embankment of Deer Flat Dams to reduce its vulnerability from a vehicle carrying explosives across the dam on the county road.

The security enhancement project is divided into two Phases. Phase I, which addresses security concerns in the short term includes purchasing mobile security gates that can be deployed if necessary to respond to an elevated security event or direct threat against the dam. Phase I represents a short-term solution for the security concerns and will be completed in early 2009. Reclamation has completed NEPA activities for this phase.

Phase II would involve a permanent solution to reduce the vulnerability of the dam. This is where we are asking for your input. Reclamation is evaluating the feasibility of several options for a long-term solution to the security and safety concerns. These include but are not limited to the following options:

- Raise or widen the dam crest or make other structural modifications to the embankment that would allow traffic to continue to safely use the existing road across the dam
- Permanently close the road across the dam and develop an alternate access road below the dam on the downstream side
- Permanently close the road across the dam and reroute traffic onto existing county roads

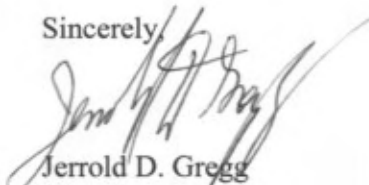
Additional information on the project can be found on Reclamation's Pacific Northwest Region's website: http://www.usbr.gov/pn/programs/srao_misc/security/index.html.

The environmental assessment required under NEPA will evaluate the impacts of a range of alternatives on the human and natural environments. This analysis and public input will assist us in

making a final decision for the project. We anticipate the draft environmental assessment document will be distributed for public review and comment in the spring of 2009. We are asking for your assistance in helping us to identify issues and concerns, develop and refine a range of alternatives, and evaluate potential impacts of implementing the alternatives. Comments specific to the proposed options or other options that would achieve the goals of the project and the types of impacts that would occur are most helpful. We invite you to send your written comments to: Mr. Jerrold D. Gregg, Area Manager, Bureau of Reclamation, Snake River Area Office, 230 Collins Road, Boise, Idaho 83702, by November 25, 2008. If you wish to comment via email, you may send comments to dfcomments@pn.usbr.gov. If you have any questions concerning the environmental assessment process, please contact Mr. Steve Dunn at 208-383-2222.

We are also updating our mailing list. Please fill out and return the form below to Mr. Steve Dunn at the address above or notify us via the above email address if you wish to remain on the mailing list for the project and receive a copy of the Draft Environmental Assessment. We will assume you do not wish to be on the mailing list if we do not receive notification.

Sincerely,



Jerrold D. Gregg
Area Manager

Cut along this line

Please keep my name on the mailing list for the Deer Flat Lower Embankment Security Enhancement Project.

Please change my address on your mailing list to:

Name

Address

City, State, Zip Code