Basic Details

Publish Date

02 September 2025

Case ID#

3114

Title

Leakage from poorly sealed joints

Nation

England

Regulator Reference No.

303

Legal Status

Statutory

Reservoir Type

Impounding

Reservoir Capacity

100,000 - 499,999m3

Year of Construction

1800 - 1849

Main Construction Type

Earth fill embankment

Dam Height

10 - 14.99 metres

Dam Flood Category

A

Hazard Class

High-risk reservoir

Reservoir Use

- Other

Owner Type

Registered charity

Incident Details

Date & Time of Incident

28 December 2006 - 12:00

Date Incident Closed

Not provided

Observations that Caused the Incident to be Declared

- Unexpected leakage or seepage from a known leakage point

Describe the Incident

Increased leakage from a point two-thirds down the downstream face, adjacent to a spillway structure, was noted. The water level was lowered as a precaution and the leakage stopped. Regular surveillance of the toe area had not been carried out. Leakage was attributed to poorly-sealed joints in the spillway structure.

Supporting Photos

No images provided.

Causes and Impacts

Natural Processes which Initiated or Contributed to the Incident

- None

Main Contributing Factors to the Incident Occurring

Dam Factors

- Deterioration of materials

External Factors

- None

Shortcomings

- Surveillance shortcoming

Root Cause of the Incident

Impacts on the Reservoir

- Internal erosion (adjacent to structures)

Supporting Photos

No images provided.

Supporting Contributions and Studies

Human Factors which Influenced the Incident

The reporter questioned the surveillance of the reservoir.

Instrumentation at the Reservoir

No instrumentation at this dam.

Was Instrumentation Effective?

Not Applicable

Assistance by External Parties and Impacts on Downstream Population

None

Summary of Studies or Investigations Undertaken

Investigation suggested that leaking joints in the spillway structure were the source of the leak.

Supporting Photos

No images provided.

Lessons Learnt

Lesson 1

- Surveillance and Monitoring

The standard of surveillance in this case was not to the undertaker's procedures. This has been resolved.

Closing Comments

Supporting Photos

No images provided.

Information provided has been sent from reservoir owners and engineers, and cleansed of personal information by the enforcement authority. We cannot guarantee the accuracy of the data, but if you find an error please contact the relevant enforcement authority.