



Gallimaufry: News and events from the British Dam Society

This issue contains an excellent variety of papers ranging from the discontinuance of Loch Mhulinn reservoir to the first of two papers on the application of the Internal Erosion Toolbox to Rochdale canal dams; the second part of this will be published in the next issue.

The continued success of this journal relies upon your willingness to write and submit informative articles and news, and I would strongly urge you to make the effort to submit papers, articles and news items for consideration and review to editor@britishdams.org.

Along with other journal editors, I have recently been issued with the following advice from ICE Publishing:

‘As the demands on our infrastructure continue to grow, civil engineers’ leadership role within society becomes more demanding. This role involves placing ethical decision making at the heart of everything we do. Behaving ethically is not a new concept to the civil engineering profession – our work in the built environment puts us at the frontline of decisions that affect everyone’s lives. But as we become more global in our approach, there’s a greater need for every member, no matter where they are in the world, to conduct themselves professionally.

ICE’s international journals maintain their ethical standards through the process of peer review. The majority of ICE journals ask the following question of the reviewers that they engage to provide anonymous comments:

Question 4. Is the article ethical (no undue promotion or criticism of an individual, organisation or product)?

To maintain the best ethical standards, please ensure that this question is asked of every article that you and your panel/board review. If your journal does not currently ask this question, please take steps to integrate it into your review process.

To aide ICE members fulfil their responsibilities, this month sees the launch of a civil engineering Ethics Toolkit.’

To my knowledge, no peer-reviewed papers submitted to *Dams and Reservoirs* have been returned on ethical grounds, but it is essential that authors bear in mind the dictates of Question 4 when preparing papers.

ICOLD

ICOLD (the International Commission on Large Dams) has a number of technical committees, listed below, which produce technical bulletins on a wide range of subjects relating to dams and reservoirs:

- A Committee on computational aspects of analysis and design of dams
- B Committee on seismic aspects of dam design
- C Committee on hydraulics for dams
- D Committee on concrete dams
- E Committee on embankment dams
- F Committee on engineering activities with the planning process for water resources projects
- G Committee on the environment
- H Committee on dam safety
- I Committee on public safety around dams
- J Committee on sedimentation of reservoirs
- K Committee on integrated operation of hydropower stations and reservoirs
- L Committee on tailings dams and waste lagoons
- M Committee on operation, maintenance and rehabilitation of dams
- N Committee on public awareness and education
- O Committee on the world register of dams and documentation
- Q Committee on dams surveillance
- S Committee on flood evaluation and dam safety
- U Committee on dams and river basin management
- X Financial and advisory ad hoc committee
- Y Committee on global climate change and dams, reservoirs and the associated water resources
- Z Ad hoc committee on capacity building and dams
- YEF Young engineers’ forum

At the 81st ICOLD General Assembly, held in Seattle in August 2013, these committees met and produced progress reports on their work. Any British Dam Society (BDS) member can obtain a copy of these reports on application to the BDS secretary, Tim Fuller, on bds@ice.org.uk. The report from technical committee I by Ian Hope is given below.

Report from Technical Committee I: Public safety around dams (current UK representative Ian Hope)

The committee is in its second year following appointment and builds on the report of the European Club working group 'Safety of existing dams'. Its main concern is to provide advice to dam owners following increasing public activity and interest on and around our structures.

The committee generally comprises hydro power dam owners who are increasingly concerned with public safety particularly following controlled releases from dams.

An international database of incidents that detail fatalities and serious incidents has been developed by the chair of the committee Tony Bennett (Ontario Power Generation).

During the meeting, experiences were shared together with the vastly differing legislative regimes across the world, which govern both dam and public safety. Examples of codes of practice were tabled and discussed.

A maturity matrix is to be developed that covers: management focus, education, guidelines for owners, event management, physical measures and operational measures.

Events

Forthcoming BDS events are as follows

- The Practicalities and Economics of RCC, ICE London, 20 January 2014
- 150th Anniversary of Dale Dyke Dam Failure, ICE London, 24 February 2014
- 150th Anniversary of Dale Dyke Dam Failure, Sheffield University, 6 April 2014
- Dale Dyke Public Exhibition, Low Bradfield 8–9 March 2014

Details of these and subsequent events are listed on the BDS website <http://www.britishdams.org/meetings.asp>.

It is with great sadness that we announce the death of Dick Reader on 27 November after a short illness. Dick was formerly a partner at Rofo, Kennard and Lapworth and later Arup, following the merger of the two companies. He was closely involved with the design and construction of a variety of dams in the UK and abroad throughout his career, was a long-standing member of BDS and served on the ICE Reservoirs Committee. A full obituary will appear in the next issue of *Dams and Reservoirs*.