

STATE OF CALIFORNIA
DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES
OROVILLE DAM SAFETY
COMPREHENSIVE NEEDS ASSESSMENT

#### Oroville Independent Review Board

Memorandum #3 December 13-14, 2018 Meeting

Prepared for

Oroville Dam Safety Ad Hoc Committee Meeting No. 3 January 10, 2019





#### IRB Members

- (Elizabeth) Betty Andrews, Environmental Science Associates
- Dr. Lelio Mejia, Geosyntec Consultants
- Bruce Muller, US Bureau of Reclamation (Retired)
- Paul Schweiger, Gannett Fleming, Inc.
- Daniel Wade, San Francisco Public Utilities
   Commission





- Need for common understanding of status
- Sufficient refinement to demonstrate progress toward resolution



- Status Descriptions
  - Under Consideration Project team is considering the recommendation, but hasn't committed to if or how the recommendation will be addressed.
  - Planned The IRB has accepted the Project Team's response and an appropriate action is planned.
  - In Progress The IRB sees evidence of the planned actions being underway.



- Status Descriptions
  - Closed The IRB has reviewed and confirmed that the Project Team's planned action has been completed and adequately addressed.
  - Not Adopted The Project Team didn't adopt the recommendation. An explanation has been or will be provided.
  - Superseded The IRB has revised a prior recommendation to provide additional clarity.



Recommendation Status	IRB #1	IRB #2
Under Consideration	0	1
Planned	11	9
In Progress	6	3
Closed	4	1
Not Adopted	0	
Superseded	1	0
	22	14

Status as of 12/14/2018

**Outlet Portals** 

Switchyard -





# 1. Does the IRB have any recommendations or comments on the evaluation criteria/progress?

- Thoughtful and deliberate process.
- IRB pleased with selection of DWR's Asset Management framework for assessing risk.
- Recommend further development in the near term
  - Additional consequence/outcome categories
  - Beneficial project outcomes



- General
  - Common and consistent terminology.
  - Express issues clearly focus objectives on outcomes rather than process.
  - Establish a minimum set of hard constraints.
  - Establish common format for tables of issues, objectives and constraints.



Task 1 – Alternatives Evaluation to Restore Spillway Design Capacity to Pass the Probable Maximum Flood (PMF).

- Revise Task title to "Evaluating Measures to Enhance Spillway Reliability and Resiliency."
- Consider alignment with FEMA 94 Guidelines for Selecting and Accommodating Inflow Design Floods for Dams.
- Establish performance standards for FCO and Emergency (Auxiliary) Spillway.
- Identify and assess data gaps related to geology between the secant pile wall and the river.



Task 2 – Operational Needs Assessment to Support Development of Alternative Reservoir Outflow Enhancements.

- Complete assessment of issues prior to formulating measures.
- Incorporate any physical changes since 1970 into flood operations procedures.
- Continue consideration of strategy for addressing climate change used in Central Valley Flood Protection Plan Update 2017.



Task 4 – Alternatives Evaluation for Low-Level Outlet.

- When identifying measures, identify whether they directly achieve reliability or do so through redundancy.
- Focus more on good engineering practice and less on regulatory requirements.
- Objective T4-3 "... provide additional capacity and flexibility for routine reservoir operations ..."
- Additional documentation/verification of assumptions for drawdown calculations.
- Ensure assessment of construction risk for measures proposed.



Task 6 – Instrumentation and Monitoring for the Oroville Dam Complex.

- Expand focus to include mechanical and electrical systems critical to operations.
- Expand scope to include visual monitoring.
- Examine accuracy of inflow forecasts and document protocol for loss of communications with upstream instruments.



### 3. Does the IRB have any recommendations or comments on the Part 12D Level 2 briefing?

- Level 2 Risk analysis will benefit the CNA study.
- Proposed process has been used in the federal sector for 20 years.
- Proposed facilitators, SME's, recorders and reviewers have substantial experience in both dam engineering and risk analysis of dams.
- Partitioning of the risk analysis due to complexity seems to be well conceived.



# 4. Does the IRB have any recommendations or comments on the final report outline?

- Give priority to similar outlines for task reports.
- Add section for description of significant modifications.
- Add high level description of project motivation, approach and report organization.
- Document rationale for the 6 tasks.
- Consider adding descriptions of how and why design practices have evolved since 1969 – emphasize goal being to ensure the dam meets/exceeds current design standards.



# 5. Does the IRB have any recommendations or comments on the IRB Comments Log?

Covered earlier in the presentation



#### 6. Does the IRB have any other recommendations or comments?

Looking forward to hearing about the following at IRB #4:

- Schedule progress.
- Initial results from Level 2 Risk Assessment.
- Definition of issues/objectives/constraints tables.
- Final draft of the evaluation framework.
- Outlines of the task reports contained in the appendices.

