

CONGRESSIONAL STATEMENT OF PURPOSE; NATIONAL
DAM SAFETY PROGRAM

Pub. L. 104-303, title II, §215(a), Oct. 12, 1996, 110 Stat. 3685, provided that: "The purpose of this section [enacting this section and sections 467d to 467j of this title, amending sections 467a to 467c of this title and section 3802 of Title 25, Indians, repealing former sections 467 and 467d to 467m of this title, and enacting provisions set out as notes under this section] is to reduce the risks to life and property from dam failure in the United States through the establishment and maintenance of an effective national dam safety program to bring together the expertise and resources of the Federal and non-Federal communities in achieving national dam safety hazard reduction. It is not the intent of this section to preempt any other Federal or State authorities nor is it the intent of this section to mandate State participation in the grant assistance program to be established under this section."

EFFECT ON OTHER DAM SAFETY PROGRAMS

Pub. L. 104-303, title II, §215(b), Oct. 12, 1996, 110 Stat. 3685, provided that: "Nothing in this section (including the amendments made by this section) [enacting this section and sections 467d to 467j of this title, amending sections 467a to 467c of this title and section 3802 of Title 25, Indians, repealing former sections 467 and 467d to 467m of this title, and enacting provisions set out as notes under this section] shall preempt or otherwise affect any dam safety program of a Federal agency other than the Federal Emergency Management Agency, including any program that regulates, permits, or licenses any activity affecting a dam."

§ 467a. Inspection of dams

(a) In general

As soon as practicable, the Secretary of the Army, acting through the Chief of Engineers, shall carry out a national program of inspection of dams for the purpose of protecting human life and property. All dams in the United States shall be inspected by the Secretary except (1) dams under the jurisdiction of the Bureau of Reclamation, the Tennessee Valley Authority, or the International Boundary and Water Commission, (2) dams which have been constructed pursuant to licenses issued under the authority of the Federal Power Act [16 U.S.C. 791a et seq.], (3) dams which have been inspected within the twelve-month period immediately prior to August 8, 1972, by a State agency and which the Governor of such State requests be excluded from inspection, and (4) dams which the Secretary of the Army determines do not pose any threat to human life or property. The Secretary may inspect dams which have been licensed under the Federal Power Act upon request of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission and dams under the jurisdiction of the International Boundary and Water Commission upon request of such Commission.

(b) State participation

On request of a State dam safety agency, with respect to any dam the failure of which would affect the State, the head of a Federal agency shall—

- (1) provide information to the State dam safety agency on the construction, operation, maintenance, condition, or provisions for emergency operations of the dam; or
- (2) allow any official of the State dam safety agency to participate in the Federal inspection of the dam.

(Pub. L. 92-367, §3, formerly §2, Aug. 8, 1972, 86 Stat. 506; Pub. L. 95-91, title IV, §402(a)(1)(A), Aug. 4, 1977, 91 Stat. 583; renumbered §3 and amended Pub. L. 104-303, title II, §215(c)(3), (5), Oct. 12, 1996, 110 Stat. 3685, 3687; Pub. L. 113-121, title III, §3001(b), June 10, 2014, 128 Stat. 1282.)

REFERENCES IN TEXT

The Federal Power Act, referred to in subsec. (a), is act June 10, 1920, ch. 285, 41 Stat. 1063, as amended, which is classified generally to chapter 12 (§791a et seq.) of Title 16, Conservation. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see section 791a of Title 16 and Tables.

PRIOR PROVISIONS

A prior section 3 of Pub. L. 92-367 was renumbered section 4 and is classified to section 467b of this title.

AMENDMENTS

2014—Subsec. (b)(1). Pub. L. 113-121 substituted "maintenance, condition, or provisions for emergency operations" for "or maintenance".

1996—Pub. L. 104-303 inserted section catchline, designated existing provisions as subsec. (a) and inserted heading, and added subsec. (b).

TRANSFER OF FUNCTIONS

"Federal Energy Regulatory Commission" substituted in text for "Federal Power Commission" on authority of Pub. L. 95-91, title IV, §402(a)(1)(A), Aug. 4, 1977, 91 Stat. 583, which is classified to section 7172(a)(1)(A) of Title 42, The Public Health and Welfare.

§ 467b. Investigation reports to Governors

As soon as practicable after inspection of a dam, the Secretary shall notify the Governor of the State in which such dam is located the results of such investigation. In any case in which any hazardous conditions are found during an inspection, upon request by the owner, the Secretary, acting through the Chief of Engineers, may perform detailed engineering studies to determine the structural integrity of the dam, subject to reimbursement of such expense by the owner of such dam. The Secretary shall immediately notify the Governor of any hazardous conditions found during an inspection. The Secretary shall provide advice to the Governor, upon request, relating to timely remedial measures necessary to mitigate or obviate any hazardous conditions found during an inspection.

(Pub. L. 92-367, §4, formerly §3, Aug. 8, 1972, 86 Stat. 507; Pub. L. 99-662, title XII, §1204, Nov. 17, 1986, 100 Stat. 4263; renumbered §4 and amended Pub. L. 104-303, title II, §215(c)(3), (6), Oct. 12, 1996, 110 Stat. 3685, 3687.)

PRIOR PROVISIONS

A prior section 4 of Pub. L. 92-367 was renumbered section 5 and is classified to section 467c of this title.

AMENDMENTS

1996—Pub. L. 104-303 inserted section catchline.

1986—Pub. L. 99-662 inserted "In any case in which any hazardous conditions are found during an inspection, upon request by the owner, the Secretary, acting through the Chief of Engineers, may perform detailed engineering studies to determine the structural integrity of the dam, subject to reimbursement of such expense by the owner of such dam."

§ 467c. Determination of danger to human life and property

For the purpose of determining whether a dam (including the waters impounded by such dam)