



Robert G. Graves
Secretary

Department of Transportation and Development

P. O. BOX 94245
BATON ROUGE, LA. 70804-9245

May 27, 1987



Edwin W. Edwards
Governor

Mr. Gaylon D. Simmons, Chairman
Jackson Parish Watershed District
905 E. Main
Jonesboro, Louisiana 71251

Dear Mr. Simmons:

As you are aware, Caney Lake has been slowly filling towards its normal pool stage of 200.0 feet MSL. We also understand that people are beginning to utilize the reservoir for recreational activities. We feel that it is appropriate at this time for the Watershed District to take certain actions to provide the general public with various information about the lake, such as lake hazards and surcharges. Also, the Watershed District should establish a permitting process to regulate development along the lake.

The drop inlet spillway at Caney Lake is encircled by a buoy barrier to prevent boaters from approaching the spillway structure. This is an area which is extremely dangerous, especially during lake stages above normal pool. Boaters, swimmers and skiers venturing too close could be swept into the drop inlet spillway by swift currents. It is very doubtful that anyone could survive the 39 foot vertical fall down the inlet tower and a trip through an approximate 380 foot length of discharge conduit. Signs indicating danger should be installed on the buoy barrier piles at the spillway structure. These signs should be worded in such a fashion to warn the general public of the potential of swift currents in the area and that they should not venture near the barrier. Also, we have been informed by the DOTD District Office that the lake will be very shallow for a substantial distance in an area near the public boat launching ramp and the spillway structure. It would be prudent to install "NO SWIMMING" signs at this location.

The fluctuation in lake elevation above normal pool is referred to as lake surcharge. Caney Lake will rise (surcharge) approximately four and one-half feet for the 100 year storm event. On very rare storm events, the lake may surcharge some twelve and one-half feet above the 200.0 foot pool stage elevation. The 100 year storm event is based on historical storm data and a projection of that information is made to estimate the particular storm event. The magnitude of this event will vary as the data base is increased over the years; i.e., a 100 year storm event which is predicted today will not necessarily be equal to a 100 year storm event which will be predicted many years in the future. Therefore, anyone building along a reservoir assumes a risk of being flooded by rising lake levels. It is our opinion that habitable structures, as well as

521,000

207,000

100,000

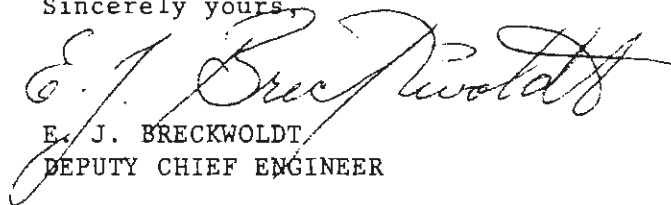
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sewage disposal fields, should not be constructed below elevation 204.5 feet MSL. We feel that this will provide adequate protection against common flooding although the possibility of flooding will still exist for extreme events. Each individual is responsible for building his structure to a suitable elevation above elevation 204.5 feet to provide what he determines to be adequate flood protection. Consequently, each individual must assume all risks involved in constructing at any elevation below the top of the dam.

Informational and warning signs should be installed at all existing and future public access points, such as boat launching ramps, park sites, etc. These signs should inform the public of lake hazards and surcharges, as well as other matters previously mentioned. Finally, the local media should also be utilized to inform the general public.

Please feel free to contact us if you have any questions or require assistance.

Sincerely yours,



E. J. BRECKWOLDT
DEPUTY CHIEF ENGINEER

EJB:sl

xc: Mr. Marty J. Chabert
Mr. Roy Mitchell
Mr. Charlie Higgins
Mr. Curtis G. Patterson
Mr. Van C. Westbrook
Mr. Paul Colquette
Mr. John Eason
Mr. Edmond J. Preau, Jr.
Mr. Eddie Olivier, Jr.

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AND DEVELOPMENT OFFICE OF PUBLIC WORKS IMPOUNDMENT PERMIT

This certificate is issued to JACKSON PARISH WATERSHED DISTRICT, pursuant to Chapter 1A, Dams and Related Matters, Title 38 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes. The Department of Transportation and Development authorizes the use of CANEY CREEK Dam and Reservoir Located in Sec. 5 & 8, Tp. 14N., R. 1W., JACKSON Parish, State of Louisiana to impound water in accordance with and subject to the following terms and conditions:

THE JACKSON PARISH WATERSHED DISTRICT SHALL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR LAKE AND LAKESHORE MANAGEMENT. D.O.T.D. SHALL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR MAINTENANCE AND UPKEEP OF THE DAM AND WATER CONTROL STRUCTURE IN ACCORDANCE WITH ACT 270 OF THE 1984 LEGISLATIVE SESSION.

This permit of approval supersedes every previous consent for use issued by the State of Louisiana relative to said dam and reservoir. This permit may be revoked if the owner fails to maintain the integrity of the structure as required by law.

Witness my hand and seal of the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development, Office of Public Works.

.....24TH.....day of.....FEBRUARY....., 1986.....

Arthur R. Sher

Application Number 05-25-001 Deputy Chief Engineer P. E. No. 3942