

February 9, 2009

To Whom It May Concern:

Re: Dam Safety & Real Estate  
Workshop

This letter serves to confirm that Mr. Tim J. Agnello, P.G. is under contract with the Indiana Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) to make presentations on dam safety to professionals in the Indiana real estate industry. The contract is funded by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) of the Department of Homeland Security (DHS).

Dam safety is a national concern since many of these structures have serious deficiencies and the owners (mostly private or local) often lack the resources or are unaware of their responsibility to upgrade their dams to a safe condition. There are over 1000 dams regulated by IDNR (Indiana Code 14-27-7.5) and many of these structures have significant safety deficiencies.

Real estate professionals are frequently involved in the transfer of ownership of dams, lake front parcels, and downstream properties; all of which may be at risk for loss of life, property damage and decreased property values should the dam fail. Based on numerous inquiries to IDNR from agents, buyers and others, it is apparent that there is a need to inform and educate professionals involved in the real estate transaction process about dam safety in Indiana.

Mr. Agnello's expertise in geologic/manmade hazards and the real estate industry provides the unique background necessary to explain dam safety issues to real estate professionals. The information obtained from Mr. Agnello's dam safety workshop will help you reduce your liability, minimize property devaluation, and promote a safe environment for your clients.

If you have any questions, please contact me at 317-232-4224 or Mr. George Crosby (Manager of the Dam & Levee Safety Section) at 317-233-4576. The toll free number for IDNR 1-877-928-3755.

Sincerely,



Kenneth E. Smith, P.E.  
Assistant Director  
Division of Water

KES/GWC  
Enclosures