Rule 45 Emergency Action and Operation Plans

045. Emergency Action and Operation Plans.

An Emergency Action Plan (EAP) is required for water storage dams and mine tailings impoundment structures as described in the following rules. The EAP shall provide procedures for emergency procedures and notification during unexpected or non-routine events either naturally occurring, mechanical, or a result of intentional vandalism/ terrorism. The EAP may be a component of an Operation Plan that includes guidelines and procedures for inspection, operation, maintenance, and monitoring of instruments required to record performance of the structure during normal operating cycles, critical filling or flood periods, or as may be necessary for evaluating the effects of an earthquake with an epicenter near the project site.

01. New, Reconstructed or Enlarged Water Storage Dams and Mine Tailings Impoundment Structures. Prior to the initial filling of the reservoir or placing mine waste slurry or paste into a mine tailings impoundment the owner shall file with the Director an Emergency Action Plan for review and approval.

02. Existing Dams. The Director may waive the requirements for individual Low Hazard Water Storage Dams or Mine Tailings Impoundment Structures upon a determination that the flood inundation zone resulting from the potential failure or uncontrolled release of contents impounded by the structure will not damage downstream life or property.