

Folsom Modification and Folsom Dam Raise Projects, California Post Authorization Change Report

External Peer Review Plan

Background

A Post Authorization Change Report (PAC Report) is being prepared to document changes to two authorized projects: the Folsom Modification Project and the Folsom Dam Raise Project. Both of these projects share an objective of improving flood management on the lower American River to reduce the risk of flooding to the Sacramento area, primarily through structural modifications to the existing Folsom Dam and appurtenant facilities.

Because of escalating costs and technical problems discovered post authorization, the implementation of the Folsom Modification Project has been delayed. This delay, with associated impacts to the Folsom Dam Raise Project and the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation's accelerated efforts to address dam safety issues at Folsom, provided an opportunity and an emphasis on reconsidering the individual agency projects on a more integrated basis. The PAC Report will present recommendations for each authorized project.

The Folsom Modification Project is a single-purpose flood damage reduction project. The Folsom Dam Raise Project is a multiple purpose project consisting of both authorized flood damage reduction and ecosystem restoration projects. The subject study meets many of the criteria which trigger an External Peer Review (EPR) as set forth in EC 1105-2-408, paragraph 9, section a. Thresholds set forth in the guidance that are applicable to this effort are novelty of the work, controversial, potentially precedent setting, and a significant interagency interest.

Because the PAC Report is focused on the flood damage reduction objective of project each project (the Folsom Dam Raise ecosystem restoration project is not under going a post authorization change), the USACE Planning Center of Expertise for Flood Damage Reduction (PCX FDR) - South Pacific Division (SPD) - has the responsibility for accomplishment and quality of the EPR as set forth in EC 1105-2-408. The PCX FDR has directed the Sacramento District, under management of the PCX FDR, to coordinate accomplishment of EPR for the subject study. This EPR Plan expounds upon the basic EPR plan described in CEWSPK-PD Memorandum for PCX FDR, 10 October 2006, and documents the review plan for the subject study.

The Peer Review Plan

The PAC Report and a set of associated Engineering Documentation Reports (EDRs) are undergoing EPR. Disciplines for review are hydrology, hydraulics, rock mechanics, structural design, cost engineering, and economics. These are the disciplines considered critical to developing sound designs and cost estimates and are important to the decision making process. No technical information contained in neither the PAC Report nor the EDRs is considered to be highly influential scientifically nor precedent setting.

Individual subject matter experts who work external to the Corps were identified to conduct this EPR. The six EPR members were identified by each respective Sacramento District technical function. Neither the public nor any outside group was asked to nominate EPR members. The following table shows the ultimate EPR members.

Name/Affiliation	Discipline
Michael Burnham/David Ford Consulting Engineers, Inc.	Hydrologic Engineering
Henry T. Falvey/Henry T. Falvey and Associates	Hydraulic Engineering
Dr. Yusof Ghanaat/Quest Structures	Structural Engineering
Dr. Richard E. Goodman/ Independent Consultant	Geotechnical Engineering
Project Time & Cost, Inc.	Cost Engineering
Michael Gorecki/Nobel Consultants, Inc.	Economics

The Administrative Draft (November 2006) and Draft PAC Report and EDRs (dated December 2006) are to undergo EPR. EPR is accomplished via individual scopes of service and product submittals. Individual scopes of service are attached to this plan.

In addition to the EPR, all products are undergoing seamless and formal Independent Technical Review. The draft reports will undergo coordinated EPR and formal ITR. The draft reports were available for public and agency review during the EPR and formal ITR period. No significant public review comments were received on the draft report and therefore none were provided to the EPR team. EPR comments and evaluation and draft treatment of comments were provided to the ITR team for their information and use.

For reference, the following table shows the Project Deliver Team (PDT) members are identified as well as the members of the PCX FDR.

PDT Members		
Name/District	Title/Discipline	Office
SPK		
Lawrence Crawley	Technical Lead Engineering	CESPK-ED-DR
Gary Bedker	Technical Lead Economics	CESPK-PD-W
Miki Fujitsubo	Lead Planner	CESPK-PD-W
SPD		
Mark Charlton	Director, PCX FDR	CESPD-PDS
Clark Frentzen	Technical P.O.C., PCX FDR	CESPD-PDS-P