

**Memorandum**

To : Files

Date : July 26, 1978

File No.:

Subject : Meiners Oak Dam  
and Reservoir, No. 768  
Telephone Call

M. I. Zumot

From : Department of Water Resources

I called the Meiners Oaks County Water District and spoke with Ms. Hellen Ortman regarding the survey of the subject dam. Ms. Ortman referred me to the District's engineer Mr. John McWhirter. Mr. McWhirter stated that he just finished surveying the reservoir, and that he is plotting an area-capacity curve. He added that he will send us the area-capacity curve as soon as it is ready.

MIZumot:rr

(916) 322-6206

APR 28 1978

Mr. Dean Cobb, President  
Meiners Oaks County Water District  
202 West El Roblar  
Ojai, CA 93023

Dear Mr. Cobb:

Meiners Oaks Dam and Reservoir, No. 768

This is to acknowledge receipt of your Resolution  
No. 127, together with the Notice of Exemption  
transmitted with Mr. Ben K. Ashby's letter dated  
March 28, 1978.

We are awaiting the survey of the reservoir and a plot  
of the Area-Capacity curve so we can further process  
your application.

Sincerely,

Original Signed by  
J. E. Ley

James J. Doody, Chief  
Division of Safety of Dams

MIZumot:fs

FILE COPY

SURNAME

MIZumot 4/18

Sept 28

Ley 4/27

APR 28 1978

**Memorandum**

To : File

Date : April 11, 1978

File No.:

Subject: Meiners Oaks Dam and  
Reservoir, No. 768From : M. I. Zumot  
Department of Water Resources

Telephone Call

I called the Meiners Oaks County Water District and spoke with Ms. Hellen Ortman regarding the survey of the subject dam. Ms. Ortman referred me to the District's engineer Mr. John McWhirter. Mr. McWhirter stated that the reservoir area has been too wet to survey and added that he will survey the area as soon as it dries out and furnish us with the area-capacity curve of the reservoir.

MIZumot:fs  
4-12-78  
4-13-78

**BEN K. ASHBY**

ATTORNEY AT LAW  
1915 EAST MAIN STREET  
POST OFFICE BOX 350  
VENTURA, CALIFORNIA 93001

TELEPHONE  
(805) 648-4400

*#768*

March 28, 1978

SECRETARY FOR RESOURCES  
1416 Ninth Street, Room 1311  
Sacramento, CA 95814

Gentlemen:

In accordance with your letter of September 13, 1977,  
enclosed is Meiners Oaks County Water District Resolution  
#127, together with Notice of Exemption which has been  
filed in reference to Meiners Oaks Reservoir #768.

Please process the documentation for approval at your  
earliest convenience.

Sincerely,

BEN K. ASHBY

BKA:Pm  
Enclosures

cc: Dept. of Water Resources

*Target 4-14*

*RES*

*APR 10 1978*

*MITZ*

*Please handle.  
Should prepare  
brief acknowledge  
ment letter, then  
proceed with  
processing of  
application*

*SSM  
4/10*



## Appendix E

## NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

TO: ☐ Secretary for Resources  
1416 North Street, Room 1311  
Sacramento, California 95814

☐ County Clerk  
County of \_\_\_\_\_

FROM: MEINERS OAKS COUNTY  
WATER DISTRICT  
202 W. El Roblar  
Ojai, CA 93023

MEINERS OAKS COUNTY WATER DISTRICT RESERVOIR #768

Project Title within Meiners Oaks Co. Water District, County of Ventura  
Project Location—Specific State of California.

Project Location—City \_\_\_\_\_ Project Location—County \_\_\_\_\_

## Description of Nature, Purpose, and Beneficiaries of Project

beneficiary - Meiners Oaks County Water District.

Purpose - to terminate the use of the reservoir #768,

~~which is being abandoned.~~

Name of Public Agency Approving Project Meiners Oaks County Water District

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project Meiners Oaks County Water Dist.

## Exempt Status: (Check One)

- ☐ Ministerial (Sec. 15073)  
☐ Declared Emergency (Sec. 15071(a))  
☐ Emergency Project (Sec. 15071(b) and (c))  
☒ XX Categorical Exemption. State type and section number:

Chapter 3, State Resources Agency Guidelines, Sec. 15104

## Reason why project is exempt:

(Cl.4(c))

"Minor alterations to land 'filing of earth into  
previously excavated land with materials compatible  
with the natural features of the site."

Contact Person BEN K. ASHBY Area Code 805 - 64804400 Extension \_\_\_\_\_

## If filed by applicant:

1. Attach certified documents of exemption finding.
2. Has a notice of exemption been filed by the public agency approving the project? Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_

Date Received for Filing \_\_\_\_\_

Signature DEAN COBB, President  
Title MEINERS OAKS COUNTY WATER DISTRICT

NOTE: Authority cited: Sections 21063 and 21065, Public Resources Code. Reference: Sections 21108, 21132, 21167, Public Resources Code and Chap. 58, Stats. 1974.

History: 1. New Appendix E filed 3-26-74 as an emergency; effective upon filing (Register 74, No. 13).

2. Certificate of Compliance filed 5-26-74 (Register 74, No. 25).

3. Amendment filed 1-3-75; designated effective 4-1-75 (Register 75, No. 1).

State of California  
The Resources Agency  
DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES  
DIVISION OF SAFETY OF DAMS

INSPECTION OF DAM AND RESERVOIR IN CERTIFIED STATUS

Name of dam Meiners Oaks Dam No. 768 County Ventura  
Type of dam earth Type of Spillway culvert  
Water is empty feet \_\_\_\_\_ spillway crest and \_\_\_\_\_ feet \_\_\_\_\_ dam crest.  
(above, below) (above, below)  
Contacts made Messrs. McWhirter and Wallbridge  
Detail in question Alteration to less than jurisdictional size  
Action taken See Remarks

Remarks \*

The inspection was made at the request of the General Manager of the Water District to discuss changes in the plan they submitted with the presently unapproved Alteration Application.

The inspection showed that a large amount of waste fill had been placed in the bottom of the reservoir. The stand pipe tower was in good condition, and tower ports and outlet were open. The outlet at the downstream end of the dam was disconnected from the water system so they can no longer import water into the reservoir.

Mr. McWhirter said they now plan to survey the reservoir to determine if its capacity is over 15 acre-feet. They will submit an area capacity curve along with a plan to fill the existing reservoir with good quality fill. They will eliminate the proposal to place a new low level spillway. I told him we would give favorable consideration to the change in plans but would need proof that their Board had met CEQA requirements before we could approve the application.

I also suggested that the deteriorating suspension bridge to the tower be removed and the gate be permanently removed. Mr. McWhirter said they planned to convert the tower to an outlet riser by cutting slots or ports in order to assure that water would not be trapped in the reservoir.

Typed by st  
Date 1/20/78  
cc for \_\_\_\_\_

\*Note any change in condition since last inspection such as: seepage; erosion; deterioration of materials; cracks; method of operation; use of flashboards; etc.

Inspection by REStephenson  
Date of inspection 12/16/77  
Date of report 12/21/77  
Photos taken? Yes ☐ No ☒

# Memorandum

To : File

Date : December 13, 1977

File No.:

Subject: Meiners Oaks  
Dam, No. 768

Telephone Call

M. Zumot

From : Department of Water Resources

Mr. Tom Wallbridge of Meiners Oaks County Water District called today regarding the jurisdictional status of Meiners Oaks Dam. He stated that his engineer believes that the dam should be nonjurisdictional since its storage capacity is less than 15 acre-feet. He also requested me to set up a meeting to discuss the jurisdictional status of Meiners Oaks Dam. A meeting is scheduled for Friday, December 16, 1977.

MZumot:ef

# Memorandum

To : Files

Date : November 16, 1977

File No.:

Subject: Meiners Oaks Dam and  
Reservoir, No. 768

S. S. McEwan

Telephone Call

From : Department of Water Resources

Mr. Barry Lockton, Public Works Director for the City of Ojai in Ventura County, telephoned today to inquire as to our reaction to using the abandoned Meiners Oaks Reservoir site as a disposal site for excess excavation and waste material they contemplate having as a result of an expanded public works program. They have approached the Meiners Oaks Water District in this regard, but particularly wanted to know our requirements, if any, as related to dam safety. Further, he was aware of the pending application before us to alter the dam to less than jurisdictional size and wanted to know if filling the reservoir with what he described as an inorganic fill material, except possibly for some well mixed asphaltic concrete waste, was an acceptable alternate for reducing the capacity of the reservoir to less than 15 acre-feet. He said such waste fill would only be lightly compacted.

I informed Mr. Lockton that we could accept this means of reducing the capacity of the reservoir if it were proposed to us in written form by the District as an amendment to the presently unapproved application. The latter is being held in abeyance pending completion of environmental documentation by the District. The original capacity of the reservoir is 15.9 acre-feet, as stated on the application, so only a reduction of about one acre-foot (approximately 1 600 cubic yards of fill material) is involved.

Based upon my remarks, Mr. Lockton indicated that he would continue his discussions with the District in this respect.

SSMcEwan:fs  
11-30-77

**Memorandum**

To : Files

Date : October 6, 1977

File No.:

Subject : Meiners Oaks Dam and  
Reservoir, No. 768

J. McMaster

Telephone  
Conservation

From : Department of Water Resources

Our office received a telephone call today from Ms. Helen Ortman, who works for the Meiners Oaks County Water District. She called in regard to the contents of our letter, dated September 13, 1977, which stated essentially that the water district had not complied with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) of 1970 for the proposed alterations to the dam. Basically, Ms. Ortman's questions were of a procedural and informational nature in regard to fulfilling CEQA requirements. To assist her in this effort, I offered the following suggestions and comments:

1. Obtain a copy of the State Guidelines for CEQA - perhaps the County Clerk's office could be of assistance.
2. Judging from the scope and nature of the project, it probably would meet the criteria for a categorical exemption.
3. Board of Directors for the water district could document CEQA action by means of a formal resolution.
4. Once our office receives a copy of the resolution, or other documentaion, we can finish approving the alteration application.

During our conversation she informed me that Meiners Oaks County Water District has a new general manager. The man's name is Mr. Murel Ellis, and he assumed the responsibilities as general manager in September of this year. All future correspondence with the water district should be addressed, of course, to the attention of the new general manager.

JMcMaster:lb

(916) 322-6206

SEP 13 1977

Mr. Thomas R. Kingsbury  
General Manager  
Meiners Oaks County  
Water District  
202 West El Roblar  
Ojai, CA 93023

Dear Mr. Kingsbury:

Meiners Oaks Dam and Reservoir, No. 768

Before we can complete the processing of your application for approval of plans and specifications for the alteration of Meiners Oaks Dam and Reservoir to less than jurisdictional size, filed on August 8, 1977, we will need documentation to the effect that the requirements of the California Environmental Act of 1970 have been met. Where public agencies are involved as the lead agency, this documentation can take the form of a resolution by the governing board adopting the action that has been taken and filed with the State Clearinghouse in implementing the provisions of the Act. Please furnish us with a copy of such a resolution, or other documentation, as soon as possible in order that we can move your application to approval.

Please communicate with Messrs. R. E. Stephenson or S. S. McEwan of this Division if you have any questions. Their telephone number in Sacramento is (916) 322-6206.

Sincerely,

Original Signed by  
G. W. Dukleth

Gordon W. Dukleth  
Division Engineer  
Division of Safety of Dams

SSMcEwan:no

FILE COPY

SURNAME

McEwan 9/12

Stephenson 9/12

Levy 9/13

Dukleth 9/13



# Memorandum

To : Files

Date : September 2, 1977

File No.:

Subject: Meiners Oaks Dam and  
Reservoir, No. 768Recommendation for Approval  
of Alteration ApplicationM. I. Zumot  
S. S. McEwan

From : Department of Water Resources

The plan accompanying the Application for Approval of Plans and Specifications for the Alteration of Meiners Oaks Dam and Reservoir project to less than jurisdictional size, has been reviewed and found satisfactory as to safety.

The planned construction consists only of installation by cut and cover methods of a 36-inch CMP spillway conduit located in the reservoir rim beyond the right end of the embankment. This will result in lowering the maximum storage level 5.4 feet and, correspondingly, the maximum storage capacity to less than 15 acre-feet.

The reservoir is presently being maintained empty and has been abandoned for use by the District. The existing spillway culvert at the high elevation will remain intact. Virtually no drainage area is tributary to the site, and spillway capacity as afforded by the planned installation has been found to be both reasonable and adequate. As altered, the danger to life and property presented by this project will not be increased.

The application is in satisfactory form for approval and such is recommended upon completion of California Environmental Quality Act requirements.

MIZumot:SSMcEwan:no  
9/8/77

SURNAME

DWR 155 (REV. 4-62)

*McEwan 9/12*  
*MZumot 2/7*



804-2  
Softy Dams

Los Angeles, CA 90055

282.46

Filed Notice of Application  
No. 768 for Alteration of  
Meiners Oaks Dam, Ventura  
County; August 16, 1977

We do not anticipate any water quality problems that might be caused by the installation of a 36-inch CMP through the earth dam as long as wastes are confined to the designated disposal area.

Richard E. Angelos, Chief  
Operations Branch  
Southern District

bcc: Roger Stephenson w/attachment

81 9 MA 2 18

State of California  
The Resources Agency  
DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES  
Division of Safety of Dams

TO: Division of Planning  
Water Quality Section  
Room 252-22  
Resources Building  
Attention: Jim Morris  
FROM: Division of Safety of Dams

DATE: AUG 16 1977

SUBJECT: Notice of  
Application Filed

Name of Dam and Reservoir Meiners Oaks

Application No. 768

On August 8, 1977, Meiners Oaks County Water  
Name of Applicant

District, 202 West El Roblar, Ojai, CA 93023, filed with this

office an application for approval of plans and specifications for  
the alteration of an earth  
Const., Enlg., Alt., or Repair

dam to be 29 feet in height, with a storage capacity of  
15 acre-feet, at an estimated cost of \$ - -

in NW 1/4 of Sec. 3, T. 4N, R. 23W, SB B&M, on tributary to  
Ventura River, in Ventura

County, to be used for storage, regulation  
Purpose

domestic, municipal  
Use

Drainage Area .02 square miles.

Description of Alteration or Enlargement:

Installation of a 36-inch CMP which will result in lowering the  
maximum storage level.

Sgd. E. W. DUKLETH

Gordon W. Dukleth  
Division Engineer  
Division of Safety of Dams

Review of Plans and Specifications

Meiners Oak Dam, No. 768

August 26, 1977

By M. I. Zumot

The plan and the Application for Approval of Plans and Specifications for the Alteration of Meiners Oaks Dam, No. 768, filed August 8, 1977, have been reviewed and found to be satisfactory. The dam will be nonjurisdictional because the capacity will be reduced to less than 15 acre-feet.

I recommend that the alteration application to remove Meiners Oaks Dam from State jurisdiction be approved. *alter*

MIZumot:rd  
9/2/77  
*MZ.*

(916) 322-6206

AUG 16 1977

Meiners Oaks County Water District  
202 West El Roblar  
Ojai, CA 93023

Attention: Mr. Dean Cobb

Gentlemen:

Meiners Oaks Dam and Reservoir, No. 768

We have received the application filed August 8, 1977,  
by Meiners Oaks County Water District for approval of  
the plans and specifications for the alteration of  
Meiners Oaks Dam and Reservoir.

You will be informed of action taken toward approval of  
your application by September 12, 1977.

Sincerely,

Sgd. E. W. STROPPINI for

Gordon W. Dukleth  
Division Engineer  
Division of Safety of Dams

SSMcEwan:no

AUG 19 1977 DW

FILE COPY

SURNAME

McEwan  
8/15

Stroppini  
8/15

Long  
8/16

Stroppini  
for Dukleth  
8/16

For full information concerning the filling out and filing of this form send for Statutes and Regulations Pertaining to Supervision of Dams and Reservoirs.

STATE OF CALIFORNIA  
THE RESOURCES AGENCY  
DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES  
DIVISION OF SAFETY OF DAMS

177 AUG 8 AM 11 38

Dam No. 768 Application Filed August 8, 1977  
Applicant must not fill in the above blanks.

APPLICATION FOR  
APPROVAL OF PLANS AND SPECIFICATIONS FOR THE  
REPAIR OR ALTERATION OF A DAM AND RESERVOIR

This application involves in no way the right to appropriate water

To secure the right to appropriate water, application should be made to the State Water Resources Control Board on forms which will be furnished upon request.

I, Dean Cobb of 202 West El Roblar Ojai, California  
Name of individual signing application Address  
County of Ventura State of California, hereby make application for the approval of  
plans and specifications for the repair of MEINERS OAKS COUNTY WATER DISTRICT  
alteration (Strike out one) of RESERVOIR dam and reservoir.  
The owner of the dam and reservoir is MEINERS OAKS COUNTY WATER DISTRICT  
Name of owner  
of 202 West El Roblar Ojai County of Ventura State of California  
Address

If the owner is a corporation, give name and address of president and secretary—

The applicant is acting for the owner in the capacity of Agent  
Agent, Lessee, Trustee, Engineer, etc.

Location of Dam

1. The dam is in Ventura County, in the NW  $\frac{1}{4}$ , Sec. 3, Tp. 4 N, R. 23W, S.B. B. & M.  
and is located on unnamed stream tributary to Ventura River  
Creek, river or watershed Creek or river

Description of Proposed Work

2. Type of dam earth  
Concrete arch or gravity, earth, rockfill, etc.  
3. Description of work contemplated 36" CMP as explained on plans that you already have.  
Use extra sheets or exhibits if necessary

4. Work will result in lowering the maximum storage level.  
"No change in" or "lowering"

This form is not to be used if the alteration will increase the water storage elevation of the reservoir as previously operated.

5. Work is to commence by Sept 1, 1977, and to be completed by January 1, 1978  
Subject to States approval

6. Engineer John McWheter 7. Contractor for bid

SIGN ALL  
[Signed]

Applicant

this 5 day of August 19 77

APPROVAL OF APPLICATION FILED August 8, 1977,  
INCLUDING THE PLANS AND SPECIFICATIONS

This is to certify that the within application, including plans and specifications for the  
repair alteration of Meiners Oaks dam and reservoir, No. 768, has been examined  
Strike out one

and the same is hereby \_\_\_\_\_ approved, subject to the following terms and limitations:

1. Construction work shall be commenced on or before \_\_\_\_\_
2. Construction work shall be completed on or before \_\_\_\_\_

APPROVAL  
RECOMMENDED:

NA  
Geology

EDT for JEL 3/4/81  
Field

NA  
Design

NA  
Project  
Analysis

Witness my hand and the seal of the Department  
of Water Resources of the State of California

this 7th day of May 19 81

JJ Doody

Division Engineer

Registered C. E. No. 6500



(916) 322-6206

JUL 21 1977

Mr. Thomas R. Kingsbury  
General Manager  
Meiners Oaks County  
Water District  
202 West El Roblar  
Ojai, CA 93023

Dear Mr. Kingsbury:

Meiners Oaks Dam and Reservoir, No. 768

This is in response to the plan and the application for approval of plans and specifications for the removal of Meiners Oaks Dam, which we received on July 18, 1977.

Since the removal of the dam and reservoir from State jurisdiction will be accomplished by means of lowering the maximum storage level by providing an uncontrolled outlet (spillway), so that the reservoir will store less than 15 acre-feet of water, an alteration application should be filed instead of the removal application received on July 18, 1977. Please note that both copies of the application require an original signature.

Enclosed are the appropriate application forms.

Sincerely,

Original Signed by  
G. W. Dukleth

Gordon W. Dukleth  
Division Engineer  
Division of Safety of Dams

Enclosure

MIZumot:fs

FILE COPY

SURNAME

MIZumot 7/20

Stephenson 7/21

Stephenson  
for Aug 2/21

Dukleth



(916) 322-6206

JUN 16 1977

Mr. Thomas R. Kingsbury  
General Manager  
Meiners Oaks County  
Water District  
202 West El Roblar  
Ojai, CA 93023

Dear Mr. Kingsbury:

Meiners Oaks Dam, No. 768

The subject dam was inspected by Mr. M. I. Zumot of our office accompanied by Ms. H. Ortman of your office on May 26, 1977.

The inspection disclosed that the dam and reservoir have been abandoned with no intent to rehabilitate them for use. Ms. Ortman requested application forms for removal of the dam and reservoir from State jurisdiction and added that the District's Board of Directors decided to remove the dam from State jurisdiction.

Perhaps you have misplaced the application forms transmitted with my earlier letter to you, dated April 9, 1974. Assuming that to be the case, enclosed are a copy of that letter which described the alternative methods by which the dam may be removed from State jurisdiction and additional copies of the enclosed forms.

You are reminded that physical modifications are necessary to accomplish either of the alternative methods of removing the dam from jurisdiction. Before approval of an application for removal can be given, the requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act of 1970 must be met.

Sincerely,

Original Signed by  
G. W. Dukleth

Gordon W. Dukleth  
Division Engineer  
Division of Safety of Dams

Enclosures

MIZumot:fs

FILE COPY

SURNAME

M Zumot 6/13

Mc Ewan 6/14

Stanton 6/14

Lay 6/15

X Dukleth 6/16

State of California  
The Resources Agency  
DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES  
DIVISION OF SAFETY OF DAMS

INSPECTION OF DAM AND RESERVOIR IN CERTIFIED STATUS

Name of dam Meiners Oaks Dam No. 768 County Ventura  
Type of dam earth Type of Spillway concrete culvert to CMP flume  
Water is empty feet \_\_\_\_\_ spillway crest and \_\_\_\_\_ feet \_\_\_\_\_ dam crest.  
(above, below) (above, below)  
Contacts made Ms. H. Ortman  
Detail in question Periodic evaluation  
Action taken See remarks

Remarks \*

The dam is basically the same as reported in my last two inspection reports dated May 19, 1975, and April 29, 1976.

After the inspection I met with Ms. Ortman, secretary/treasurer of the County. I told her again that if the dam is to remain under State jurisdiction it should be well maintained. None of the maintenance items requested in the last inspection were done. Ms. Ortman stated that the dam will be removed from State jurisdiction and requested application forms for removal of the dam be sent to her. A letter will be sent to the County describing the alternatives by which removal from jurisdiction can be accomplished.

From the above observations the dam is judged to be safe for continued use.

Typed by fs  
Date 6-7-77  
cc for \_\_\_\_\_

\*Note any change in condition since last inspection such as: seepage; erosion; deterioration of materials; cracks; method of operation; use of flashboards; etc.

Inspection by MIZumot  
Date of inspection 5-26-77  
Date of report 6-2-77  
Photos taken? Yes ☐ No ☒

*MZ 6/13*

State of California  
The Resources Agency  
DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES  
DIVISION OF SAFETY OF DAMS

INSPECTION OF DAM AND RESERVOIR IN CERTIFIED STATUS

Name of dam Meiners Oaks Dam No. 768 County Ventura  
Type of dam Earth Type of Spillway Concrete culvert to CMP flume  
Water is Empty feet \_\_\_\_\_ spillway crest and \_\_\_\_\_ feet \_\_\_\_\_ dam crest.  
(above, below) (above, below)

Contacts made Mr. Tom Kingsbury after the inspection.  
Detail in question Periodic evaluation.  
Action taken None ~~Application for removal forms will be provided.~~

Remarks \*

The dam is basically the same as reported in my inspection report dated May 19, 1975. With regards to the proposed work to remove the dam from State jurisdiction, I told Mr. Kingbury that an Application must be filed with the Division. He stated that his secretary, Mrs. Hellen Ortman, had sent us the application right after my previous inspection dated May 16, 1975. I called Mrs. Ortman today and she stated that the application was not sent to us. She also stated that the District's Board of Directors decided to keep the dam under state jurisdiction until the time comes when they have enough money to either breach it or fill a portion of the reservoir bottom with compacted earth so that the reservoir will store less than 15 acre-feet of water. I told Mrs. Ortman that if the dam is to remain under state jurisdiction it should be well maintained. The following maintenance items were requested:

1. Weed and brush in the spillway approach and on the downstream slope have to be removed.
2. Outlet facilities have to be well maintained.

Typed by sd  
Date 5/26/76  
cc for \_\_\_\_\_

\*Note any change in condition since last inspection such as: seepage; erosion; deterioration of materials; cracks; method of operation; use of flashboards; etc.

Inspection by M. I. Zumot  
Date of inspection 4/29/76  
Date of report 4/30/76  
Photos taken? Yes ☐ No ☒  
Sheet 1 of 1

State of California  
The Resources Agency  
DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES  
DIVISION OF SAFETY OF DAMS

INSPECTION OF DAM AND RESERVOIR IN CERTIFIED STATUS

Name of dam Meiners Oaks Dam No. 768 County Ventura  
Type of dam Earth Type of Spillway Concrete culvert to CMP flume  
Water is Empty feet \_\_\_\_\_ spillway crest and \_\_\_\_\_ feet \_\_\_\_\_ dam crest.  
(above, below) (above, below)

Contacts made Mr. Tom Kingsbury  
Detail in question Periodic evaluation  
Action taken Application for removal forms were provided.

Remarks \*

The reservoir has been abandoned with no intent to rehabilitate it for use. Mr. Kingsbury stated that the County is planning to fill a portion of the reservoir bottom with dirt, so that the reservoir will store less than 15 acre-feet. I provided Mr. Kingsbury with three application forms, DWR 4. I requested that two copies of the application be submitted to us along with plans of the proposed work.

The outlet facilities were maintained open.

The dam is safe for continued use.

Typed by amh  
Date 5/22/75  
cc for \_\_\_\_\_

\*Note any change in condition since last inspection such as: seepage; erosion; deterioration of materials; cracks; method of operation; use of flashboards; etc.

Inspection by M. I. Zumot  
Date of inspection 5/16/75  
Date of report 5/19/75  
Photos taken? Yes ☐ No ☒

M.Z.  
5/27

MEINERS OAKS COUNTY WATER DISTRICT

Telephone 646-2114  
202 West El Roblar  
OJAI, CALIFORNIA 93023

November 14, 1974

Department of Water Resources  
P. O. Box 388  
Sacramento, California 95802

Accounting Officer

Gentlemen:

Am writing to you for some information regarding the Annual Dam Fee for the coming year on the Meiners Oaks County Water Districts Dam #768. We have installed an enclosed tank to replace our reservoir. The reservoir has not been in operation for over a year now. Our engineer has drawn up the plan for discontinuing the reservoir and the work on it should be completed after the first part of next year. Do we still have to pay the Annual Dam Fee? Would appreciate your answer regarding this matter as soon as possible.

Sincerely yours,  
MEINERS OAKS COUNTY WATER DISTRICT

*Hellen M. Ortman*

Hellen M. Ortman  
Secretary/Treasurer

NOV 19 1974

11/20/74  
I discussed Mr. with  
RES today. He will  
prepare ans. to Mr.

H.M.  
I have it on my  
work central.

X Copy. R. E. S. 11/20/74  
nd

NOV 21 74 JEL

NOV 26 74 HN

768



## Memorandum

To : File

Date : December 5, 1974

File No.:

Subject: Meiners Oaks Dam, No. 768  
Telephone call regarding  
fee.

J. D. Walker

From : Department of Water Resources

I called the Meiners Oaks County Water District and spoke with Hellen Ortman regarding their letter to the Department dated November 14, 1974, regarding the annual fee payable December 31, 1974. *Jan-Dec*

*No* I explained to Ms. Ortman that the fee covered the period June 30, 1974 to June 30, 1975, and must be paid. She said that it will be paid.

With regard to the proposed work to remove the dam from jurisdiction, I told her that an Application must be filed with the Division, along with plans and specifications, prior to starting the work. She said she will also do this.

JDWalker:wld

cc: Mr. R. E. Stephenson  
12/5/74 *act*



**Memorandum**

To : Files

Date : July 22, 1974

File No.:

Subject: Meiners Oaks Dam, No. 768

From : R. E. Stephenson  
Department of Water Resources

*file*

In response to his letter dated May 29, 1974, I met with Mr. Thomas Kingsbury, Field Superintendent of the water company in his office on June 27, 1974. He wanted further information on the procedures to be used in filing an application to remove the dam from jurisdiction. We had previously written a letter dated April 9, 1974 which I felt fairly accurately described the methods of removing it from jurisdiction. However, Mr. Kingsbury wanted to know whether it would be permissible to lower the spillway crest elevation. I reviewed with him the different methods that he could use to withdraw the dam from jurisdiction and explained how to file the applications. He does not wish to breach the dam but does plan to reduce its size, either by lowering the spillway or by placing fill in the reservoir in order to reduce the storage to less than 15 acre-feet. He said that he would turn the matter over to his engineer, Mr. McWhirter, and have him run surveys on the reservoir and make a determination of the best method of removing from jurisdiction.

REStephenson:amh

7/24/74

cc: Mr. R. E. Stephenson

*NOG**5/6  
pink  
memo of conference*



MEINERS OAKS COUNTY WATER DISTRICT

Telephone 646-2114  
202 West El Roblar  
OJAI, CALIFORNIA 93023

May 29, 1974

Division of Safety of Dams  
Department of Water Resources  
P. O. Box 388  
Sacramento, California 95802

ATTENTION: Gordon W. Dukleth

SUBJECT: Meiners Oaks Dam, No. 768

Dear Sir:

Will you or one of your representatives come out to discuss the breaching and abandonment of our dam in more detail.

Sincerely yours,

MEINERS OAKS COUNTY WATER DISTRICT

*Thomas R. Kingsbury*  
Thomas R. Kingsbury

Field Superintendent

TRK/hmo

Xc: *R. E. Stephenson*

JUN 3 1974  
JUN 18 1974  
HN

APR 9 1974

Meiners Oaks County Water District  
202 West El Roblar  
Ojai, CA 93023

Attention: Mr. Thomas R. Kingsbury

Subject: Meiners Oaks Dam, No. 768

Gentlemen:

This is in response to your letter of February 19, 1974, and a subsequent telephone conversation between Mr. J. D. Walker of this Division and Mr. Kingsbury relative to requirements for removal of the dam and reservoir from State jurisdiction. As mentioned in the telephone conversation, some alternative conditions which you may wish to consider for future management of the subject reservoir are as follows:

1. Removal of the dam - This means complete removal of a major portion of the embankment so that water cannot be impounded, and provisions made so that storm waters can safely pass through the area of the dam and reservoir. If you decide to accomplish this, then two copies of an Application for Approval of Plans and Specifications for Removal of a Dam and Reservoir (form DWR 5), should be submitted along with engineering plans of the proposed removal work.
2. Alteration so that the dam is no longer a dam as defined in the statutes. - This means lowering the maximum storage level by providing an uncontrolled outlet (spillway) at a low enough elevation, and/or filling a portion of the reservoir bottom with compacted earth, so that the reservoir will store less than 15 acre-feet, (4.6 m.g.), of water. If you decide to accomplish this, then two copies of an Application for Approval of Plans and Specifications for the Repair or Alteration of a Dam and Reservoir should be submitted along with engineering plans of the proposed work. The modifications in this instance must likewise safely pass storm waters through the area.

*J. D. Walker* 4/4/74

*Stanton* 4/4/74

*Poe for Ley* 4-9

*Dubler* 4/9



APR 9 1974

3. Declaration of Inoperative Status. - The Department of Water Resources can declare the dam and reservoir inoperative upon a finding that the facility is permanently incapable of storing water.

Action under Alternative 1 or 2 would remove the dam from our jurisdiction and would eliminate the need for filing an inundation map under the Seismic Safety Inundation Act, Section 8589.5 of the Government Code, administered by the Office of Emergency Services.

Action under Alternative 3 would suspend the requirement for payment of the annual fee defined in Section 6307 of the statutes. In this case the dam would remain under our jurisdiction; however, an exemption would be granted by the Office of Emergency Services suspending the requirement to file the inundation map.

Enclosed are the appropriate application forms for alternative 1 or 2, and a copy of a booklet describing the statutes and regulations involved. We hope this provides adequate information for your purposes and will be happy to answer any further questions you may have.

Sincerely yours,

Original signed by  
Gordon W. Dukleth

Gordon W. Dukleth  
Division Engineer  
Division of Safety of Dams

JDWalker:wld

Enclosure:

DWR 4 (2)

DWR 5 (2)

Statutes

cc: Mr. R. E. Stephenson

State of California  
The Resources Agency  
DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES  
DIVISION OF SAFETY OF DAMS

INSPECTION OF DAM AND RESERVOIR IN CERTIFIED STATUS

Name of dam Meiners Oaks Dam No. 768 County Ventura Co.  
Type of dam Earth Type of Spillway Conc. culvert to CMP flume  
Water is Empty feet \_\_\_\_\_ spillway crest and \_\_\_\_\_ feet \_\_\_\_\_ dam crest.  
(above, below) (above, below)  
Contacts made Mr. Tom Kingsbury  
Detail in question Periodic evaluation  
Action taken Application for removal forms provided by letter

Remarks \*

The reservoir has been abandoned with no intent to rehabilitate it for use. A second steel tank has been constructed on an excavated bench on the right side of the reservoir. This tank installation will have no influence on the structural soundness of the abutment of the dam.

The peripheral flood channel was blocked by debris from sloughing of the roadway cut slopes. Mr. Kingsbury said this channel will be cleared.

I explained to Mr. Kingsbury that the dam and reservoir would remain under jurisdiction unless construction were accomplished to breach the dam or reduce its storage capacity. He said he would check to see if the Board of Directors would authorize the necessary expenditures.

I later spoke with Mr. Kingsbury by telephone (3/29/74). He said that the District's Board of Directors decided that they would remove the reservoir from jurisdiction. I told him that I would provide a letter describing the alternatives by which removal from jurisdiction can be accomplished and the proper blank forms.

Typed by wld  
Date 4/1/74  
cc for \_\_\_\_\_

\*Note any change in condition since last inspection such as: seepage; erosion; deterioration of materials; cracks; method of operation; use of flashboards; etc.

Inspection by J. D. Walker  
Date of inspection 3/12/74  
Date of report 3/29/74  
Photos taken? Yes ☐ No ☒



MEINERS OAKS COUNTY WATER DISTRICT

Telephone 646-2114  
202 West El Roblar  
OJAI, CALIFORNIA 93023

*1. J. Cole*  
*Los Angeles*  
*2. [unclear]*  
*3. Stephenson*  
*4. Files*

February 19, 1974

Department of Water Resources  
Post Office Box 388  
Sacramento, California 95802

*Meiners Oaks Dam*  
*No. 768*

*1902 3/7*  
MAR 27 EA JEL  
MAR 0 11-14 HN

Gentlemen:

This letter is to inform you that we have discontinued the use of our open reservoir. We have installed an enclosed tank to replace it.

If you need more information regarding the discontinued reservoir please contact us.

*Stephenson*  
*to inspect*

Sincerely yours,

MEINERS OAKS COUNTY WATER DISTRICT

*Thomas R. Kingsbury*  
Thomas R. Kingsbury

Field Superintendent

TRK/hmo

CC: A. L. Ellsworth  
Department of Public Health

*Xerox retained in LA by RS 3-3-74*

*Herman*  
*Are they going to remove it?*  
*Feb 3/7*

*3/8*  
*R.E.S. will handle -*  
*in a telecon. today*  
*AKL*

State of California  
The Resources Agency  
DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES  
DIVISION OF SAFETY OF DAMS

INSPECTION OF DAM AND RESERVOIR IN CERTIFIED STATUS

Name of dam Meiners Oaks Dam No. 768 County Ventura  
Type of dam Earth Type of Spillway Concrete culvert  
Water is Empty feet \_\_\_\_\_ spillway crest and \_\_\_\_\_ feet \_\_\_\_\_ dam crest.  
(above, below) (above, below)  
Contacts made Mr. Tom Kingsbury  
Detail in question Periodic evaluation  
Action taken None required

*Remarks \**

The embankment across the mouth of the main canyon at the upstream end of the reservoir is compacted fill and was saturated due to recent rains. Because the reservoir was empty, the material flowed into the reservoir in a manner similar to a mud flow. On the west side of the canyon in the vicinity of the canyon which intersects the reservoir from that side, there are 2 sloughs. The sloughs on the west side appear to be in the same location as that described in the report by Mr. W. D. Pedersen in his geologic report of October 9, 1969. The corrugated metal pipe used for a ditch on the left abutment groin was completely undermined. The cmp will be removed, a foundation prepared for it, and then replaced. This work will be done by force account but it will be done during the contract for the cleaning of the reservoir so that if equipment of the cleaning contractor is needed, it will be available. There is a break in the inlet pipe just prior to entering the control structure at the base of the dam. It does not appear to be too serious and will be repaired in the next couple of days as soon as the necessary supplies are obtained. There are some minor repairs necessary that will be done in the same contract as the cleaning or as in the case of the left abutment drainage ditch, and will be done at the same time as the cleaning contract in order to have the contractor's equipment available.

The downstream face of the dam has been cleared of brush. The dam and reservoir should be in a good state of repair when the upcoming cleaning and repairs are completed.

The dam is safe for continued use.

Typed by wld  
Date 4/4/73  
cc for \_\_\_\_\_

\*Note any change in condition since last inspection such as: seepage; erosion; deterioration of materials; cracks; method of operation; use of flashboards; etc.

Inspection by E.A. Belongie  
Date of inspection 3/23/73 cab  
Date of report 3/26/73  
Photos taken? Yes ☒ No ☐ 10



Outlet tower and culvert  
Spillway in background



Sloughs on west side of reservoir



Embankment failure main canyon into reservoir





Leakage from break in inlet pipe



Erosion under left abutment ditch

MEINERS OAKS DAM, NO. 768  
EABelongie *EW* 3/23/73

State of California  
The Resources Agency  
DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES  
DIVISION OF SAFETY OF DAMS

file

INSPECTION OF DAM AND RESERVOIR IN CERTIFIED STATUS

Name of dam Meiners Oaks Dam No. 768 County Ventura  
Type of dam Earth Type of Spillway Concrete culvert  
Water is 0.4 feet below spillway crest and \_\_\_\_\_ feet \_\_\_\_\_ dam crest.  
(above, below) (above, below)

Contacts made None  
Detail in question Periodic inspection  
Action taken None required

Remarks \*

The spillway channel was found to be clean and clear of obstruction.  
The downstream face of the dam was fairly free of weed growth.

The dam appeared to be satisfactory for continued operation.

Typed by bd  
Date 7/2/71  
cc for \_\_\_\_\_

\*Note any change in condition  
since last inspection such as:  
seepage; erosion; deterioration of  
materials; cracks; method of opera-  
tion; use of flashboards; etc.

Inspection by D. R. Lawrence  
Date of inspection 6/29/71  
Date of report 7/1/71  
Photos taken? Yes ☐ No ☒

STATE OF CALIFORNIA  
THE RESOURCES AGENCY  
DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES

Division of Safety of Dams

TO: 1. Engineering Technician I, Design Engineering Branch MAY 22 '70 DW  
2. Administrative Specialist MAY 27 '70 JD  
3. ~~File~~ *ckm*

FROM: P. Manja SUBJECT: Dam Statistics  
Data Change

Dam Meiners Oaks No. 768

Change ht. from 32 to 33 04 12/20


1. Prepare DWR 456, Dam Statistics - Data Card
2. Control



Memorandum of Geologic Inspection

*file*

Meiners Oaks Dam, No. 768

October 9, 1969

By W. D. Pedersen

A geologic inspection of Meiners Oaks Dam was made on October 9, 1969, with Mr. J. J. Heneghan.

No formal geologic reports are included in our files but the dam was constructed under state jurisdiction, and Mr. J. V. Spielman recorded a number of observations on the geology as it was exposed during construction of the dam.

Bedrock consists of buff-colored, fairly well cemented sandstone, conglomeratic sandstone, and minor amounts of siltstone and shale. These sediments are of marine origin and probably belong to the Coldwater formation of Eocene age. These strata are very well exposed in cuts in back of the water tank on the left side of the reservoir. Their attitude is N90°W 85°N.

Our files indicate that the entire cutoff for the dam reached sandstone bedrock. Mr. Spielman reported that most of the dam rests on rather massive strata of yellow sandstone, with some of the upstream portion resting on dark brown and greenish brown soft sandstone and shale.

A few years ago the reservoir was excavated to increase its capacity. Most of the cuts were in the sedimentary bedrock. In one area, however, the cut was probably in alluvium deposited by a small tributary gully. The minor slope failure shown in the photograph by J. J. Heneghan, dated January 29, 1969, was probably confined to this alluvium.

WDPedersen:bd

10/15/69

*WDPedersen*  
*10-15-69*  
*JS 10/20*

State of California  
The Resources Agency  
DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES  
DIVISION OF SAFETY OF DAMS

file

INSPECTION OF DAM AND RESERVOIR IN APPROVED STATUS

Name of dam Meiners Oaks Dam No. 768  
Type of dam Earth Type of Spillway Concrete culvert  
Water is 10 feet below spillway crest and \_\_\_\_\_ feet \_\_\_\_\_ dam crest.  
(above, below) (above, below)  
Contacts made Mr. Kingsbury of Meiners Oaks County Water District  
Detail in question Periodic inspection  
Action taken None required

Remarks\*

Several shallow, thin longitudinal cracks were observed in the crest, near the left abutment. However, they are believed to be only surficial.

The shallow depression near the downstream toe of the dam, mentioned in the periodic inspection of November 26, 1968, had been filled in. No seepage was evident at the toe of the dam. The downstream slope is burned periodically to remove brush, and therefore only small stubble presently exists. No slope cracking was observed.

The peripheral runoff diversion ditch has been recently rehabilitated and considerably enlarged.

Generally, the dam appears to be in satisfactory condition.

Typed by bd  
Date 10/20/69  
cc for \_\_\_\_\_

\*Note any change in condition since last inspection such as: seepage; erosion; deterioration of materials; cracks; method of operation; use of flashboards; etc.

W. D. Pedersen  
J. J. Heneghan  
Inspection by \_\_\_\_\_  
Date of inspection 10/9/69  
Date of report 10/15/69  
Photos taken? Yes ☐ No ☒

file

Memorandum of Special Postflood Inspections

January 27, 28, 29, and 31, 1969

By J. J. Heneghan

768

The following memorandum contains observations for dams inspected after the mid-January flood, where no storm-caused damage affecting the structural adequacy of the dam was noticed. Separate memoranda have been written for dams where potentially serious storm-caused conditions were observed.

January 27, 1969

X Devils Gate Dam, No. 32-3

Contacts: None

The reservoir elevation was approximately 2 feet below spillway crest during the inspection. A large amount of reservoir water was being released into Arroyo Seco through the sluice tunnel. The highest flow over the spillway was estimated at about 1 foot, and both the sluiceway release and spillway discharge were large enough to contribute to sliding on Linda Vista Avenue where the discharges impinged before turning downstream. The spillway stilling basin had been thoroughly cleaned by the spill. No adverse conditions affecting the structural adequacy of the dam were noticed.

X Pacoima Dam, No. 32-8

Contacts: Ed Barr,  
caretaker

The road crossing the channel downstream from the dam was washed out and access was gained along the east side of the canyon along the Pacoima Canyon storm channel maintenance road. The dam was spilling 1400 cfs during the inspection. Because of the large spill the dam was isolated during the inspection, and two operators were living on the dam. Contact was being maintained by radio. The point reached closest to the dam was about 750 feet downstream from the spillway exit chute. The access road to the dam was washed out between these locations. Mr. Barr indicated that the operators on the dam were reporting no problems.

January 28, 1969

X Malibou Lake Club Dam, No. 771

Contacts: Messrs. Jackson  
and Keelan

The dam was spilling approximately 1 foot during the inspection. According to Mr. Jackson, maximum spill was about 10 feet. The 30-foot section of additional spillway width near the left abutment produced a noticeable difference in hydraulics of flow, since the concrete spillway lip additions had not yet been added. The overpour did not affect the abutment, though. The



Memorandum of Special Postflood Inspections  
January 27, 28, 29, and 31, 1969

outlet gate handle had been lost during the storm, and therefore it cannot be closed until the lake stops spilling. Spillway discharge has eroded the downstream channel bank and broken a large sewerline which bypasses the dam through the left abutment. This break does not affect the dam, though. A tremendous amount of silt has been washed into the reservoir. Portions of the lake are now very shallow. The dredge, owned by Malibou Lake Mountain Club, was swept over the dam and destroyed during the storm.

The structural adequacy of the dam appeared to remain satisfactory.

X Lindero Dam, No. 785

Contacts: None

The lake was spilling approximately 0.1 foot during the inspection, and the highest spill appeared to be about 2 feet. Considerable debris was washed over the dam during the storm. The spillway facing slabs and wingwalls appeared satisfactory. The only damage noticed was the loss of a portion of gunite slab on the downstream side of the roadway bridge. This damage does not directly affect the dam. The reservoir is presently very shallow at the reservoir inlet location due to silt being deposited during the storm.

X Potrero Dam, No. 786

Contacts: None

The condition of the dam appeared to be excellent. The lake was spilling about 0.2 foot during the inspection, and the highest spill appeared to be about 2 to 2.5 feet. The only storm damage noticed was some minor erosion downstream from the energy dissipator.

The dam appeared satisfactory.

X Lake Eleanor Dam, No. 767

Contacts: None

The spillway was about 90 percent blocked with debris during the inspection, causing a spill depth of approximately 1 foot. Minor overpouring of the arch was taking place because of the blockage. Because this is a small arch dam in an excellent location, the arch overpour is satisfactory. No visible signs of weakness were noticed. The maximum spill appeared to be about 3 feet.

X Lake Sherwood Dam, No. 765

Contacts: None

Access to the dam was gained by walking from the washed-out highway bridge, located about one-fourth mile downstream from the dam. The dam was spilling about 0.2 foot during the inspection. The maximum spill appeared to have been approximately 3 feet. Since the access road to the horse stables at the downstream toe of the dam was also washed out, the only access was to the area adjacent to the left spillway dikes. Although the downstream face of the arch could not be seen, the saddle spillway dikes appeared in satisfactory condition.

Memorandum of Special Postflood Inspections  
January 27, 28, 29, and 31, 1969

X Wood Ranch Dam, No. 1027

Contacts: Messrs. Nielsen  
and Algar

Since the major portion of reservoir water is imported, the storm's effect on the reservoir elevation was minor. The dam did not spill during the storm. Some minor additional groin erosion on both the groin dam and dike No. 1 had taken place, and considerable sandy fines had washed out from between the downstream slope riprap onto the berms. These conditions are not serious. However, recent frost has destroyed 21 closed-circuit piezometers which must be rehabilitated. Physically the dams appear to be satisfactory.

X V.L. & W. Catch Basin #3 Dam,  
No. 764-3

Contacts: None

The runoff which normally bypasses the dam through a concrete diversion channel was temporarily diverted into the reservoir, due to slide blockage, but the slide was apparently flushed clear before the reservoir elevation was raised to the auxiliary spillway lip.

The large slide within the reservoir area showed no signs of movement, and the dam itself remains satisfactory. However, another large slide on the Getty Oil Ventura lease, of an estimated million cubic yards, located in Section 22, T3N, R23W, SBB&M, immediately below a refining plant on a thin ridge, moved approximately 25 feet horizontally and 20 feet vertically during the storm (see photos). This slide movement does not affect the dam directly, but this is the second large slide within a year in the dam's vicinity.

January 29, 1969

Meiners Oaks Dam, No. 768

Contacts: None

The water level during the inspection was about 2.5 feet below spillway. Maximum spill appeared to have been about 1 foot. A small shallow slide, located on the northerly side of the reservoir bowl approximately 300 feet from the dam fill, was observed. The extent of the slide is not alarming.

The brush on the downstream slope of the dam had been burned as requested, clearly revealing the low spot documented during the last periodic inspection. This area will be closely watched for any change. Presently no seepage is associated with the depression, and the depression is not the result of storm damage.