

South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control

Promoting and Protecting the Health of the Public and the Environment

House Ways & Means Committee: Flood Recovery & Assessment

Catherine E. Heigel November 18, 2015

Overview

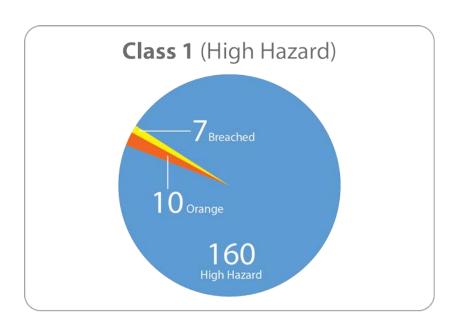
- Impact of the historic floods on dams
- Emergency response efforts still under way
- Providing regulatory oversight to dams
- Dam safety program improvements
- Additional response and recovery efforts

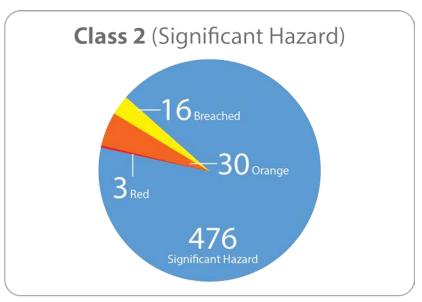


Flood Impact on Dams

- 36 dams failed in the historic flooding event:
 - 31 regulated, 4 unregulated, and 1 federal
- DHEC and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers assessed all 652
 High and Significant Hazard dams statewide post-flood.
- Of the 2,370 regulated dams statewide:
 - 1.3% failed as a result of the floods
 - 3% have been issued Emergency Orders
 - 7% have been issued non-emergent Repair Orders

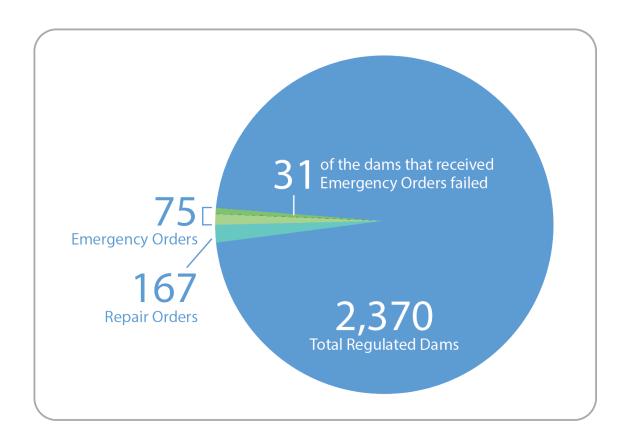
DHEC & Army Corps of Engineers Assessments





Red = Needs immediate attention, failure possible
Orange = Needs damage repair, could lead to failure
Breached = Has failed

Flood Impact on Regulated Dams





Ongoing Emergency Response Efforts

- Emergency dam stabilization work is still ongoing:
 - DHEC has issued 75 Emergency Orders based on our assessments conducted with the Corps.
 - 17 dams have been referred to our outside contractor, HDR Engineering, for evaluation.
 - As many as 30 dams may require state intervention for long-term stabilization.



Providing Regulatory Oversight

- DHEC has issued 24 Notices of Violations to dam owners who have not responded to both requirements of their Emergency Order.
- DHEC also issued 167 non-emergent Repair Orders.
 - These are dams that our post-flood assessment with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers determined needed repairs or maintenance but were not at risk of failure.
 - Owners have until February to respond.



Providing Regulatory Oversight

- We are working with dam owners to help them come into compliance.
- Repair and maintenance plans must be reviewed and accepted by DHEC.
- We will work to expedite reviews of plans and issuance of required repair/reconstruction permits.



Program Improvements

- DHEC is working with HDR to assess the dam safety program and to conduct a complete engineering review and assessment of the Gills Creek Watershed.
- We have submitted our FY 2017 budget request for an additional 7 full-time staffers to sufficiently carry out existing statutory and regulatory duties.
- DHEC is working to draft proposed legislative changes that would enhance our dam safety program and bring it in line with national best practices.

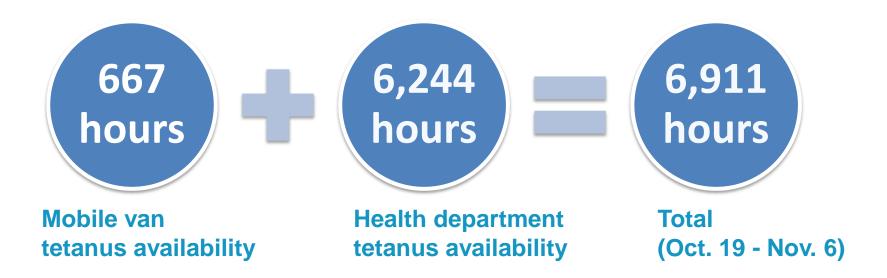


Providing Free Tetanus Vaccines

- 4,568 tetanus vaccinations administered via mobile clinics as of Nov. 1.
 - Conducted at 144 sites in 18 counties.
- 1,391 vaccinations administered in local health department clinics as of Nov. 6.
- 5,959 total vaccinations given as of Nov. 6.



Tetanus Vaccine Clinic Availability

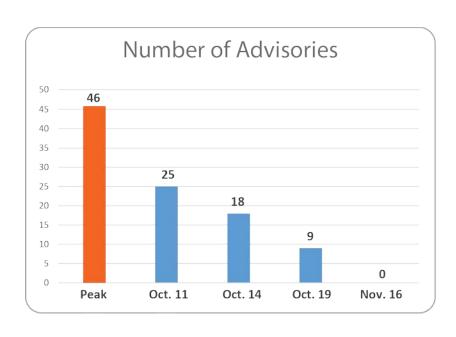


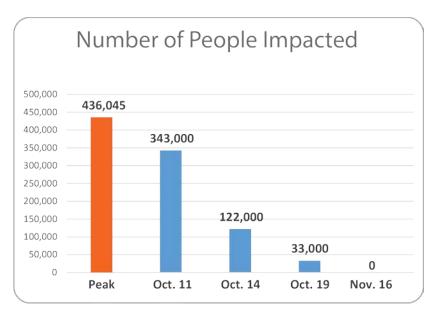
DHEC has waived the \$25 administrative fee for tetanus vaccines statewide at a cost of \$148,975.

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Monitoring Boiled Water Advisories







Providing Free Private Well Testing

- Tested 2,306 well water samples from 41 counties as of Nov. 12.
- Distributed more than 5,366 well water testing kits statewide.
- DHEC has waived the fee for well water testing statewide at a cost of \$44,300.



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