

**STATE OF RHODE ISLAND AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT
OFFICE OF COMPLIANCE & INSPECTION**

**IN RE: New England Conference of the United
Methodist Church
d/b/a Camp Aldersgate**

FILE NO.: Dam State I.D. 514

NOTICE OF VIOLATION

A. Introduction

Pursuant to Sections 42-17.1-2(21) and 42-17.6-3 of the Rhode Island General Laws, as amended, (“R.I. Gen. Laws”) you are hereby notified that the Director of the Department of Environmental Management (the “Director” of “DEM”) has reasonable grounds to believe that the above-named party (“Respondent”) has violated certain statutes and/or administrative regulations under DEM's jurisdiction.

B. Facts

- (1) The subject property is a dam identified as Lake Aldersgate Dam, State Identification Number 514, located approximately 4,000 feet northeast of the intersection of Chopmist Hill Road and Snake Hill Road, approximately 1,300 feet northwest of Snake Hill Road, in the town of Glocester, Rhode Island (“Dam 514”).
- (2) The Respondent owns Dam 514.
- (3) Dam 514 is classified by DEM as Significant Hazard.
- (4) On November 29, 2011, Dam 514 was inspected (the “Inspection”). The Inspection revealed that the entire downstream slope is covered in vines and deadfall that did not allow a proper inspection to be performed.
- (5) DEM considers Dam 514 unsafe because the vines and deadfall inhibit proper inspection.
- (6) The Inspection also revealed that the embankment crest was being excavated to install a sewer line (the “Excavation Work”).
- (7) The Respondent did not obtain approval from DEM for the Excavation Work.

C. Violation

Based on the foregoing facts, the Director has reasonable grounds to believe that you have

violated the following statutes and/or regulations:

- (1) **DEM's Rules and Regulations for Dam Safety (the "Dam Safety Regulations"), Rule 4A** – requiring the owner of a significant hazard dam to maintain the dam in a safe condition.
- (2) **DEM's Dam Safety Regulations, Rule 7A** – prohibiting repair of a significant hazard dam without first obtaining DEM's approval of the proposed work.

D. Order

Based upon the violations alleged above and pursuant to R.I. Gen. Laws Section 42-17.1-2(21), you are hereby ORDERED to:

- (1) **Within ninety (90) days of receipt of this Notice of Violation ("NOV")**, remove the vines and deadfall from the downstream embankment.
- (2) **Within one hundred eighty (180) days of receipt of the NOV**, retain a professional engineer fully registered in the State of Rhode Island, who is experienced with dam inspections, and have the engineer complete a visual inspection of Dam 514 in accordance with the DEM's Dam Safety Regulations, Rule 11C and submit a report of the inspection findings to DEM. The report must also provide a summary of the Excavation Work, which at a minimum must provide information on the depth of the excavation, how the excavated area was filled and the type of fill used. The report must specify the actions necessary to return the dam to a safe condition and include a schedule to complete the work. For any proposed repairs to Dam 514, the report must include an application prepared in accordance with the DEM's Dam Safety Regulations, Rule 10B.
- (3) The report and application required in Section D.2 above shall be subject to DEM review and approval. Upon review, the DEM shall provide written notification to the Respondent either granting formal approval or stating the deficiencies therein. **Within fourteen (14) days (unless a longer time is specified) of receiving a notification of deficiencies**, the Respondent shall submit to the DEM a modified report, application, and/or schedule or additional information necessary to correct the deficiencies.
- (4) Commence work specified in the schedule approved by the DEM within twenty (20) days of approval (unless otherwise expressly authorized by the DEM in writing to commence work at a later time), and complete such work in accordance with the approved schedule.

E. Right to Administrative Hearing

- (1) Pursuant to R.I. Gen. Laws Chapters 42-17.1, 42-17.6, 42-17.7 and 42-35, each named respondent is entitled to request a hearing before the DEM Administrative Adjudication Division regarding the allegations and/or orders set forth in Sections B through D above. All requests for hearing MUST:

- (a) Be in writing. See R.I. Gen. Laws Sections 42-17.1-2(21)(i) and 42-17.6-4(b),
- (b) Be **RECEIVED** by DEM's Administrative Adjudication Division, at the following address, within twenty (20) days of your receipt of this NOV. See R.I. Gen. Laws Sections 42-17.1-2(21)(i) and 42-17.7-9:

Administrative Clerk
DEM - Administrative Adjudication Division
One Capitol Hill, 2ND Floor
Providence, RI 02903

- (c) Indicate whether you deny the alleged violations. See R.I. Gen. Laws Section 42-17.6-4(b); **AND**
 - (d) State clearly and concisely the specific issues which are in dispute, the facts in support thereof and the relief sought or involved, if any. See Rule 7.00(b) of the DEM Administrative Rules of Practice and Procedure for the Administrative Adjudication Division of Environmental Matters.
- (2) A copy of each request for hearing must also be forwarded to:

Richard M. Bianculli Jr., Esquire
DEM - Office of Legal Services
235 Promenade Street, 4TH Floor
Providence, RI 02908-5767

- (3) Each named respondent has the right to be represented by legal counsel at all administrative proceedings relating to this matter.
- (4) Each respondent must file a separate and timely request for an administrative hearing before DEM's Administrative Adjudication Division as to each violation alleged in the written NOV. If any respondent fails to request a hearing in the above-described time or manner with regard to any violation set forth herein, then this NOV shall automatically become a Final Compliance Order enforceable in Superior Court as to that respondent and/or violation. See R.I. Gen. Laws Sections 42-17.1-2(21)(i) and (v) and 42-17.6-4(b) and (c).
- (5) An original signed copy of this NOV is being forwarded to the town of Glocester wherein the Property is located to be recorded in the Office of Land Evidence Records pursuant to R.I. Gen. Laws Chapter 34-13 and Section 46-19-4(c), as amended
- (6) This NOV does not preclude the Director from taking any additional enforcement action nor does it preclude any other local, state, or federal governmental entities from initiating enforcement actions based on the acts or omissions described herein.

If you have any legal questions, you may contact (or if you are represented by an attorney, please have your attorney contact) Richard Bianculli at the DEM Office of Legal Services at (401) 222-6607. All other inquiries should be directed to Paul Guglielmino of the DEM Office of Compliance and Inspection at (401) 222-1360 ext. 7122.

Please be advised that any such inquiries do not postpone, eliminate, or otherwise extend the need for a timely submittal of a written request for a hearing, as described in Section E above.

FOR THE DIRECTOR

David E. Chopy, Chief
DEM Office of Compliance and Inspection

Date: _____

CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that on the _____ day of _____
the within Notice of Violation was forwarded to:

New England Conference of the United Methodist Church
d/b/a Camp Aldersgate
c/o Jennifer Carpenter
10430 Snake Hill Road
North Scituate, RI 02857

by Certified Mail.
