

GSE - December 7, 2000 Talk

TOPIC: Inflow Testing to Determine the Capacity of the WAC Bennett Dam Blanket Drain

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ABSTRACT: During the Sinkhole investigation program, boreholes were drilled into the blanket drain of the WAC Bennett dam. Samples collected by various drilling methods (Sonic, Barber and large diameter drilling) indicated that the blanket drain potentially had a high fines content and thus, by implication, that the capacity of the blanket drain might have been compromised. However, it was recognized that, despite best efforts, the samples might have been contaminated by the drilling itself, and thus the high fines content of samples might be more apparent than real. This led to direct testing of the blanket drain capacity and response of the blanket drain was observed. Drain capacity was demonstrated directly by the large scale injection tests. Drain capacity and material parameters were also determined by 3-D transient seepage modelling of the injection and flood tests using the computer program MODFLOW.

Venue: Royal Glenora Club

Time: 12:00 noon. Lunch

Date: December 7, 2000

Cost: GSE Members \$ 10; Non Members \$ 12