Levee Certification with Multiple Private Owners

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Agenda: Industrial Park Levee (IPL) – Council Bluffs, Iowa

- Site Background and History
 - Development
 - Regulations
- Levee Improvements and Certification Approach
 - FEMA Certification in Two Phases







Industrial Park Levee Site Background and History



IPL Site Background

- Nearly 1-mile long private levee system
 - Constructed in the 1980s
- Historically tied in to federal system at its north and the Interstate to the south
- Area created by United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) Missouri River Navigation Project





Historical Site Conditions – 1930s Aerial Photography

- Missouri River Stabilization and Navigation Project began in the 1920s
 - Alignment represents modifications to channel
 - Control structures visible along green line





Effect of Wing Dikes – Indian Cave Bend, Missouri River



A Brief History and Summary of the Effects of River Engineering and Dams on the Mississippi River System and Delta, United States Geological Survey http://pubs.usgs.gov/circ/1375/C1375.pdf



Historical Site Conditions – 1950s Aerial Photography

- Riparian vegetation
- No development





Historical Site Conditions – 1960s Aerial Photography

- Further development of riparian vegetation
- New docks





Historical Site Conditions – 1970s Aerial Photography

- Buildings first constructed
- NFIP flood hazard initial identification dates 1974 to 1976





Historical Site Conditions – Historical 1987 FIRM

 IPL Protected by Levee in 1980s FIRM





Effective FEMA Mapping

- IPL providing protection
- IPL provisionally accredited
 2011 through May 2013
- Map revisions expected in 2020s





Current Site

- Ameristar 1995
 - Constructed over levee crest
- Cargill and Warren
 Distribution sites developed
 in 1970s
- Absentee Owner



Historical Flooding - 2011

- IPL held with some damages in 2011 flood
 - Prior to improvements









Levee Improvements and Accreditation Approach



Project Goals

- Obtain FEMA accreditation for IPL
 - Prevent requirement for flood insurance
 - Assess levee according to FEMA criteria
- Assess USACE PL 84-99 eligibility
 - Federal flood fight efforts
 - Repairs to levee federally funded after flood
- Design and construct improvements to levee
 - Repair damage from 2011 flood
 - Meet FEMA requirements





Two-Phase Approach to FEMA Accreditation







Two-Phase Approach to FEMA Accreditation



- Benefits
 - Construction improvements were needed on remainder of levee
 - New culverts, outfall structures
 - Remove plugged penetrations
 - Restore levee
 - Increase levee height
 - Install under-seepage controls
 - Stabilize bank
 - Re-establish rock/vegetation
 - Boat slip area
 - Breezeway, buildings on levee



FEMA Certification Submittal Requirements Phase 1 Items of Note

- Freeboard
- Closures
- Embankment Protection
- Embankment and Foundation Stability Analysis
- Settlement Analysis
- Interior Drainage
- Other Design Criteria





Phase 1 - Freeboard

 Casino building straddles the levee through an atrium area





Phase 1 – Freeboard (con't)

- Atrium levee crest survey
- Cross sections at 25foot minimum intervals





Phase 1 - Freeboard

Levee Crest Profile (solid green)





Phase 1 – Boat Slip Certification

Freeboard



Figure 4: Ameristar Atrium Cross Section





FEMA Certification Submittal Requirements

 Embankment and Foundation Stability Analysis







FEMA Certification Submittal Requirements Phase 1 Items of Note

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- Other Design Criteria
 - Operations and Maintenance





Phase 1 – Operations and Maintenance Manual

- One central, responsible party
- Define temporary closures
 - Sandbagging
 - Gate closures
- Inspections
- Coordination between levee owners
 - Regular meetings



MISSOURI RIVER INDUSTRIAL PARK LEVEE COUNCIL BLUFFS, IOWA



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FEMA Certification Submittal Requirements - Phase 2

Freeboard

- Closures
- Embankment Protection
- Embankment and Foundation Stability Analysis
- Settlement Analysis
- Interior Drainage
- Other Design Criteria
 - Operations and Maintenance





Phase 2 – Freeboard & Embankment Stability

- Construction to meet FEMA requirements

 (3-feet of freeboard with additional 6-inches at upstream end)
 - 6,600 cubic yards of fill
 - Raised levee crest as much as 3-feet
 - Repaired damages from 2011 flood
 - Created stable slopes
 - No-rise analysis required for floodplain permit

- As-built survey to capture constructed freeboard
- USACE Missouri River model to calculate water surface elevations





FEMA Certification Submittal Requirements - Phase 2

- Freeboard
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- Settlement Analysis
- Interior Drainage
- Other Design Criteria
 - Operations and Maintenance





Phase 2 – Closures and Interior Drainage

- Four main outfalls (red dots)
- Gate closures based on Omaha gage levels
- Drainage area behind levee less than 1-square mile



Conclusions / Lessons Learned

- Communication monthly meetings
- Cooperative levee owners were key
- One entity responsible for all operations and maintenance
- Final guidance on levee accreditation is still recent





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