



U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS BALTIMORE DISTRICT

NEWS RELEASE

U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS
PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE
BALTIMORE, MARYLAND 212203-1715
(410) 962-2809 FAX: (410) 962-3660
CONTACT: Carolyn Jackson
RELEASE 06-21

June 28, 2006

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Potential exists for outflow over the emergency spillway at East Sidney Lake Dam, N.Y.

BALTIMORE (June 28, 2006) – The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has notified emergency management officials that outflow over the emergency spillway at the East Sidney Lake Dam in New York could occur tomorrow morning.

The current pool elevation is 1200.50 and will possibly reach the spillway crest of 1203.00 early morning June 29. This would result in outflow over the emergency spillway but is not expected to cause flooding along Ouleout Creek below the dam. Water levels could increase up to 3 feet along Ouleout Creek and less than a foot along the Susquehanna River as a result of expected spillway flow. The impacts of any spillway flow will be minor as long as there is no additional precipitation overnight. If flows into the reservoir continue to fall as fast as they have this afternoon, spillway flow may be avoided.

The reservoir has been functioning as designed, storing significant volumes of water over the past several days and thus reducing downstream flows and delaying possible flooding. However, continued heavy rains have taken the reservoir to its flood storage capacity and brought about potential spillway flow conditions.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers began construction on the dam in 1947 and it was completed in 1950 at a cost of \$6,000,000. The project has prevented \$166,000,000 of flood damages through Sept. 30, 2005.

The dam protects all areas along the Susquehanna River downstream of Ouleout Creek. Primary locations which are protected include Unadilla, Binghamton and Waverly, N.Y., but benefits are also felt at locations further downstream.

The project consists of a combined earthfill and concrete gravity dam 2,010 feet long and 130 feet high. The concrete section includes an emergency spillway and 5 gate controlled outlets. The reservoir has the capability of storing 33,550 acre-feet (11 billion gallons) for flood control purposes.

East Sidney Lake is located on Ouleout Creek about four miles upstream of Unadilla, N.Y.

--END--