

Dam restoration session press release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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EGLE hosts online meeting covering the permitting of dam repairs and restorations on July 12

Informational session will address Secord, Smallwood, Edenville, and Sanford projects

The Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE) will host a virtual informational session on the proposed repair and restoration projects at Secord, Smallwood, Edenville, and Sanford dams in mid-Michigan.

The 6 to 7:15 p.m. July 12 session will present an overview of applicable state laws and permitting processes, to provide those affected by the proposed projects a better understanding of what will occur over the next several years and how they can meaningfully participate in the process. EGLE staff will provide information about:

- Expected timelines for permit applications and permit decisions.
- The robust decision-making criteria that will govern permit decisions regarding dam safety, floodplains, and the environment.
- Opportunities for the public to participate in the permitting process.

Engineering and design for major portions of the dam restorations are ongoing, so EGLE staff will not be able to address specifics of future permit decisions, final designs, or potential impacts to specific locations or properties.

The session also will not include assessments or commentary on the 2020 dam failures.

How to attend

Optional preregistration is available at <https://bit.ly/3HHhNGL>. Registrants will receive a confirmation email from “EGLE Outreach” with information about joining the meeting. Anyone may click the link above at the 6 p.m. start time to join. Anyone without internet access who would like to join by phone may call 636-651-3142, conference code 374288, at the meeting time.

Anyone needing language assistance or accommodations for effective participation may contact Water Resources Liaison Ryan Blazic at 517-732-1187 or BlazicR@Michigan.gov by July 8 to request language, mobility, visual, hearing, translation, and/or other assistance.