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Dam Safety Association Presents Annual Awards

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At each annual conference, the Association of State Dam Safety Officials recognizes individuals who have made outstanding contributions to the field of dam safety. This year's award winners were recognized on September 28th, at the 2004 ASDSO Awards Banquet in Phoenix.

National Award of Merit: Governor Edward G. Rendell

For his recognition of the importance of and exigent necessity for a strong National Dam Safety Program and his interest in the nation's critical dam infrastructure and security needs, Pennsylvania Governor Edward G. Rendell received ASDSO's National Award of Merit, given to individuals who have advanced the dam safety cause nationwide. Within the past year, Governor Rendell has initiated a number of efforts to garner increased federal support for dam safety in the U.S. Joseph R. Powers, Executive Deputy Secretary of the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection, accepted the award on the Governor's behalf.

Northeast Region Award of Merit: Donald Martino

Don Martino retired from the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection on June 25, 2004, after 34 years of public service, the past 12 as Pennsylvania Dam Safety Division Chief. Mr. Martino served on ASDSO's Board of Directors from 1996-2000, and again in 2004. He was an Executive Committee Member of the Northeast Regional Council for Safe Dams and served on the ASDSO Technical Training, Scholarship Awards and Organizational Review Committees. One of his most significant accomplishments was his role in Pennsylvania Governor Ed Rendell's decision to call on the Bush Administration, Congress, and the National Governors Association to focus more resources on dam safety.

Southeast Region Award of Merit: Southwest Florida Water Management District Dam Safety Program

ASDSO honored the Southwest Florida Water Management District, water resources management agency for a rapidly growing 16-county region in west-central Florida, for its self-initiated efforts in the management and improved safety of its more than 80 water control structures and dams through a combination of in-house staff training and contracted services for maintenance and engineering support. Among its recent accomplishments: establishment of a comprehensive

emergency preparedness/ public awareness program and rigorous evaluation and remediation of District embankment dams.

Midwest Region Award of Merit: Daniel M. Hill

Daniel M. Hill recently retired from a 42-year career with Burgess & Niple, where he was Water Resources Group Director. Mr. Hill was a charter member of the ASDSO Affiliate Member Advisory Committee, and co-presenter at ASDSO regional technical seminars. Under his terms as President of the Water Management Association of Ohio (WMAO), Mr. Hill helped form the Ohio Dam Safety Organization (ODSO) within WMAO, and is now immediate Past-Chairman of the ODSO Executive Board. He has presented over 20 papers regarding dams, floodplains, and related topics; he is also a contributing author to Ohio Water Firsts-Volume 2, Water Resources Foundation of Ohio, 1997. His experience includes rehabilitation of several historic navigation locks and dams, construction of new earthen dams, repair/modification of numerous other dams, dam inspections, and preparation of periodic dam safety inspection reports required by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission. He also directed several low head dam modification projects to eliminate hydraulic rollers and reduce the threat to loss of life. Mr. Hill is registered as a Professional Engineer in Arizona, Indiana, Kentucky, Ohio, and West Virginia.

West Region Award of Merit: Flood Control District of Maricopa County, Arizona

As part of its mission, the Flood Control District of Maricopa County operates and maintains 22 dams that are the main structural components of a number of major federally designed and constructed flood control projects. Recently, the District completely revamped its dam safety program, initiated the employment of innovative technologies for structures assessments, and began applying risk assessment techniques for identifying and formulating risk reduction measures and actions. The District's new program features three major components:

- 1) *Recurrent Dam Safety Activities*, including systematic video inspections of principal outlets, crest surveys using GPS, installation of new watershed rainfall and stream gages, and updating EAPs to incorporate recently developed dambreak inundation mapping
- 2) *Structures Assessment*, a process that includes an overall evaluation of a dam's safety and flood protection benefits and investigation and correction of existing and potential site-specific dam safety issues
- 3) *Dam Rehabilitation*, including identification of 15 dams that require overall rehabilitation or replacement due to issues of safety, urbanization, and flood protection.

Rehabilitation Project of the Year Award: U.S. Bureau of Reclamation and Hayward Baker, Inc., for the Wickiup Dam Seismic Remediation

Wickiup Dam is a zoned, rolled earthfill embankment constructed between 1939 and 1949 about 40 miles southwest of Bend, Oregon, on the Deschutes River. Its rehabilitation, by the US Bureau of Reclamation and Hayward Baker, Inc., is a model of innovation, creativity, and economy.

Comprehensive risk analyses by the Bureau indicated that the likelihood of failure in a significant earthquake was unacceptably high and that the potential loss of life was significant. Identified failure modes included liquefaction of weak foundation soils leading to overtopping, seismic

deformations leading to cracking and internal erosion, and co-seismic deformation of the left wing dike leading to internal erosion.

In 1999, a multi-disciplinary team identified three structural modification alternatives: jet grouting, excavate and replace, and shear pins. The first alternative looked most promising but for two concerns: lack of data concerning the effectiveness of jet grouting on the unusual foundation soils and the depth of jet grouting required. Because of these concerns, Hayward Baker, Inc., carried out a test section, which served to evaluate the effectiveness of jet grouting, the feasibility of constructing large diameter jet grout columns, and optimal grout mix ratios.

Based on results of the test section, Reclamation proceeded with final design, with a view toward several key goals, including mitigating environmental damages and developing criteria for sizing the jet grout treatment zones. The use of jet grouting eliminated the need for a reservoir restriction across two filling seasons, eliminated the risk of a large excavation through weak foundation soils with low undrained shear strengths, minimized the number of trees that required removal, and saved approximately \$7 million over the estimated cost of the removal and replacement alternative of the potentially liquefiable soils. This job was one of the largest jet grouting jobs of its kind, to date, and will provide significant benefits to the water users, local population, and the area surrounding the dam for years to come.

President's Award: John H. Moyle

Outgoing ASDSO President Steve Verigin recognized John Moyle, Manager of the New Jersey Dam Safety Section, for his outstanding dedication to the cause of dam safety nationwide. As a former ASDSO president, Moyle provided invaluable guidance to Verigin during his tenure. He has also led efforts to establish national guidelines for dam security by participating in the development of a state best practices manual, conducting dam security training for state officials and owners of high hazard dams, and serving as Chairman of the ASDSO Security Committee and a member of the National Infrastructure Protection committee. Additionally, Mr. Moyle has been instrumental in the establishment of a reliable funding source for dam repairs in New Jersey.

Special Appreciation Award: Larry Caldwell

ASDSO awarded a special certificate of recognition to Larry Caldwell, National Policy Coordinator of the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service Watershed Rehabilitation Program, upon his relocation to another department and for years of work and dedication toward ensuring the safety of small watershed dams.

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The Association of State Dam Safety Officials (ASDSO) is a national, non-profit organization dedicated to improving dam safety through research, education and communication. Since its formation in 1984, ASDSO has served as one of the premier professional organizations for individuals committed to ensuring the safety of dams in the U.S. For more information, please visit www.damsafety.org.