



The State of New Hampshire
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES



Thomas S. Burack, Commissioner

October 5, 2016

Her Excellency, Governor Margaret Wood Hassan
and the Honorable Council
State House
Concord, New Hampshire 03301

REQUESTED ACTION

Pursuant to RSA 482:57-III, authorize the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (NHDES) to complete design and reconstruction of Mendums Pond Dam in Barrington in an amount not to exceed \$550,000, effective upon Governor and Council approval through June 30, 2017. 100% Dam Maintenance Program Funds.

EXPLANATION

Under RSA 482:55 and 482:57, NHDES is responsible for the maintenance, repair and reconstruction of State-owned dams. The Mendums Pond Dam is owned and operated by NHDES. Mendums Pond Dam was originally built in the 1840's. The dam is 32 feet high, over 445 feet long and retains the 265-acre Mendums Pond, which is an important recreation resource of the State with approximately one hundred homes and the University of New Hampshire Recreation Area along its shoreline. In addition, the dam is classified as a "High Hazard" Dam because its failure would flood houses in Nottingham and Lee and overtop roadways downstream, including Route 4.

In the summer of 2015, significant leaks were identified at the base of the dam, and the impoundment was drained in the fall of that year so that subsurface explorations to support design and repair efforts could be completed. Design efforts were begun immediately and site preparation work commenced in the late fall. Construction has been ongoing since March of this year.

Initial funding of the work was provided by a capital appropriation. However, once reconstruction began, the dam and its foundation were discovered to be in much worse condition than anticipated requiring more extensive reconstruction than had been planned. As a result, the remaining funding in the capital appropriation is insufficient to finish the work needed to seal the dam and its foundation and cutoff the leakage that threatened the safety of the dam. For this reason, Dam Maintenance Program Funds are needed to fund the remaining work that must be performed to safely refill Mendums Pond by next spring.

RSA 482:57 requires NHDES to obtain approval from the Governor and Council prior to expending funds from the Dam Maintenance Program Fund on repair or reconstruction projects. NHDES estimates that funds from the Dam Maintenance Program Fund to complete the planned reconstruction of Mendums Pond Dam through June 30, 2017 will not exceed \$550,000. Attachment 1 is a breakdown of the cost estimate.

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We respectfully request your approval.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'T. Burack', written over a horizontal line.

for Thomas S. Burack, Commissioner

ATTACHMENT 1

**Department of Environmental Services
Dam Maintenance Program Fund
Account # 03-44-44-442010-3817**

**SUMMARY OF ESTIMATED COSTS FOR THE
REPAIRS TO MENDUMS POND DAM (DAM D184001)**

Engineering	\$ 89,000
Survey	\$ 28,000
Construction Crew	\$431,000
<u>In-state Travel</u>	<u>\$ 2,000</u>
Total	\$550,000