

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES  
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION DIVISION

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING AND PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO  
GEORGIA'S RULES FOR DAM SAFETY, CHAPTER 391-3-8**

**TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS AND PARTIES:**

Notice is hereby given that, pursuant to the authority set forth below, the Environmental Protection Division (hereinafter, "EPD") of the Georgia Department of Natural Resources proposes amendments to the Rules for Dam Safety, Chapter 391-3-8 (hereinafter, "the proposed rule amendments"). EPD proposes to amend Rules 391-3-8-.01 through -.11 to improve the overall performance of the Safe Dams Program. Specifically, these proposed rule amendments are designed to ensure that potential Category I (i.e., high hazard) dams are promptly identified and categorized appropriately; that identified Category I dams are permitted; that identified Category I dams are routinely inspected with appropriate follow up actions if problems are discovered; and that Category I dams have Emergency Action Plans.

This notice, together with an exact copy of the proposed rule amendments, a synopsis, and a statement of rationale of the proposed rule amendments, is being provided to all persons who have requested in writing that they be placed on a notification list. These documents may be viewed at <https://epd.georgia.gov/chapter-391-3-8-rules-dam-safety> or during normal business hours of 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at the Georgia Environmental Protection Division, Watershed Protection Branch file room, 2 MLK Jr. Drive, SW, West Tower, Balcony, Suite 418, Atlanta, Georgia, 30334. Copies may also be requested by contacting the Watershed Protection Branch at (404) 463-1511 or the Environmental Protection Division Director's Office at 1-888-373-5947.

The current version of supplemental documents associated with the proposed rule amendments (updated Engineer Guidelines, a sample Emergency Action Plan, and instructions and a form for inspecting embankment dams) are also available online at <https://epd.georgia.gov/chapter-391-3-8-rules-dam-safety> or during normal business hours of 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at the Georgia Environmental Protection Division, Watershed Protection Branch file room, 2 MLK Jr. Drive, SW, West Tower, Balcony, Suite 418, Atlanta, Georgia, 30334:

To provide the public an opportunity to comment upon and provide input into the proposed rule amendments, a public hearing will be held on September 9, 2015 at the following location:

**Wednesday, September 9, 2015 (2:00 pm – 4:00 pm)**; in the EPD Training Center located at 4244 International Parkway, Suite 116, Atlanta, Georgia 30354.

At the public hearing, anyone may present data, make a statement, comment or offer a viewpoint or argument either orally or in writing. Lengthy statements or statements of a considerable technical nature, as well as previously recorded messages, must be submitted in writing for the official record. Oral statements should be concise.

Written comments are welcomed. In order to be included in EPD's summary to the Board of Natural Resources, written comments should be received by **September 24, 2015**. Written comments may be emailed to: [EPDComments@dnr.ga.gov](mailto:EPDComments@dnr.ga.gov) or sent via regular mail addressed to Branch Chief, Watershed Protection Branch; 2 MLK Jr. Drive, SW, Suite 1152, East Tower, Atlanta, Georgia, 30334. If you choose to email your comments, please include the words "Rules for Dam Safety" in the subject line to help ensure that your comments are forwarded to the correct staff.

The proposed rules amendments will be considered for adoption by the Board of Natural Resources at its meeting at 9:00 a.m. on Wednesday, October 28, 2015 in the DNR Board Room located at 2 Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive, Suite 1252, East Tower, Atlanta, Georgia 30334. The meeting is open to the public.

The proposed rules amendments are proposed for adoption pursuant to authority contained in O.C.G.A. Secs. 12-5-370 through 12-5-385.

For more information, contact Lewis Hays at (404) 463-4953.