



## State of New Jersey

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

Natural and Historic Resources  
Office of Engineering & Construction

FILE

CHRIS CHRISTIE  
*Governor*

KIM GUADAGNO  
*Lt. Governor*

BOB MARTIN  
*Commissioner*

JAN 18 2011

William Brash, Jr., District Director  
Mercer County Soil Conservation District  
508 Hughes Drive  
Hamilton Square, NJ 08690

Re: Stony Brook Watershed No. 14 Dam (Honey Lake Dam)  
NJ Dam File No. 28-79

Dear Mr. Brash:

This is in reference to the ongoing efforts of the Honey Lake Technical Committee in identifying a suitable public sponsor to take over responsibility of the Honey Lake Dam and the timeframe established by the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) for funding availability.

It is the Department's understanding that the NRCS has established that a signed agreement with a sponsor is needed by February 1, 2011 in order to complete the remainder of the planning activities and avoid return of the FY2011 funds for design of a dam rehabilitation/decommissioning alternative. In addition, the Department currently has \$1,000,000 available that has been appropriated for the purpose of assisting the Mercer County Soil Conservation District (District) in decommissioning the Honey and Hunts Lake Dams in the event a new sponsor does not step forward.

Based on the current availability of funding through the NRCS and the Department, the lack of a public sponsor to rehabilitate the dam, the potential of losing the 65% federal cost sharing for the project available through the NRCS, and considering that the dam is a High Hazard structure not in compliance with the Safe Dam Act; the Department acknowledges that the only option available to the District is to pursue decommissioning of the dam if a signed agreement with a new sponsor has not been executed by February 1, 2011.

Please be reminded that the terms of the January 14, 2010 settlement agreement between the District and the Department requires the District to "use all reasonable efforts to pursue funding for, and implementation of, spillway capacity studies and improvements, or permanent decommissioning, for Hunts and Honey Lake Dams." As such, the District's decision to decommission the dam would be in conformance with the above agreement.

*E-Mail Address:* [DamSafety@dep.state.nj.us](mailto:DamSafety@dep.state.nj.us)

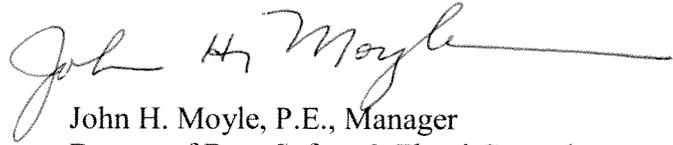
*Internet Address:* [www.state.nj.us/dep/damsafety](http://www.state.nj.us/dep/damsafety)

*Mailing Address:* 501 East State Street, P.O. Box 419, Trenton, NJ 08625

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Should you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact Clint Oman of this office or myself at (609) 984-0859.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "John H. Moyle". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal line extending to the right from the end of the name.

John H. Moyle, P.E., Manager  
Bureau of Dam Safety & Flood Control

*CSO 18 JAN 2011*

C: David Lamm, P.E., USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service  
Paul Pogorzelski, P.E., Hopewell Township Administrator  
Greg Sandusky, P.E., Mercer County Engineer

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