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MEMORANDUM

TO: SEO Personnel

FROM: Patrick T. Tyrrell

DATE: December 1, 2004

SUBJECT: Flood Detention Reservoir Policy

In order to efficiently focus our work efforts in this office, the following policy change for Flood Detention reservoirs shall be adopted:

1. A State Engineer permit will not be required for pit-type or excavated flood control impoundments that are designed with an outlet device that will totally evacuate the impoundment within 24 hours.
2. A State Engineer permit will not be required for flood control reservoirs that will have a storage capacity of less than 50 acre-feet when the dam height will be 6 feet or less as measured from the downstream toe to the crest of the dam. A reservoir under this exemption must be equipped with a minimum 18-inch diameter, uncontrolled outlet pipe that will totally evacuate the impoundment.

The existing Special Application filing procedures will remain in force for flood control reservoirs with dam heights greater than 6 feet up to and including 20 feet and with a capacity of less than 50 acre-feet with no more than 20 acre-feet of inactive capacity provided there is a minimum of an 18-inch diameter, uncontrolled outlet pipe.

Flood Control reservoirs with a dam height exceeding 20 feet OR with a capacity of 50 acre-feet or greater will be filed using standard State Engineer filing procedures.