GruvRIDAS

Mining Industry Guidelines for Dam Safety

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GruvRIDAS - why?

- Swedish mining companies have applied guidelines developed by the hydropower industry "in relevant parts" since ten years.
- In many cases our dams are built using other designs and materials than conventional water retention dams, e.g. using by products from the production.
- Our dams are in many cases built in steps or continuously.
- Our dams are sometimes constructed to keep their function for very long periods of time, i.e. when they are an integrated functional part of the plans for mine closure.
- Other risk categories may be at hand.



RIDAS

- The Swedish hydropower industry, through Swedenergy, have developed their own guidelines for dam safety, RIDAS
- RIDAS first edition was approved in February 1997, and was revised in 2002
- RIDAS consist of a main document with application guidelines linked to each chapter. It is foreseen that the guidelines will be revised whenever research, development and experience result in significant new knowledge
- RIDAS can be applied to new and existing dams
- RIDAS shall be used for dams in consequence class 1A, 1B and 2



GruvRIDAS - when?

- June 2005 Agreement with Swedenergy signed
- November 2005 Dam safety policy approved
- May 2006 Internal review of first draft
- November 2006 External review
- March 2007 Approved by SveMin board
- Q2 2007 Main document published
- Q3 2007 Application guidelines published on the web



GruvRIDAS

Gruvindustrins riktlinjer för dammsäkerhet 2007







Objectives

- Overall objectives for the guidelines are:
 - Define requirements and establish guidelines for adequate and uniform dam safety
 - Constitute a basis for uniform evaluation of dam safety, and help identify measures needed to increase dam safety
 - Support the authorities in their supervision of dam safety



Foundation

- The basic building blocks when establishing the guidelines have been:
 - The mining industry dam safety policy
 - A classification system according to consequences of potential failure
 - Established and documented working procedures and design criteria
 - Established competence requirements
 - Systematic compilation of experiences
 - Continuous improvements
 - Transparency
 - Auditing



Consequence classification

- The dam safety work is governed by the potential consequences. Dams should be classified according to the consequences if a dam failure should occur
- The consequences of a dam failure is evaluated with respect to the probability for:

Loss of human life or serious injuries

Damages to the environment, public installations and other values of economic importance



(continued)

 The classification system consists of four classes; 1A, 1B, 2 and 3

1A is the class for the most serious consequences



Consequence classes

	POSSIBLE CONSEQUENCE OF A DAM FAILURE	
Consequence class	Loss of human lives	Infrastructure, environment and property
1A	High probability of loss of many human lives	 High probability for very serious damage of important societal facilities, important environmental values or very large economic damage
1B	Probability for loss of human lives or serious injuries is not negligable	Considerable probability of serious damage of
2		Non-negligable probability of considerable damage of
3		



Design and construction

- Describes the design and construction of dams with respect to:
 - Loads
 - Embankment dams
 - Discharge facilities with spillway capacity according to the national guidelines for Design Flood Determination



Operation, Monitoring and Maintenance

- Organisation and competence requirements
 - Organisation and responsibility should be established and documented
 - Competence requirements for personnel should be defined and documented
- Every dam should have an individually developed manual which describes the safe operation of the dam, the "OMM-manual"



OMM manuals

- The OMM manual contains among other things:
 - Dam safety organisation
 - Technical data and specifications
 - Instructions for normal and serious flows and situations
 - Instructions or programs for monitoring and reports from monitoring
 - Documentation from the systematic maintenance



Monitoring

- Dam owner responsibility, divided into:
 - Operational monitoring (surveillance)
 - Dam measuring
 - Inspections
 - Surveys
 - Comprehensive dam safety evaluations



Surveillance

- Operational monitoring (surveillance)
 - Operational monitoring of parts of the facility, vital to dam safety is carried out at intervals and with a scope related to the needs of the specific dam. Usually daily rounds.



Dam measurements

 The objective of the dam measurements is to give an early indication of changes in the behavior and condition of the dam

 For each dam a specific measuring program should be established.



Inspections

- The objective of inspections is to evaluate possible changes and verify dam safety at regular intervals.
- For dams belonging to consequence class 1A and 1B, inspections are carried out four times a year. For other dams, twice a year.
- The inspections should be documented.



Surveys

- For dams belonging to consequence class 1A and 1B a deeper survey is performed every second year, for class 2 dams every 3 years.
- In the survey all safety-related vital technical components and important documentation is checked.
- The survey should be documented and results in a dam safety evaluation.



Comprehensive dam safety evaluation

- The objective of the evaluation is to establish dam safety status in view of current safety requirements
- Dams belonging to consequence class 1A should be subject to a comprehensive evaluation every 10 years, class 1B every 24 years and class 2 every 15 years.
- The evaluation is a comprehensive and systematic evaluation of the safety of a dam facility, based on a total analysis of all safety components and the entire system
- The evaluation should be documented in a report



Register of dams and incidents





Register of dams and incidents

Objective – Collate technical data and experience, "learning by sharing", basis for statistical analysis

Two parts:

- Register (technical data)
- Incident reporting



Emergency preparedness

 A dam owner must have good preparedness to be able to handle situations that could lead to dam failure.

A documented Emergency Preparedness
 Plan must exist for the events of critical situations, increased risk of damage to the dam and dam failure



Dam Safety Auditing

- That the dam safety work is being carried out in accordance with GruvRIDAS should be verified through audits.
- Auditing is carried out by two independent auditors with SveMin as their principal.



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