

DETERMINATION DECISION MEMO

Fords Lake Dam – Dam Rehabilitation Project

Project Number: 199-58 Phase 1 Location: Lackawanna County

Est. Construction Duration: 270 Calendar Days

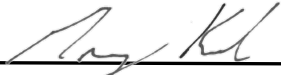
DETERMINATION REGARDING THE USE OF THE REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP) METHOD OF PROCUREMENT

Fords Pond is impounded by a 17-ft high x 225-ft long combination earthen dam. The dam's spillway is an earthen spillway with a reinforced concrete cut off wall on the left (looking downstream) abutment. The reservoir's drainage area is approximately 1.07 square miles and impounds approximately 369 acre-feet of water at the top of dam. The use of the standard competitive sealed bid process for the General Contractor's scope of work for the repairs needed to address dam safety deficiencies and bring the dam and structures in compliance with current dam safety standards and regulations is not practical or advantageous to the Commonwealth. Specifically:

- The project involves sequencing construction on roller-compacted earthen dam, existing spillways and internal drains regulated by the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (DEP). It is advantageous to the Commonwealth to evaluate the experience of the contractor(s) performing this scope of work.
- The project involves controlling water from the existing dam structure during construction including concrete work that will need to bypass water away from the work site. The Commonwealth will benefit from evaluating the contractor's past experiences with this type of work.
- The project includes the reinforcement of concrete and dam joints on an existing spillway structure that are intended to remain watertight. It is advantageous to the Commonwealth to evaluate the experience of the contractor(s) performing this scope of work.

The above factors demonstrate unique construction considerations on this project, which requires specific contractor knowledge, skill, and experience to safely and successfully complete the repairs to Fords Lake Dam. Consequently, it is not practical or advantageous to use the competitive sealed bidding process for the General Contract because the low bid approach does not allow the Commonwealth

to consider the specific factors presented herein, along with the cost, in the award process.



Deputy Secretary for Capital Programs

7/20/2026

Date