



Geotechnical
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GEI Consultants' Project Awarded 2009 ASDSO National Rehabilitation Project of the Year

*Lake Burnt Mills Dam project selected for innovative and effective
components of dam remediation*

BOSTON, Mass. —October 16, 2009 — GEI Consultants, Inc., one of the nation's leading geotechnical, environmental, water resources, and ecological science and engineering firms, announced today that its work on the Lake Burnt Mills Dam project located in Suffolk, Virginia was recognized as the 2009 Association of State Dam Safety Officials (ASDSO) National Rehabilitation Project of the Year. The owner of this project is the City of Norfolk, Department of Utilities.

Lake Burnt Mills Dam is a high hazard, earth embankment dam that impounds 10,300 acres of supply water and is one of a series of reservoirs and dams that provide fresh water to Norfolk and adjacent communities. Maintenance of this dam is critical for 820,000 residents of the Tidewater area who are dependent on the reservoirs for water supply.

GEI has provided extensive dam safety engineering services for Lake Burnt Mills Dam since 1993, primarily focusing on dam safety evaluations and remedial design. The dam was originally constructed in 1942 and includes a 45-foot-high by 1,900-foot-long embankment, an ogee spillway, and a low-level outlet.

"Good rehabilitation projects start with a motivated and knowledgeable client and project team. The City of Norfolk Department of Utilities understands how critical dam safety is to its central function of delivering water to the Tidewater Virginia area and have been engaged and supportive owners in the efforts to rehabilitate Lake Burnt Mills Dam," said R. Lee Wooten, P.E., vice president at GEI Consultants.

ASDSO recognized the Lake Burnt Mills Dam project for 'the innovative and effective components of this important dam remediation project'. Remedial measures were constructed between 2006 and 2009 and include rebuilding the spillway; raising the parapet wall and extending the embankments to meet safety levels; installing a new low-level outlet by micro-tunneling through an abutment; and constructing a new outlet intake tower and access bridge. The design and construction of these remedial measures successfully addressed dam deficiencies and the City's requirement to retain the use of the reservoirs while maintaining dam safety during construction.

"Standard dam regulations and guidelines maintained by the Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation Office of Dam Safety are extraordinarily helpful when pursuing a

project like this," continued Wooten. "We are fortunate that ASDSO supports all of us – state officials in their primary mission of motivating dam owners, dam owners in their obligations to maintain safe dams, and designers in our needs for innovative and cost effective solutions to dam problems."

The ASDSO National Rehabilitation Project of the Year award recognizes a unique remedial design that advances the field of dam safety and exemplifies the high professional engineering standards that dam safety requires. The award is presented to the rehabilitation designer and the dam owner at the ASDSO Annual Conference. Nominations must be approved by a state representative to ASDSO. Successful rehabilitation projects demonstrate:

- resourcefulness in planning and in the solution of the design problems;
- pioneering use of materials and methods;
- innovations in construction or operation methods; and
- a high degree of reliability in operation, consistent with accepted practices in the field of dam safety engineering.

The 18th Annual Rehabilitation Project of the Year award was presented to GEI Consultants and the City of Norfolk at the ASDSO Conference Awards Banquet held in Hollywood, Florida on September 29, 2009.

About the Association of State Dam Safety Officials (ASDSO)

ASDSO is a non-profit organization of state and federal dam safety regulators, dam owners/operators, dam designers, manufacturers/suppliers, academia, contractors and others interested in dam safety. Its mission is to advance and improve the safety of dams by supporting the dam safety community and state dam safety programs, raising awareness, facilitating cooperation, providing a forum for the exchange of information, representing dam safety interests before governments, providing outreach programs, and creating a unified community of dam safety advocates. For more information please visit www.damsafety.org.

About the City of Norfolk, Department of Utilities

The Department of Utilities is responsible for providing fresh, clean, high-quality water to over 820,000 residents and businesses in Norfolk, Virginia Beach, and parts of Chesapeake, as well as the military installations in these cities. In order to provide these services, the Department draws raw water from reservoirs, rivers, and wells within the southside Hampton Roads area. The Department maintains over 800 miles of treated water pipe and over 800 miles of wastewater pipe within the Norfolk City limits and removes wastewater from over 68,000 homes and businesses in Norfolk and transports it to Hampton Roads Sanitation District for treatment.

About GEI Consultants, Inc.

GEI's multi-disciplined team of engineers and scientists deliver geotechnical, environmental, integrated water resources and ecological solutions to diverse clientele nationwide. The firm has provided a broad range of consulting and engineering services on over 25,000 projects in 50 states and 22 countries. For more information, please visit the firm's web site at www.geiconsultants.com.

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