



A State Regulator's Perspective: Chasing the RIDM Principle

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How can state programs revise regulations to incorporate risk informed decision-making while:

- Overcoming anecdotal evidence
- Lowering costs for dam owners
- Managing a large dam portfolio across a diverse state, and
- Battling the “unknowns”

The Commonwealth of Virginia's Dam Safety Program is fortunate to have a growing number of staff dedicated to bringing an inventory of 2500 dams into regulatory compliance. Current regulations reflect prescriptive standards and a uniform hazard classification methodology. If almost 60% of dams within the State's inventory are currently considered non-compliant, how do we justify added regulatory complexity? This presentation will reflect efforts to set the stage for the future of risk informed decision making in Virginia including the development of comprehensive guidance documents, a revised IDA process, reducing requirements for low hazard dam owners, and identifying significant and high hazard potential dams throughout the entire portfolio.