Annual Safety Standards Report

Dams Safety NSW

Boorowa Dam - 28

Boorowa River, Boorowa

Date of report: 17/04/2026

Introduction

The Annual Dams Safety Standards Report demonstrates the declared dam owner's compliance with the dam safety standards set out in the Dams Safety Regulation 2019 (the Regulation).

Every year, declared dam owners must lodge a separate report for each of their declared dams with Dams Safety NSW by 31 March.

The report covers the period 1 January to 31 December of the previous calendar year.

Section 1 - Declared dam identification details

Question	Answer
Dam name	Boorowa Dam
Dam location	Boorowa River, Boorowa
Type of dam	Concrete gravity
Main purpose of dam	Water Supply
Other	
Is the dam built on a river, stream or watercourse?	Yes
Name of dam owner (Person or public authority who owns, controls, operates, manages or maintains the dam)	Hilltops Council
ABN number	33984256429

Section 2 - Dams safety standards

Consequence category of dam - Regulation, Part 3

The dam consequence category is a rating of potential impacts resulting from a dam failure. It must be assessed:

- within 6 months of the dam being declared
- at least once every 15 years
- after any significant change in the number of people likely to be affected by a dam failure
- or if required by Dams Safety NSW. **Regulation, subclause 7 (2).**

Question	Answer
Dam consequence category	High B
Has an independent review been done?	Yes
Name of independent reviewer	Norman Himsley - Private Consultant
Why has no independent review been done?	
Do you know the date of the last consequence category assessment by a competent person? **Regulation, subclause 3 (1)**	Yes
Date of the last consequence category assessment	01/07/2025
Date of next planned consequence category assessment	01/07/2040
Has the number of people likely to be affected by a dam failure changed since the last consequence category review?	No

If the consequence category has recently changed you must submit the current consequence category assessment to DSNSW for review.

Section 2 continued - Dams safety standards

How was this checked?	Dam owner local knowledge
Other	

Documenting the dam safety management system

Question	Answer
Is the dam safety management system fully documented?	No
If no, what percentage of the dam safety management system documentation is complete?	75-100%
How did you confirm this percentage?	Draft in review
Does the dam safety management system apply to more than one dam?	No

Implementing the dam safety management system

Question	Answer
Is the dam safety management system fully implemented at this dam?	Yes
If no, what percentage of the dam safety management system is implemented?	
How did you confirm this percentage?	

Section 2 continued - Dams safety standards

Dam safety management system review

Question	Answer
Since implementing your dam safety management system, have you reviewed it?	No
Date of last review	

Assessment of societal and individual risk rating

The owner of a declared dam (other than a proposed dam) must use the risk management framework, **Regulation Part 5, clause 14** to produce a written report on all forseeable risks to the dam:

- at least once every 5 years
- when a major change to the dam is proposed, and
- after any significant change in the number of people likely to be affected by a dam failure
- when required by Dams Safety NSW. **Regulation, clause 15.**

Question	Answer
Do you know the date of your last risk report?	Yes
Date of last risk report	01/07/2025
Date of next planned risk report	01/07/2030
Is your dam above the safety threshold as identified in the Risk report?	No
Individual risk rating of the dam	0.0000963
Societal risk rating of the dam	0.000313

Section 2 continued - Dams safety standards

Name of competent person and their organisation who signed off the risk report (if risk report recommenced after 1 July 2022)	George Samios - NSW Public Works
Name of independent competent person and their organisation who reviewed the report (if risk report commenced after 1 July 2022 - for an extreme, high A or high B consequence dam	Norman Himsley - Private consultant

Other safety requirements - Regulation, Part 6

The declared dam owner must report incidents that happen at or in relation to the dam to Dams Safety NSW. **Regulation, clause 19**

Question	Answer
Have you had any reportable incidents during the last calendar year?	No
How many incidents?	
Topic/subject of the incident(s)	

Section 2 continued - Dams safety standards

Safety review

The declared dam owner must ensure that a safety review to assess the overall safety of the dam is undertaken by:

- for an extreme or high consequence dam, other than a high C consequence dam—a team of at least 2 competent persons, or
- otherwise—a competent person

The declared dam owner must ensure that a safety review is carried out at least once every 15 years, and as soon as practicable after:

- a deficiency or weakness in the dam is identified
- there is a change in the accepted technology or methods used in one of the relevant specialties or design criteria for dams
- the dam consequence category changes, or
- it is required by Dams Safety NSW. **Regulation, clause 20**

Question	Answer
Do you know the date of last safety review ? **Regulation, subclause 20(2)**	Date not known
Date of last safety review	N/A
Planned date for next safety review	01/07/2030

For extreme and high consequence dams only

If the dam's consequence category is extreme, high A or high B, the safety review must be reviewed by a panel of at least 2 independent competent persons. **Regulation, subclause 20(6)**

Question	Answer
If Safety Review commenced after 1 July 2022 - names of independent competent reviewers and their organisation	

Section 2 continued - Dams safety standards

If the dam's consequence category is high C, the safety review must be reviewed by an independent competent person. **Regulation, subclause 20(6A)**

Question	Answer
Name of independent competent reviewed and their organisation	

Notification of significant changes to the dam

Before making any significant change to the configuration of the declared dam that may affect the safety of the dam, the dam owner must inform Dams Safety NSW of the proposed change in writing. **Regulation, clause 21**

Question	Answer
Has any significant change to the configuration of the dam been made during the last calendar year?	No
Describe the change	
Is any significant change to the configuration of the dam planned?	No
Describe the change and when is it planned?	
Other	
Date	

Section 2 continued - Dams safety standards

Emergency exercises

The declared dam owner must ensure that staff who are involved in the operation of the dam undertake emergency exercises at least once every 3 years. **Regulation, clause 22**

Question	Answer
Have you done a 'theoretical classroom' emergency exercise?	No
Date of last 'theoretical classroom' emergency exercise **Regulation, subclause 22(1)**	
Planned date for next 'theoretical classroom' emergency exercise	01/07/2026

For extreme or high consequence dams only

The declared dam owner must ensure that staff who are involved in operating the dam undertake practical emergency exercises at least once every 5 years, where possible including relevant agencies identified in the emergency plan. **Regulation, subclauses 22 (3) and 22 (4)**

Question	Answer
Have you done a practical emergency exercise?	No
Date of last practical emergency exercise	
Planned date for next practical emergency exercise	01/07/2027

Section 2 continued - Dams safety standards

Design and construction

Dam safety management system for design and construction

Question	Answer
Does the dam safety management system cover dam design and construction? **Regulation, Clause 12(3)**	
Was the risk management framework used or is it currently being used to prepare a risk report at the dam design stage? **Regulation, clause 15(2)**	

Certain work must be carried out by a person subject to a quality management system. **Regulation, subclause 23(1)**

Question	Answer
Have you ensured that design and construction are carried out by a person subject to an AS ISO 9001:2016 quality management system?	

Independent competent persons must review work involving dam design. **Regulation, clause 24**

Question	Answer
For Extreme and High consequence category dams, provide the name of the independent person(s) and their organisation who reviewed or are reviewing the design **Regulation, clause 24**	
For dams still in an early design phase, have you planned an independent competent person design review?	

Section 3 - Additional information for Dams Safety NSW

Question	Answer
Date of last Emergency Plan review	21/03/2023
Date of last Operations and Maintenance Plan review	21/03/2023
Is last year's Annual Dams Safety Standards Report published on your website?	Yes
Provide the link to the report	https://www.hilltops.nsw.gov.au/services/water-management/

Section 4 - Attestation

The Attestation of the information provided in the form must be completed by the dam owner office holder(s):

Dam owner	Attesting office holder(s)
Local Council	General Manager
Company	• 2 directors, or • 1 director and 1 company secretary • The combined director and company secreatary (where there is only 1 director)
Statutory state-owned corporation	Chief Executive Officer or Managing Director responsible for managing the operation of the statutory state-owned corporation in accordance with the general policies and specific directions of the board
Statutory corporation	Corporation with 2 or more members: • President, chairperson or another principal officer of the corporation • Sole corporation • The person who constituted the constitution • The person managing the affairs of the corporation
Government department	Secretary
Individual	Individual

Section 4 - Attestation continued

Declared dam owner office holder(s) attesting to the accuracy of this report

Name of declared dam owner office holder attesting to the accuracy of this report	Anthony O'Reilly
Position of declared dam owner office holder attesting to the accuracy of this report	General Manager
Signature	Anthony O'Reilly
Name of declared dam owner office holder attesting to the accuracy of this report	
Position of declared dam owner office holder attesting to the accuracy of this report	
Signature	

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