

STATE OF NEBRASKA
DEPARTMENT OF WATER, ENERGY, AND ENVIRONMENT
APPROVAL OF PLAN NUMBER P-21587

BACKGROUND

1. On March 20, 2025, Jason Gerdes, Executive Director of the Nebraska Lutheran Outdoor Ministries filed in the Department of Water, Energy, and Environment (Department) an Application for Approval of Plans for Dams, plan P-21587, and associated specifications.
2. The plan, P-21587, is for the modification of Carol Joy Holling Dam, which is subject to the *Safety of Dams and Reservoirs Act*. The dam is located in the Southwest 1/4 of Section 5, Township 12 North, Range 10 East of the 6th P.M. in Cass County.
3. Jacob T. Miriovsky, P.E. of JEO Consulting Group, 1937 North Chestnut Street, Wahoo, Nebraska 68066, prepared the plans and specifications.
4. The Nebraska Lutheran Outdoor Ministries, 27416 Ranch Road, Ashland, Nebraska 68003, owns the dam.
5. The plans and specifications were examined by a registered professional engineer of the Department and were found to be consistent with current standards.
6. The Department consulted with the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission as required by the Nebraska Nongame and Endangered Species Conservation Act. As a result of this consultation, the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission determined that the project "May Affect, but is Not Likely To Adversely Affect" any state-listed threatened or endangered species or their critical habitat as long as all required tree removal for the project is completed outside of the maternity roosting period (May 15 to July 31) for the threatened northern long-eared bat and all temporary lighting used during nighttime construction will be directed away from northern long-eared bat habitat.

ORDER

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED the Application for Approval of Plans for Dams, plan P-21587 and associated specifications are APPROVED subject to the following limitations and conditions:

1. This approval will remain in effect for purposes of construction until November 1, 2027.
2. The dam owner shall provide written notice to the Department at least ten days before construction at the dam is to begin. Notices must be in writing and addressed to the Chief Engineer of the Department's Dam Safety Division. Notices may be delivered to the Department by mail, facsimile, or electronic mail.
3. The dam owner must comply with the requirements of the Nebraska Nongame and Endangered Species Conservation Act. Based on the Nebraska Game and

Parks Commission recommendations, the owner can meet the requirements of the act by completing all required tree removal for the project outside of the maternity roosting period (May 15 to July 31) for the northern long-eared bat, and by directing all temporary lighting used for nighttime construction away from northern long-eared bat habitat.

4. The dam owner must comply with all relevant statutes. This includes, but is not limited to, the following:
 - A. Notify the Department of any change in ownership or address.
 - B. Receive written approval prior to taking any action that changes the storage capacity of the reservoir, the specifications, plan P-13696, or plan P-21587.
 - C. Construct, operate and maintain the structure in accordance with Neb. Rev. Stat. § 46-241 and the *Safety of Dams and Reservoirs Act*, §§ 46-1601 to 46-1670.
 - D. Assume liability for all damages due to leakage, overflow or structural failure of the dam.
5. Upon completion of the construction, the dam owner shall file with the Department the enclosed "Construction Certification Form for Dams". Following receipt of this form, an approval to operate will be issued by the Department if it determines that the dam is safe to impound within the limitations outlined in this approval.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Failure to comply with all laws and regulations pertaining to any orders issued by the Chief Water Officer of the Department of Water, Energy, and Environment may result in administrative penalty, criminal prosecution, or any combination thereof.

DEPARTMENT OF WATER, ENERGY, AND ENVIRONMENT



July 22, 2025

Matthew T. Manning, PE, JD
Chief Water Officer

A copy of this approval was posted on the Department's website. Copies of this approval, plan P-21587, and a "Construction Certification Form for Dams" were mailed on July 22, 2025, to Nebraska Lutheran Outdoor Ministries, c/o Jason Gerdes, 27416 Ranch Road, Ashland, Nebraska 68003. Copies of this approval and a "Construction Certification Form for Dams" were mailed to Jacob T. Miriovsky, P.E., JEO Consulting Group, 1937 North Chestnut Street, Wahoo, Nebraska 68066. Copies of this approval, engineering review report, and plan P-21587 were provided to the Department's field office in Lincoln, Nebraska.