

**Big Run Site Visit
August 30, 2006**

Attendees:

Rick Oleniacz – COE

Dave Wary – DEP

John Nivers – Big Run Borough

Mayor Joe Buterbaugh – Big Run Borough

Prior to touring the project we had a briefing with the local sponsors.

I gave Mr. Nivers and the Mayor a copy of our 2006 Levee Owners Manual for their use and cited the chapter on Emergency Rehabilitation Assistance.

They did experience flooding from the Ivan event but did not reply to the Public Notice. I emphasized the importance of replying to the public notice in the future if they want Federal Emergency Assistance. The sponsor realizes that they missed the opportunity and that they were trying to get some Congressional help for their project. They were under the false impression that their neighbor Sykesville was getting Federal Assistance through special Congressional legislation and that they were going to proceed the same way. I have since called them to inform them that Sykesville did indeed respond to the Public Notice.

The sponsor also reported that the bars have been growing steadily for the last 10-20 years in the project and that in their opinion it is causing more flooding in the Borough.

We then walked the project and I took the 12 pictures attached with this report. As you can see from the photographs, the project has a number of bends in it and at the bends we are getting the normal scour on the outside of the bends and bars forming on the inside of the bends.

The sediment bars are significant in several locations (photos 1,6,11, & 12) which may block up to 25% of the waterway area. The banks are scoured in 3 areas on the outside of the bends (photos # 3, 9, 11).

Dave Wary offered some State assistance with removing the sediment bars but the sponsors would prefer to go for Federal assistance due to the cost sharing aspect of the DEP grant program.

The trip concluded with the Mayor and John Nivers saying that they were going to pursue Federal assistance through their Congressmen.

It is my opinion that the project does indeed need some maintenance to remove the sediment bars and riprap the scoured banks but this is normally considered routine maintenance and the sponsor's responsibility.

Richard Oleniacz, P.E.

