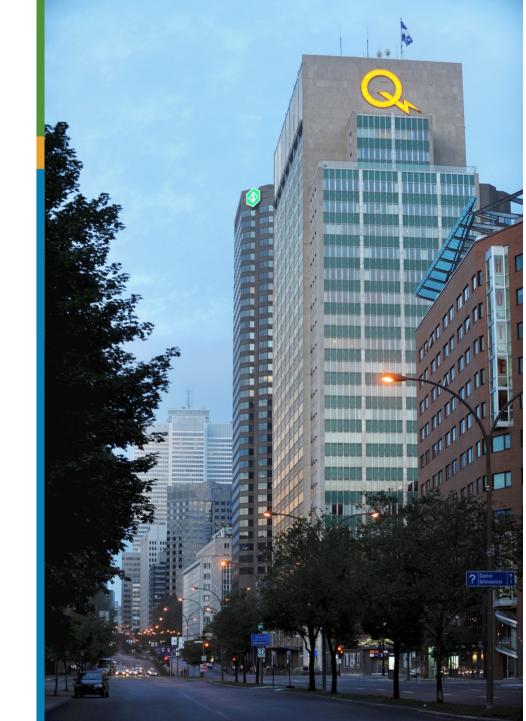
EMBANKMENT DAMS AND DYKES OVERTOPPING EROSION Hydro-Québec Perspectives : Issues and Engineering Needs

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#### **Overview**

- Hydro-Québec generates more than 99% of its electricity from hydro
- One of the largest electricity companies in Canada and one of the largest producers of renewable energy in the world
- Nearly 45% of all hydroelectricity in Canada
- Generation, transmission and distribution of electricity
- Its sole shareholder is the Québec government

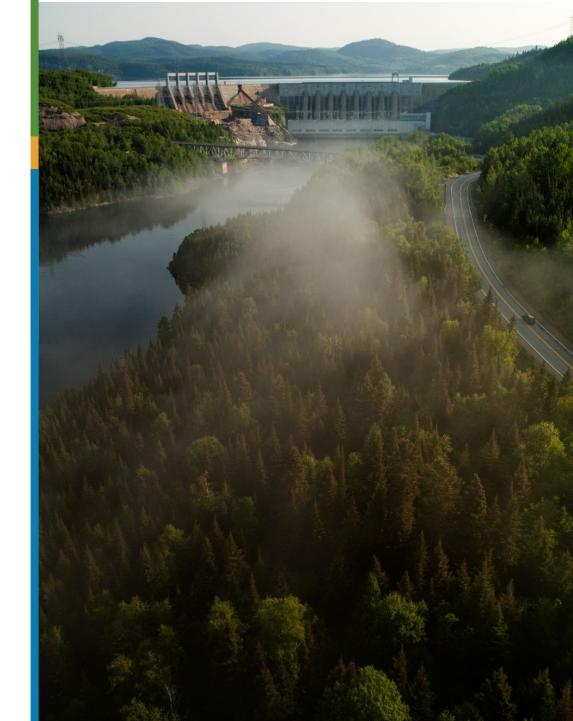


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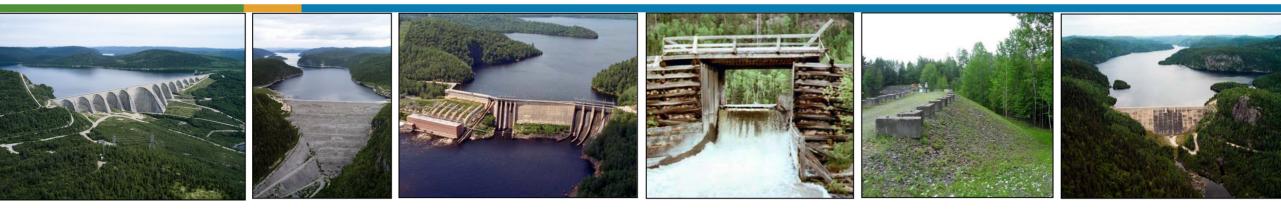


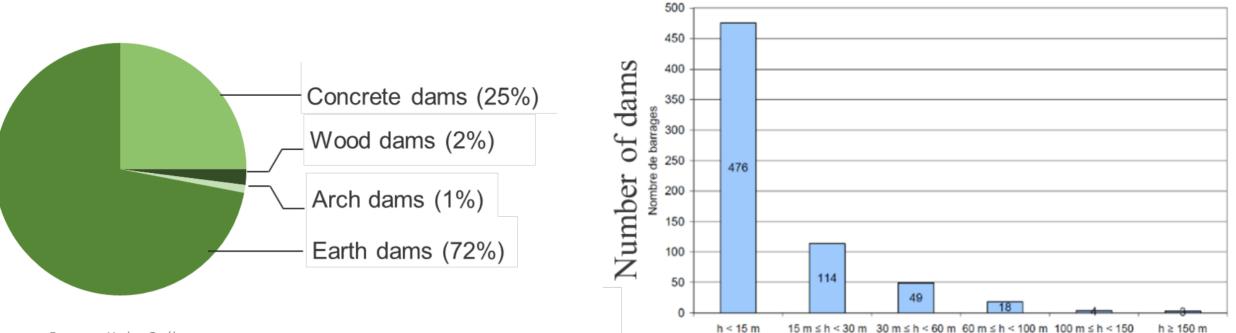
### Production – 2016

- Generates power for the Québec market and sells electricity on wholesale markets
- > 60 hydroelectric generating stations
- > 600 dams
- 27 reservoirs with a storage capacity of 176 TWh/year
- Total installed capacity : 36,3 GW
- Assets : 33 B\$
- Annual investments in property, plant and equipment and intangible assets : 906 M\$

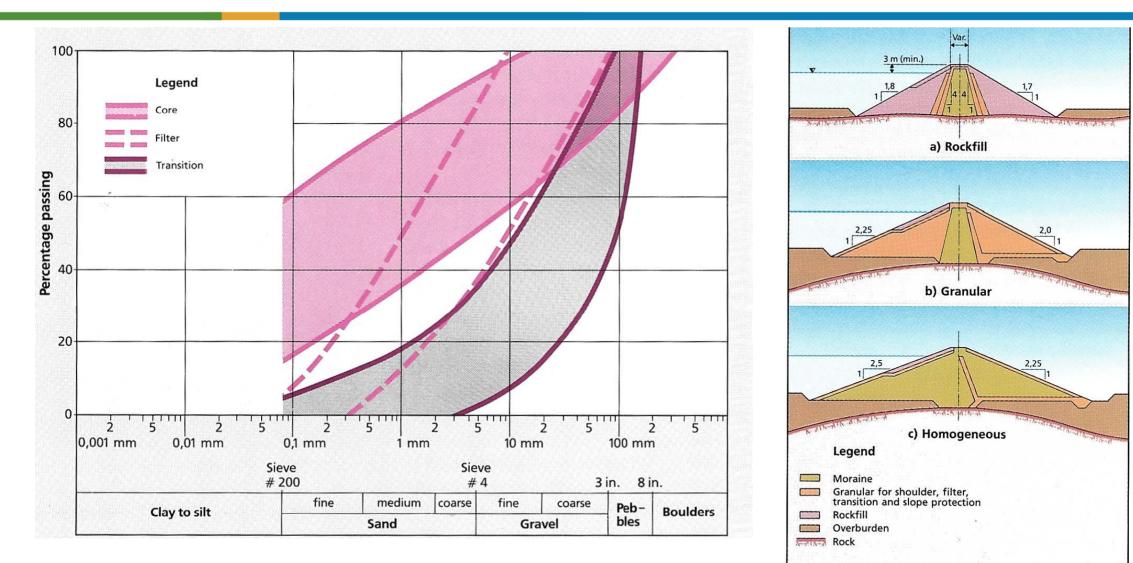


#### Heights and Types of Dams





#### **Embankment Dams Materials**



The Dam Safety Act and its attendant Regulation came into effect in Quebec province on April 11, 2002.

The Dam Safety Act :

- Construction, change and operation of high-capacity dams
- Maintain dams in good condition and repair
- Emergency Action Plan

Safety review by an engineer to verify their safety and compliance with today's standards

#### Dam Safety Regulation

25. The crest of an erodible dam at its lowest point must not be less than 1 m above the safety check flood level, unless ...

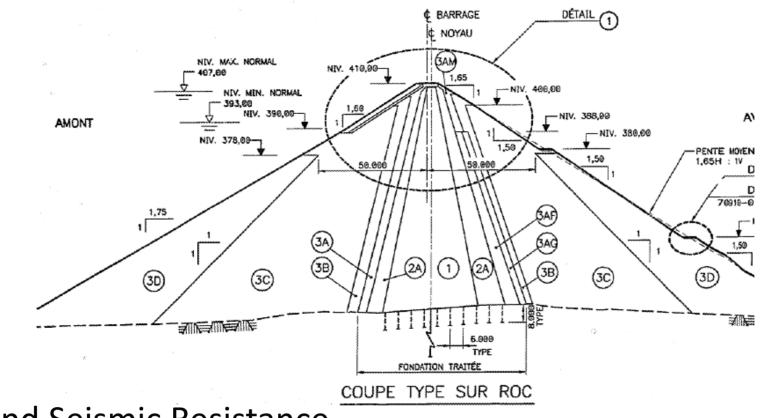
...

This section does not apply to dams designed to withstand a "probable maximum flood".

26. Any impervious component of an erodible dam must be at least as high as the safety check flood level.

This section does not apply to existing dams.

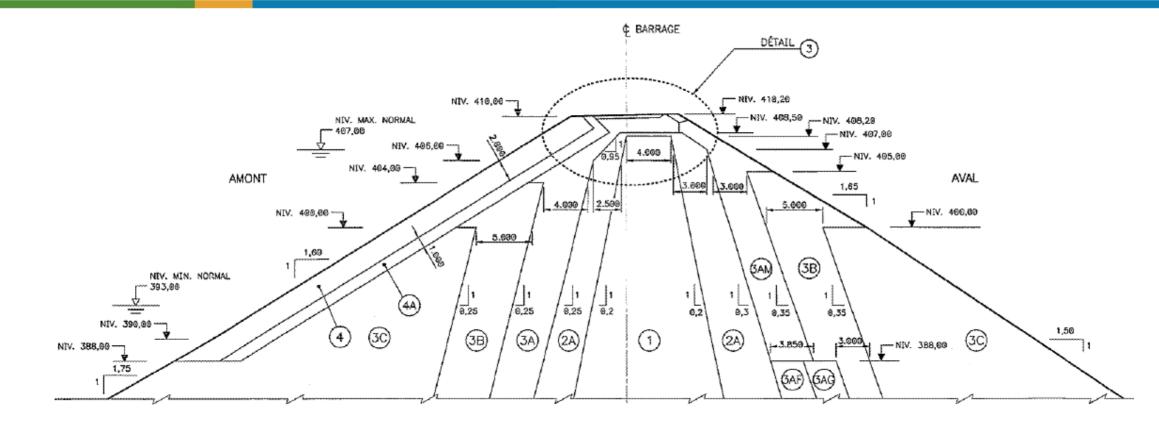
#### **Design and Safety Reviews**



Flood and Seismic Resistance



#### **Crest details**



New Dams: Laws and Regulations, ..., Quantity Optimization

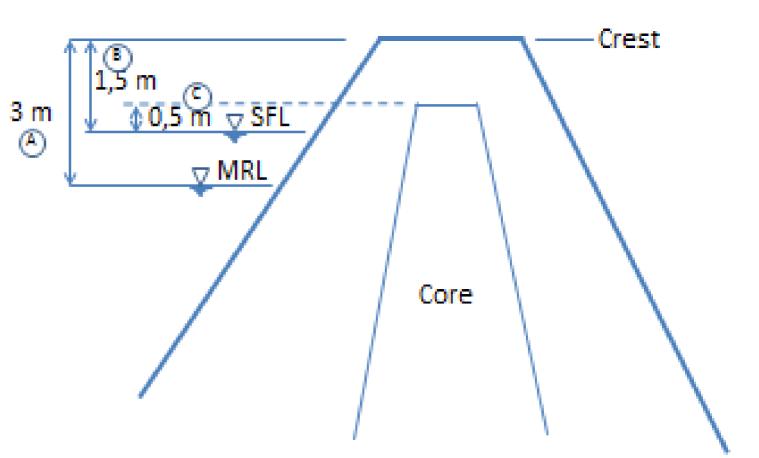
Existing Dams: Dam Safety Reviews considering today's standards

#### Freeboard

A Highest value between hydraulic freeboard and frost depth

B. Depending of the spillway capacity

To avoid core overtopping

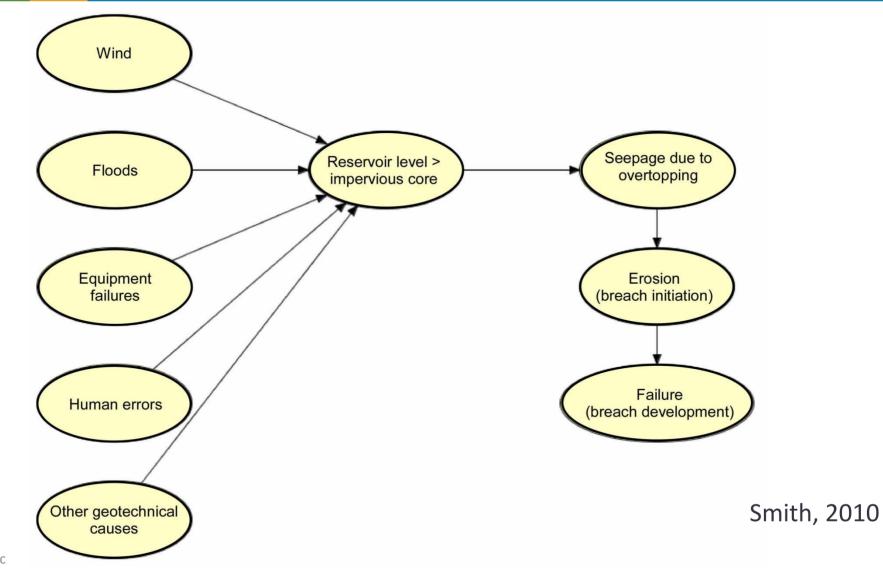


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#### Hydraulic Freeboard

Safety check flood	Recurrence of the wind used
CMP	20 years
10 000 years	100 years
1 000 years and less	1 000 years

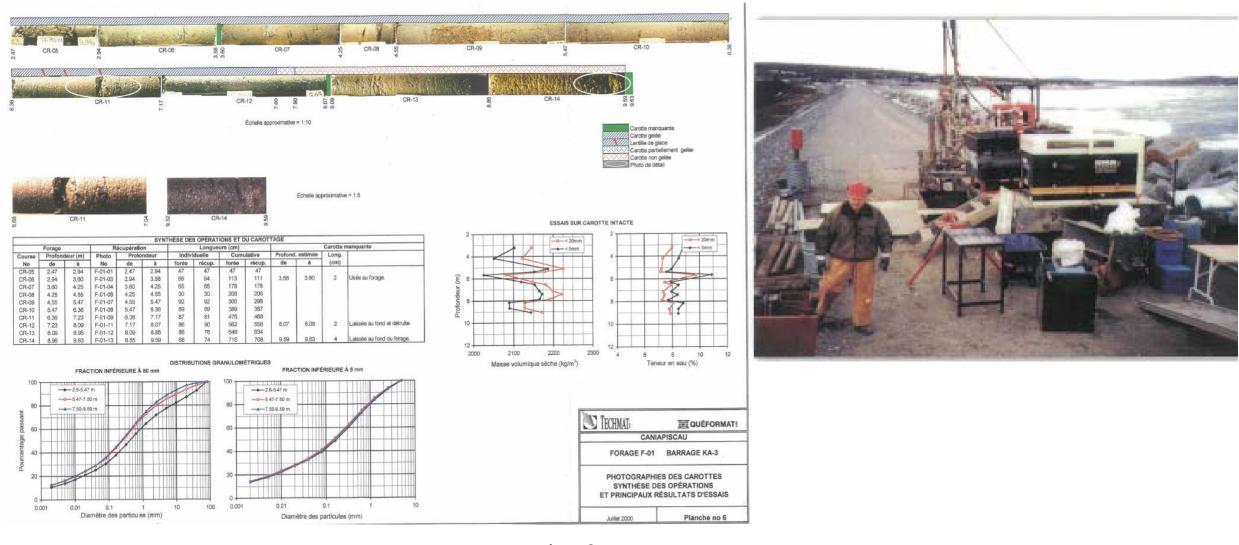
#### Failure Mecanism (global) - Core Overtopping



#### **Riprap Design**



#### Frozen Till – Dam Core Drilling



#### \*Reference 2

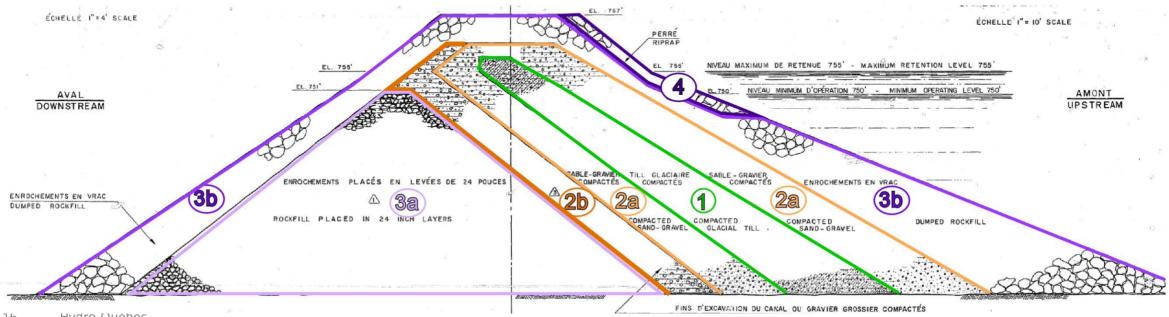
#### Core Overtopping (1991)

Rockfill dam – Till core

Length 500 m

Height 33 m

Foundation : rock (gneiss) and concrete



#### **Core Overtopping**

- Core overtopping : water level went up to the top of the filters but not in the rockfill (< 1m over the core for < 19 hrs)</p>
- Inspections during and after the event showed :
  - no deformation or instability;
  - inflow of 3-4L/s.

## Wind, flood, earthquake, frost, equipment failures, human errors, ...

# Design, Regulations, Inspection, Safety Reviews, Rehabilitation, ...

# Research projects: laboratory tests and numerical models

