

## **PROCURING THE SERVICES OF A PROFESSIONAL ENGINEER**

One of the most important procedures for ensuring proper maintenance of the dam is procuring the services of a professional engineer. This document is designed to answer the most commonly asked questions about hiring an engineer and to provide a list of engineers who have requested to be placed on a list.

### **Why Do I Need an Engineer?**

All dams will deteriorate with time. Periodic inspection, proper maintenance, and occasional repair and rehabilitation are inevitable. In addition, downstream development may have resulted in a change in the hazard classification and a need to upgrade the dam. An owner needs the expertise of an engineer to perform inspections or evaluate and undertake corrective measures at a dam.

An engineer can investigate the problem and recommend a course of action which may include the design of corrective measures and the preparation of construction plans and specifications, hydrologic and hydraulic analysis, breach analysis, and inundation mapping for emergency action plans. The engineer also can assist in selecting a contractor and can provide valuable construction inspection services.

Finally, §299.4 of 30 Texas Administrative Code Chapter 299, the Dam Safety Program rules, requires use of an engineer.

### **What Type of Engineer Should I Hire?**

It is essential to select someone with a Texas Professional Engineer license, who is competent in the field of dam safety. Important criteria to look for in a prospective engineer include the following:

- A professional engineer licensed in Texas;
- A knowledge of the Texas Dam Safety rules and regulations (30 Texas Administrative Code Chapter 299);
- Specific experience in the problem area; e.g., hydrology, hydraulics, structural, or geotechnical engineering; and
- An engineering company with an active Texas Board of Professional Engineers Firm Registration number. The web site for verifying is <http://www.tbpe.state.tx.us/search.php>

### **How Do I choose an Engineer Who Is Best for My Needs?**

The best way to select an engineer is through a qualification based approach, which is the approach public entities must use based on rules of the Texas Board of Professional Engineers. This means that the knowledge, experience, and ingenuity of the engineer are the determining factors in making the selection. This strategy is advantageous when the owner is uncertain about the exact problem or the best solution to the problem.

When basing your selection on qualifications, several engineering firms submit their technical qualifications, experience with similar projects, reputation with existing clients, and other factors pertaining to the specific project. The owner then selects the most qualified firms to make brief presentations outlining a cost-effective and innovative approach to the problem. Based upon these presentations, the owner selects the most qualified engineer to develop a scope of work.

When agreement on the scope of work is achieved, the engineer and the owner negotiate a price that is fair and reasonable to both parties. If an agreement cannot be reached, negotiations start with the second ranked engineer. In this selection process, price is the main factor, but only after the most qualified engineer has been identified.

A private owner can also use a fee-based selection process, meaning that the engineer's fee is the only determining factor in making the selection. This process is advantageous when the owner knows exactly what is needed and can clearly define the scope of work before meeting with the engineer. However, the owner may not get the best option for the project and may select an engineer that is not qualified to do the work.

### **What does an Owner need to do?**

An owner needs to:

- Request references from the engineer.
- Contact the references to discuss the engineer's performance.
- If possible, look at other projects completed under the engineer's design.
- Maintain an open line of communication with the Texas Dam Safety Program to verify that the rules will be met with the proposed work.
- Become knowledgeable in the basics of dam safety and the applicable rules.
- Carefully consider the selection of an engineer. A little extra work to ensure retaining the right engineer may save money in the future.
- Request options, if possible, for addressing the problem at the dam.

### **TCEQ Web Site**

[http://www.tceq.state.tx.us/compliance/field\\_ops/dam\\_safety/damsafetyprog.html](http://www.tceq.state.tx.us/compliance/field_ops/dam_safety/damsafetyprog.html)

### **Dam Engineers that have Requested to be Listed**

The following is an alphabetical list of engineers that have requested to be placed on the list. The TCEQ does not pre-certify, recommend, or endorse any of the following engineers. An owner is not obligated to hire an engineer on this list. Any licensed Texas professional engineer experienced and familiar with dam construction and design and TCEQ rules can be used.

Barney Austin, Ph.D., P. E.  
INTERA, Inc  
Austin  
512/425-2000  
[baustin@intera.com](mailto:baustin@intera.com)

Chris Aylor, P. E.  
KSA  
Longview  
903/236-7700  
[caylor@ksaeng.com](mailto:caylor@ksaeng.com)

Konstantine Bakintas, P.E.  
Baird, Hampton & Brown, Inc.  
Grapevine, TX  
817/251-8550 ext 301  
[kb@BHBInc.com](mailto:kb@BHBInc.com)

Wes Birdwell, P. E.  
Halff Associates, Inc.  
Austin  
512/252-8184  
[Wbirdwell@Austin.Halff.com](mailto:Wbirdwell@Austin.Halff.com)

Fred Blumberg, P. E.  
Malcolm Pirnie  
Austin  
512/370-3865  
[fblumberg@pirnie.com](mailto:fblumberg@pirnie.com)

Gary L. Burton, III, P. E.  
Gary Burton Engineering, Inc.  
Tyler  
903/561-6984  
[gburton@gbei-tx.com](mailto:gburton@gbei-tx.com)

Pierce L. Chandler, Jr., P.E.  
1204 Bayshore  
Rockwall  
972/771-1310  
[omc@airmail.net](mailto:omc@airmail.net)

Allan Colwick, P. E.  
Easterling Consultants, LLC  
Belton  
254/718-1813  
[dams@ecengr.com](mailto:dams@ecengr.com)

Phillip Cook, P. E.  
Black & Veatch  
San Antonio  
210/404-1330  
[cookp@bv.com](mailto:cookp@bv.com)

Steve Costello, P. E.  
Costello, Inc.  
Houston  
713/783-7788  
[scostello@coeng.com](mailto:scostello@coeng.com)

Misty Christian, P. E., CFM  
Kimley-Horn & Associates  
Las Colinas  
214/420-5600  
[Misty.christian@kimley-horn.com](mailto:Misty.christian@kimley-horn.com)

Dorian French, P. E.  
Brown & Gay Engineers  
Austin  
512/879-0404  
[dfrench@browngay.com](mailto:dfrench@browngay.com)

Steven Galloway, P. E., CFM  
Kimley-Horn & Associates  
Dallas  
972/770-1300  
[Steven.galloway@kimley-horn.com](mailto:Steven.galloway@kimley-horn.com)

David Givler, P. E.  
Givler Engineering, Inc.  
San Antonio  
210/342-3991 x204  
[givler@givlerengineering.com](mailto:givler@givlerengineering.com)

Scott Hibbs, P. E.  
Enprotec/Hibbs & Todd  
Abilene  
325/698-5560  
[Abilene@e-ht.com](mailto:Abilene@e-ht.com)

John Ho, P. E.  
Huitt-Zollars, Inc.  
Dallas  
214/871-3311  
[jho@huitt-zollars.com](mailto:jho@huitt-zollars.com)

Manwar Hossain P.E. CFM  
TSC Engineering  
Houston  
713/784-7777  
[ManwarHossain@TSCEngineering.com](mailto:ManwarHossain@TSCEngineering.com)

Randall R. House, P. E.  
House Engineering & Construction, Inc.  
Longview  
903/660-1020  
[rsengcon@aol.com](mailto:rsengcon@aol.com)

Jerry G. Ince, P. E.  
Ince Engineering, LLC  
Richmond  
281/239-6155  
[jgince@myway.com](mailto:jgince@myway.com)

Jeff Irvin, P. E.  
URS Corporation  
Austin  
512/419-6523  
[jeff\\_irvin@urscorp.com](mailto:jeff_irvin@urscorp.com)

James Isensee, P. E.  
RPS Group  
Austin  
512/879-6681  
[iensee@rpsgroup.com](mailto:iensee@rpsgroup.com)

Jason S. Jones, P.E.  
Jones-Heroy & Associates  
Lampasas  
512/556-2300  
[jasonj@jones-heroy.com](mailto:jasonj@jones-heroy.com)

Kelly Kaatz, P. E.  
HDR Engineering, Inc.  
Austin  
512/912-5154  
[kkaatz@hdrinc.com](mailto:kkaatz@hdrinc.com)

Craig Kalkomey, P. E.  
Jones & Carter, Inc.  
Houston  
713/777-5337  
[cwkalkomey@jonescarter.com](mailto:cwkalkomey@jonescarter.com)

Chad Kimbell, P. E.  
Kimbell/Bruehl  
Austin  
512/810-8243  
[Chad@kimbellbruehl.com](mailto:Chad@kimbellbruehl.com)

Munir Khan, P. E.  
Global Engineers & Contractors, Inc.  
Austin  
512/417-3172  
[mkhan@g-engineers.com](mailto:mkhan@g-engineers.com)

Morgan Lund, P. E.  
Gessner Engineering, LLP  
College Station  
979/680-8840

Kenneth B. Martin, P. E.  
Jacob & Martin, Ltd.  
Abilene  
325/695-1070  
[kbm@jacobmartin.com](mailto:kbm@jacobmartin.com)

David McLendon, P. E., C.F.M.  
CP&Y, Inc.  
Fort Worth  
817/354-0189  
[dmclendon@cpyi.com](mailto:dmclendon@cpyi.com)

Dennis Medlin, P. E.  
M&E Consultants  
Heidenheimer  
254/983-9108  
[denmed@vvm.com](mailto:denmed@vvm.com)

Timothy Moltz, P. E.  
Huitt-Zollars, Inc.  
Austin  
512/231-1119  
[tmoltz@huitt-zollars.com](mailto:tmoltz@huitt-zollars.com)

Tom Mountz, P. E.  
Espey Consultants  
Austin  
512/326-5959  
[tmountz@espeyconsultants.com](mailto:tmountz@espeyconsultants.com)

Janis Murphy, P. E.  
Freese and Nichols, Inc.  
Fort Worth  
817/735-7345  
[jcm@freese.com](mailto:jcm@freese.com)

Shannon L. Nave, P.E., CFM  
Baird, Hampton & Brown, Inc.  
Weatherford, TX  
817/596-7575  
[Shannon@BHBInc.com](mailto:Shannon@BHBInc.com)

Paul Padilla, P. E.  
Wilson & Company  
Fort Worth  
817/232-2248  
[Paul.padilla@wilsonco.com](mailto:Paul.padilla@wilsonco.com)

Eduardo J. Parra, P. E.  
CDM  
San Antonio  
210/253-2881  
[parraej@cdm.com](mailto:parraej@cdm.com)

Gary Pettit, P. E. (H&H specialist)  
PBS&J  
Dallas  
972/588-3209  
[gmpettit@pbsj.com](mailto:gmpettit@pbsj.com)

Brad Pickering, P. E., CFM  
Kimley-Horn & Associates  
Dallas  
972/770-1300  
[Brad.pickering@kimley-horn.com](mailto:Brad.pickering@kimley-horn.com)

Brian G. Pierce, P. E. (structural)  
Pierce Engineering  
North Richland Hills  
817/656-5800  
[bpierce@pierceengineering.net](mailto:bpierce@pierceengineering.net)

Dee Purkeypile, P. E.  
Purkeypile Consulting, LLC  
Eureka Springs, Arkansas  
512/971-2264  
[dtpurkeypile@cox.net](mailto:dtpurkeypile@cox.net)

Michael Reedy, P. E.  
Freese & Nichols, Inc.  
Houston  
713/600-6828  
[mvr@freese.com](mailto:mvr@freese.com)

David C. Riddle, Ph.D., P. E.  
Adams Consulting Engineers, Inc.  
Tyler  
903/324-8400  
[david.riddle@adams-engineering.com](mailto:david.riddle@adams-engineering.com)

Larry Rogers, P. E.  
Huitt-Zollars, Inc.  
Fort Worth  
817/335-3000  
[lrogers@huitt-zollars.com](mailto:lrogers@huitt-zollars.com)

John Rutledge, P. E.  
Freese & Nichols, Inc.  
Fort Worth  
817/735-7284  
[jlr@freese.com](mailto:jlr@freese.com)

Eric Scheibe, P. E., CFM  
Scheibe Consulting, LLC  
Austin  
713/859-5744  
[escheibe@scheibeconsulting.com](mailto:escheibe@scheibeconsulting.com)

Roger Schenk, P. E.  
Camp Dresser & McKee, Inc  
Austin  
512/346-1100  
[schenkrc@cdm.com](mailto:schenkrc@cdm.com)

Richard A. Shoemaker, P. E.  
HDR Engineering, Inc.  
Austin  
512/912-5166  
[rich.shoemaker@hdrinc.com](mailto:rich.shoemaker@hdrinc.com)

Melvin G. Spinks, P. E.  
CivilTech Engineering, Inc.  
Cypress  
281/304-0200  
[mghspinks@civiltecheng.com](mailto:mghspinks@civiltecheng.com)

L. Stephen Stecher, P. E.  
Crespo Consulting Services, Inc.  
Austin  
512/343-6404  
[sstecher@crespoinc.com](mailto:sstecher@crespoinc.com)

Trace Strevey, P.E.  
Baird, Hampton, & Brown, Inc.  
Fort Worth, TX  
817/338-1277  
[tstrevey@BHBI.com](mailto:tstrevey@BHBI.com)

Keith Strimple, P. E.  
M&S Engineering  
Spring Branch  
830/228-5446  
[kstrimple@msengr.com](mailto:kstrimple@msengr.com)

Alan Thompson, P. E.  
Klotz Associates  
San Antonio  
210/736-0425  
[Alan.thompson@klotz.com](mailto:Alan.thompson@klotz.com)

Neal Velvin, P. E.  
Velvin & Weeks  
Athens  
903/675-3903  
[vwce@velvin-weeks.com](mailto:vwce@velvin-weeks.com)

John R. Wise, P. E.  
KBR  
Dallas  
214/752-8300  
[john.wise@kbr.com](mailto:john.wise@kbr.com)

Steven B. Wick, P. E.  
Stokes & Associates, Inc.  
Henderson  
903/657-7558  
[steve@stokesandassociates.com](mailto:steve@stokesandassociates.com)

Gregory R. Wine, P. E.  
Huitt-Zollars, Inc.  
Houston  
281/496-0066  
[gwine@Huitt-Zollars.com](mailto:gwine@Huitt-Zollars.com)

John Wolfhope, P. E.  
Freese and Nichols, Inc.  
Austin  
512/617-3118  
[jsw@freese.com](mailto:jsw@freese.com)

Wesley Young, P. E., C.F.M.  
CP&Y, Inc.  
Austin  
512/349-0700  
[wyoung@cpyi.com](mailto:wyoung@cpyi.com)

Andrew C. Yung, P. E.  
Dodson & Associates, Inc.  
Houston  
281/440-3787  
[ayung@dodson-hydro.com](mailto:ayung@dodson-hydro.com)