

C. Examples of overdue reports

The recorded dates for when the department received reports and notifications are inaccurate. This appendix lists some examples that illustrate the types of notifications and documents the department is not receiving on time. They are not exhaustive or complete.

Figure C1
Examples of late and overdue compliance documents

Dam details	Population at risk (total)	Report	Due	Received status as at November 2021	Elapsed time	Enforcement action	Comments
Lenthalls Dam, Fraser Coast Regional Council	2,329	Five-yearly comprehensive safety inspection	01/02/2019	21/08/2020	568 days total (18 months and 20 days)	None sighted	The department did not take compliance action.
Wyralong Dam, Seqwater	2,125	Five-yearly comprehensive safety inspection	29/09/2016	11/04/2017	195 days total (6 months and 13 days)	Email requests and reminders	In 2017, the owner identified that it had incorrectly scheduled the report for later that year when it should have been completed in 2016. The owner advised the department of the error. The department asked the owner to complete the inspection and report by April 2017, which it did.
Rifle Creek, Glencore MIM Ltd	698	20-year safety review	1/08/2018	08/10/2021	1,164 days total (3 years, 2 months and 17 days)	Update request emails 15/10/2018, 01/12/2020, 02/02/2021, 24/03/2021 Report request email 27/05/2020	The department worked with the owner and did not take compliance action.



Dam details	Population at risk (total)	Report	Due	Received status as at November 2021	Elapsed time	Enforcement action	Comments
Chinaman Creek Dam, Cloncurry Shire Council	197	20-year safety review	30/01/2015	24/9/2019	1,699 days total (4 years, 7 months and 26 days)	Reminder emails 17/06/2017, 16/10/2017	In mid-2017 (more than 2 years after the safety review was due), the department issued a reminder letter in relation to several matters including the outstanding safety review. The dam owner responded 147 days later to say a consultant was assisting with the safety review, and a further 114 days after that they provided a progress update. 1.5 years later, the owner provided the report to the department.
Springfield Lakes Dam, Low level Dam, Springfield Land Corporation	128	Annual dam safety conditions notifications	29/10/2020	22/12/2020	54 days total (1 month and 23 days)	Reminder letter issued 14/12/2020	The department issued a reminder letter about non-compliance. The owner provided the notification a week later.
Forest Lake Dam, Brisbane City Council	127	20-year safety review	01/09/2013	27/11/2015	818 days total (2 years, 2 months and 27 days)	Reminder email 15/01/2014	The department did not take compliance action. The owner provided the report more than 2 years after it was due.
Wild River Dam, Tablelands Regional Council	81	Annual dam safety conditions notifications	31/08/2018	The 2018 report was not received.	699 days total (1 year, 10 months and 30 days)	29/06/2018 Request for extension due to staff shortages	The owner advised the department that the team responsible for dams had left council and recruitment for replacement was ongoing.
			31/08/2019	The 2019 notification was received 19/09/2019 as part of the revised Emergency Action Plan	19 days late	Reminder letter issued 07/04/2020	The department issued a reminder letter in 2020 for the 2018 and 2019 notifications, although it had been received in 2019 with the Emergency Action Plan. The dam owner responded 114 days later, for the 2019 notification. There was no further need to meet the 2018 requirements. The 2020 Annual dam safety conditions notifications was due 31/08/2020. It was received 30/07/2020.



Dam details	Population at risk (total)	Report	Due	Received status as at November 2021	Elapsed time	Enforcement action	Comments
Leichhardt River Dam, Glencore MIM Ltd	35	20-year safety review	01/10/2019	18/08/2021	687 days total (1 year, 10 months and 17 days)	Update request emails 01/12/2020, 02/02/2021 Reminder email 27/05/2020	The department worked with the owner and did not take formal compliance action.
Lake Mitchell Dam, Southedge Daintree Pastoral Company Pty Ltd	35	20-year safety review	30/08/2007	Outstanding	4,914 days total (14 years, 2 months and 2 days)	Reminder letter 10/04/2013 Compliance notice 04/04/2014 Draft reminder letter 2015 Update request email 24/06/2015 Email to resolve status of the dam 17/02/2017 Reminder emails 6/11/2019, 26/02/2021 Warning email 18/03/2021 Expected report date email 22/04/2021	The department issued the owner with a compliance notice in 2014 to provide the safety review by 1 September 2014 or face a fine. The department and owner discussed completing a new assessment (failure impact assessment) of the dam to determine whether it was still referable, and if the 20-year safety review was still required. The dam was assessed as referable (24/01/2017). The owner has advised that it has engaged external consultants to conduct the safety review.
Lake Dennis Dam, Logan City Council	12	Annual dam safety conditions notifications	30/10/2020	16/12/2020	47 days total, (1 month and 16 days)	Reminder letter issued 14/12/2020	The department issued a reminder letter 46 days after the notification was due. The owner provided an update 2 days later.



Dam details	Population at risk (total)	Report	Due	Received status as at November 2021	Elapsed time	Enforcement action	Comments
Theresa Creek Dam, Isaac Regional Council	6	Five-yearly comprehensive safety inspection	02/10/2017	23/12/2020	1,178 days total (3 years, 2 months and 21 days)	Reminder letter issued 08/12/2020	The department issued a reminder letter 3 years after the report was due as it had no record of the report being received. The owner provided the report 2 weeks later. The owner believes it undertook the required inspection in 2017 but due to staff turnover, acknowledge it was not provided to the department as required.

Source: Queensland Audit Office based on reports provided by the Department of Regional Development, Manufacturing and Water.

