

Do you still need to give a dam?

Changes to the dam safety regulations mean smaller dams may no longer need to comply.



Check if yours is still impacted

The Government has responded to feedback from farmers that the cost of compliance with the new regulations is not proportionate to the risks smaller dams pose. As a result, changes have been made to the thresholds, meaning that fewer smaller dams will need to comply with the regulations.

Now only dams that meet the following threshold are impacted by the regulations and need to be classified:

4 or more metres in height, and stores 20,000 or more cubic metres volume of water, or other fluid.

It is important that specialist engineering resources are focussed on dams that represent the greatest risk to people and property downstream. It is also important that owners of classifiable dams are able to efficiently meet their obligations under the regulations.

You can read more about this on the Building Performance website. You can also find a resource to help you work out if you have a classifiable dam and if you do, there are other resources to support you with the steps you need to take.

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^{*}Classifiable dam = a dam that is impacted by the regulations because it meets a certain height and volume threshold.