CLEVELAND DAM

Cleveland Dam, on the Capilano River, is located about 5 km north of Burrard Inlet. It is situated in a deep and narrow rock canyon adjacent to Capilano River Regional Park and immediately upstream of the Capilano Salmon Hatchery.

The dam is owned and operated by Metro Vancouver (Greater Vancouver Water District). The dam is approximately 195 meters long at the roadway on the crest; and is approximately 92 meters high from its base.

Adjacent to the east side of the concrete dam is an area called the “East Abutment”, which is comprised of soil and acts as a natural barrier to the water reservoir.

The dam was constructed between 1952 and 1954 at a cost of $10.7 million. Over the years, Metro Vancouver has undertaken upgrades to the dam, including a $3 million seismic upgrade in 1992 (as part of Metro Vancouver’s Seismic Upgrade Program) and a $25 million upgrade to the East Abutment in 2001 and 2002.

The B.C. Dam Safety Regulation requires owners of major dams to ensure their dams will withstand an extreme earthquake or flood, and Metro Vancouver meets or exceeds these safety standards. In addition, Metro Vancouver carries out regular dam safety surveillance, testing, and reviews.

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