



R.H.WHITE CONSTRUCTION CO., INC.

Cobble Mountain Dam Receives Project of the Year Award

September 11, 2007 –R.H. White Construction completed a project at the Cobble Mountain Reservoir in Westfield, MA for Springfield Water. The project called for the replacement of (2) 40" x 30" Cone valves with 30" Jet Flow gate valves and the repair of (2) 40" rotary valves that were originally installed in 1931. What made this project unique was that the valves were located 220 feet below grade in a valve chamber inside the dam. Not only was the area a confined space but the access to the work area was via a narrow, dimly lit concrete stairway with 320 steps then down to a landing area, a straight brass ladder into the valve chamber. A horizontal 12' diameter, 1500' long tunnel serves as the water outlet when



Pictured from left to right, Jerry Ferrier-CDM; Dave Kruppa-City of Springfield; Jim Constantino- Springfield Project Mgr.; Joe Supremeau-City of Springfield; Bob Stoops-Springfield Engineer; Neill Hampton-CDM Project Engineer; Pete Standrowicz-RHW Project Manager.

the valves are opened. As a precaution against accidentally emptying the reservoir in the event of a valve malfunction, we had to block this access with a 4' thick concrete bulkhead before we began any work on the valves.

Neill Hampton of CDM, the engineer for the project and Jim Constantino the project manager for Springfield Water co-authored a paper on this project and presented it at the regional conference of the Association of State Dam Safety Officials (ASDSO). On September 11th ASDSO awarded Springfield Water the award for Project of the Year for the valve replacement project.

Congratulations to all who had a part in making this project a success for R.H. White and Springfield Water.