From:	Barbara Richards
To:	DNR ESTABROOK
Subject:	Comments of Estabrook Dam
Date:	Wednesday, March 23, 2016 11:21:25 AM

My name is Barbara Richards. I live at 3210 N 83rd Street in Milwaukee. I urge you to act to remove the Estabrook Dam. This is ecologically, economically, esthetically, and morally the right thing to do. I urge you to take a long view.

I am reminded of a whimsical old song: There's a Hole in the Bucket. Liza and Henry are faced with a series of problems each requiring a fix to fix the last fix. The song ends up where it began – one could sing it forever – for all time. How many fixes will this dam require in the next seven generations? Do you know what the world will be then, ecologically, economically? Can you justify handing this problem down to future generations?

I am also reminded of a poem by Gerard Manley Hopkins: "The Binsey Poplars, Felled 1879". Hopkins had a favorite walk along a river bank overhung with poplar trees. One day he found they had been all cut down. He later learned they had been cut to make brake shoes for locomotive engines – the environmental scourge of his day.

My aspens, dear, whose airy cages quelled,
Quelled or quenched in leaves the leaping sun,
All felled, felled, are all felled:
Of a fresh a following folded rank
Not spared, not one
That dandled a sandalled
Shadow that swam or sank
On meadow and river and wind-wandering
weed-winding bank.

O if we but knew what we do
When we delve or hew –
Hack and rack the growing green!
Since country is so tender
To touch, her being so slender,
That, like this sleek and seeing ball
But a prick will make no eye at all,
Where we, even where we mean
To mend her we end her,
When we hew or delve:
After-comers cannot guess the beauty been.
Ten or twelve, only ten or twelve
Strokes of havoc unselve
The sweet especial scene,

Rural scene, a rural scene,
Sweet especial rural scene.

Let us return to our place as part of nature rather than her conqueror. Please move to restore the river as much as humans are able. Perhaps nature can do the rest.

Thank you.

"Let us abandon all fear and dread, for these do not befit men and women who are loved," said (Pope) Francis. "Instead, let us live the joy of encounter with the grace that transforms all."