From:	Heil, Bob
To:	DNR ESTABROOK
Subject:	Estabrook Park Dam
Date:	Thursday, March 17, 2016 1:31:38 PM
Attachments:	image001.png

Ms. Kristina Betzold,

I am a resident of Greenfield in Milwaukee County. I frequently paddle the various waterways in the county and enjoy the parks with my family. I am writing you to in regards to the Estabrook Park dam on the Milwaukee River. I see the DNR will be having another public hearing about the dam on Tuesday March 22nd. I may be unable to attend and so I am writing you. I feel that all options and circumstances need to be evaluated when determining the fate of the dam. Of what I know of the DNR's Environmental Impact Statement, it covers repairing the dam and the continued operation and maintenance of the dam, but not the impact or benefits of removing the dam. Nor does it make any estimate of Milwaukee County's ability (financial or otherwise) to operate and maintain the dam if it is repaired. In the past the County couldn't afford to fund a position to operate the dam and hence it hasn't been operated properly in years. It's blatantly obvious that the County does not have the financial resources to maintain it properly. As of the last few months and the disrepair of the Horticulture Conservancy Domes, again whether repaired or replaced, Milwaukee County's financial ability will be extremely burdened for probably the next twenty years. My guess is the Domes will get priority over the dam. Lastly, none of the plans I've seen include any sort of fishway, which I believe by DNR standards would be required and further add cost.

I feel the scope of options should include removal of the Estabrook Park Dam. I also feel that the past performance record of the County, and future financial ability of the County, along with the many benefits of removal of the dam, all point to one logical course of action; remove the dam. If it is within the scope of the DNR's, I feel they should recommend to the Milwaukee County Board that removal seems the best all-around option, for the river, and for the County and its tax payers.

Thank You,

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