From: Cinealis, Thomas
To: DNR ESTABROOK
Subject: Repair the Estabrook dam
Date: Tuesday, April 05, 2016 10:06:52 PM

Hello,
My family and I live in the city of Glendale, but we do not live on the waterfront. We have been residents here for over 6 years, and one of the reasons we picked the area was because of the Milwaukee river being part of our neighborhood.
We use the river for kayaking on a regular basis from Bender road to the Estabrook dam. Unfortunately with the current state of the dam often parts of that stretch of the river are barely passable even in a kayak.

It is my knowledge that before the dam was built a natural ledge existed at the approximate spot of the dam, impounding the river and creating both a natural lake in the area, as well as problems downstream for the city at certain times of the year. The dam was engineered to replace this ledge, thus keeping the lake while protecting the property downstream.
In the 1907 the city of Milwaukee saw this section of the river, with its lake to be valuable enough to purchase the area surrounding the lake for use as parks before the land was even inside the boundaries of the city of Milwaukee. Then in the 1950's the Emil Blatz pavilion was built on banks of this same section of river to bring the benefits of the river to more residents then the ones living on the river's edge.

With the dam not in proper working condition you are not only sacrificing the publics ability to fully enjoy this portion of the river, but you are costing the tax payers from many communities additional dollars brought about by the continuous battle over discussing the value of its repair. The monies spent on reports and rebuttals would have gone a long ways toward its maintenance and replacement.

I am in favor of the dam, as you can tell, and I am also in favor of an automated system of regulating it when drawdowns are necessary.
Please repair the dam as you have been ordered to.

As the shoreline work is almost totally completed it is plain to see from the new shoreline restoration that there is an expectation that the water levels will not remain as low as they have been in recent years.
Once again, please follow the order as you were instructed to, and repair and/or replace the Estabrook dam as necessary.

Thank you for your time in reading this,

Tom Cinealis

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