From: Patrick Jones
To: DNR ESTABROOK
Subject: DNR Must Consider Removing the Estabrook Dam
Date: Wednesday, March 16, 2016 4:05:25 PM

Department of Natural Resources Kristina Betzold,

I'm writing to ask that you conduct a comprehensive review of the environmental and socioeconomic impacts of ALL alternatives considered by the County and that you recommend removing the Estabrook Dam located on the Milwaukee River in Glendale.

Due to the large amount of state and federal funds likely to be spent on Estabrook Dam, the DNR must consider the better option of dam removal and not only the County's preferred alternative of dam repair and associated operational scenarios when conducting an EIS. The Estabrook Dam currently degrades the health of the Milwaukee River, impedes fish movement, increases flood risk for homeowners who live upstream of the dam, and poses a risk to public safety and will continue to do so to an even greater extent if repaired. The County history of failing to properly maintain and operate this dam, and the stakes get higher as the dam continues to age and degrade.

Without considering dam removal as a viable alternative, the DNR is not doing their duty to protect our natural resources and make informed management decisions that best protect the environment and the community as a whole.

Removing the Estabrook Dam would:
1) improve water quality in the Milwaukee River and Milwaukee Estuary,
2) improve fish passage and therefore recreational fishing opportunities,
3) reduce flood and safety risk, and
4) save Milwaukee County residents at least more than $4 million over the next 20 years.

Thank you,

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