From: Rick Pendergast
To: DNR ESTABROOK
Subject: Estabrook Dam Public Hearing
Date: Sunday, March 13, 2016 1:50:42 PM

I read about the public hearing on March 22 regarding rebuilding the Estabrook dam. I will be out of town and cannot attend, but would like to express my thoughts. Too often, and again in Sunday's Milwaukee Journal Sentinal article about the dam, the issue has been characterized as one of interest only to adjacent property owners. As a property owner (for 32 years), I perhaps have a better view of those who use the river when it is at its natural depth (which was restored by the original dam). I used to watch caravans of young people, boy and girl scouts and inner city youth on sponsored outings. I would see scullers (I assume from a college) practicing. My personal experiences include friends and co-workers borrowing our canoe to experience a little bit of "Up North" within the confines of our city and hearing similar stories from my neighbors.

The Milwaukee River, at its natural depth, provides recreation and enjoyment for many people throughout the Greater Milwauee area. It is not restricted to those of us fortunate enough to live on its banks. There are those who are against any dam, regardless of its history or its current benefit to citizens. Their's is a political stance and is self-serving, in that they don't concern themselves with issues beyongd their own agenda.

Please add my voice to those calling for the repair of the Estabrook dam.

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