From: Lipscomb, Theodore
To: DNR ESTABROOK
Subject: Estabrook Dam EIS Public Comment
Date: Wednesday, April 06, 2016 1:37:35 PM

To Whom It May Concern,

After reviewing the EIS for the Repair of the Estabrook Dam, I would like to add these brief comments to the record as the County Supervisor representing the upstream area of the dam:

The purpose of the dam has been widely portrayed as principally benefiting private property owners, but the majority of the shoreline within the impoundment is in fact open to the public as part of several parks. A change in the water level will reduce recreational options for the public as well as individual riparian property owners.

The EIS gives the impression that the decision to repair the dam was first determined in 2015, but the reality is that the County originally established that policy in 2009 with the allocation of over $2 million for the "rehabilitation of the Estabrook Dam" and reaffirmed that policy several times including most recently in 2015 when additional money was added to include fish passage in the project.

I support alternative #2 which is repair of the dam with partial winter draw down which will mitigate some of the effects of a full draw down. It is clear to me that the original design of the spillway with the stop logs makes it clear that was the design intent.

In either scenario, I ask that the department reconsider the September 15th date of the fall/winter draw down. That could be delayed at least a month. In comparison to past practice it is too early and appears unnecessary given the actual onset of winter conditions which is so much later in the year.

Finally, I ask that consideration be given to the cost benefit of automated monitoring and operation. The County has an existing 24 hour emergency management operations center that could provide this service as a significant cost savings to having a separate full time dam operator as some have suggested. Parks Department personnel or others could be cross trained to provide manual on-site operational intervention when necessary for a fraction of the cost of dedicated staff and provide operational redundancy.

Thank you for including these comments in your review.

~Theo

Theodore A. Lipscomb, Sr.
Milwaukee County Board Chairman

County Supervisor, 1st District
Office Phone 414.278.4280

This message is intended for the sole use of the individual and entity to which it is addressed, and may contain information that is privileged, confidential and exempt from disclosure under applicable law. If you are not the intended addressee, nor authorized to receive for the intended addressee, you are hereby notified that you may not use, copy, disclose or distribute to anyone the message or any information contained in the message. If you have received this message in error, please immediately advise the sender by reply email and delete the message.