RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN OF MONTICELLO, MISSISSIPPI, BOARD OF ALDERMEN IN OPPOSITION TO THE PROPOSED PEARL RIVER "ONE LAKE" PROJECT

WHEREAS, the Board of Aldermen of Monticello, Mississippi, is aware of a proposal initiated regarding the construction of a dam/weir and an approximately 1,500 acre lake on the Pearl River near Jackson, Mississippi, downstream of the Ross Barnett Reservoir; and

WHEREAS, said construction of such an additional dam on said river will, without question, significantly reduce the already diminished amount of water coming downstream in the Pearl River; and

WHEREAS, such reduced flow of water would lower the oxygen content of same, thereby negatively impacting the lower Pearl River Basin; and

WHEREAS, the reduced flow of water would lower the water table of the river south of the proposed lake project and would have a devastating impact on communities and property downstream; and

WHEREAS, the reduced water flow and lower oxygen content would also jeopardize wildlife; and

WHEREAS, the reduced water levels would affect the salinity levels in the Mississippi Sound thus adversely affecting oyster and other seafood populations depended on by Mississippi and Louisiana fishing industries; and

WHEREAS, the dam's affects would hamper existing efforts to maintain the natural beauty of the entire lower Pearl River Basin; and

WHEREAS, the creation of the dam would destroy an equal amount of wetlands acreage; and WHEREAS, such a dam would further reduce the natural seasonal flows of freshwater into Mississippi's estuaries; and

WHEREAS, the creation of the proposed dam may further negatively impact the Pearl River's larger ecosystem; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Aldermen of Monticello, Mississippi, finds and determines it necessary, and in the best interests of the people of said town and state, to oppose the permitting and/or construction of the proposed reservoir currently noted as the "One Lake Project" on the Pearl River near Jackson, Mississippi; and

WHEREAS, said Board of Aldermen finds and determines it necessary, and in the best interests of the people of said town and state, to urge the United States Army Corps of Engineers to take whatever action it deems necessary to prohibit not only the currently proposed project, but any future projects involving the construction of dams or lakes on the Pearl River;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED by the Board of Aldermen of Monticello, Mississippi, that this Board does hereby oppose any proposed plan to dam the Pearl River south of Jackson, Mississippi, because of the detrimental effects such will have to people and property downstream, including the local ecology and economic development of said area.

BE IT FURTHER HEREBY RESOLVED by the Board of Aldermen of Monticello, Mississippi, that a copy of this resolution be provided to the following officials and authorities as evidence of the Town of Monticello, Mississippi's opposition to the proposed plan:

The Governor of the Great State of Mississippi

The United States Army Corps of Engineers - Vicksburg District

The United States Department of Fish and Wildlife

The United States Environmental Protection Agency

The Rankin, Hinds, Pearl River Flood and Drainage Control District

The Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality

The Mississippi Department of Natural Resources

The Mississippi Department of Marine Resources

The Mississippi Department of Wildlife, Fisheries, and Parks

The Mississippi Department of Wildlife Fisheries and Parks Scenic Stream System Coordinator

Applicable Federal and State Legislative Representatives

Alderwoman Renea Rayborn moved for adoption of the foregoing Resolution and said motion was duly seconded by Alderwoman Judy Grimes, with the vote being as follows, to-wit:

| Donald Walters, Alderman for Ward One | "YEA" |
|---|-------|
| David Penny, Alderman for Ward Two | "YEA" |
| Judy Grimes, Alderwoman for Ward Three | "YEA" |
| Karen Hill, Alderwoman for Ward Four | "YEA" |
| Renea Rayborn, Alderwoman for Ward Five | "YEA" |

WHEREUPON, the Mayor of the Town of Monticello, Mississippi, declared said Resolution duly and legally adopted on this the 5th day of March, 2018.

MARTHÁ M. WATTS, MAYOR

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DEBORAH LEA, TOWN CLERK