

**TOWN OF PEARL RIVER**

**RESOLUTION NO:** 18-02-27

**Resolution of Mayor and Board of Aldermen of**

**The Town of Pearl River**

**In Opposition to the Proposed Pearl River Dam/Lake Project in Jackson, MS**

**WHEREAS**, the Rankin Hinds Road Control District and the Pearl River Vision Foundation are exploring the possibility of building a 1500acre lake on the Pearl River in Jackson, MS; and

**WHEREAS**, the construction of a dam would significantly reduce the rate of flow and the amount of water coming downstream in the Pearl River; and

**WHEREAS**, the reduced flow of water would be responsible for lowering the water oxygen content thereby starving both the Pearl River and the Honey Island Swamp estuaries; and

**WHEREAS**, the reduced flow of water would lower the water table of the Honey Island Swamp which would have a negative impact on water plants; and

**WHEREAS**, the reduced flow of water and lowering of the oxygen content would jeopardize three threatened species of wildlife, the ringed saw-back turtle, the Gull sturgeon, and the inflated heel splitter mussel; and

**WHEREAS**, the reduced flow of water would affect the salinity levels in the Mississippi Sound and would adversely affect oyster populations and both Louisiana and Mississippi fishing industries; and

**WHEREAS**, the reduced flow of water and lowering of the oxygen content would jeopardize the efforts to preserve the natural beauty of the entire Pearl River Basin, the Pearl River Wildlife Management Area and the Honey Island Swamp; and

**WHEREAS**, the reduction in flow of the Pearl River would adversely affect the Swamp Tour industry in the State of Louisiana; and

**WHEREAS**, the creation of the dam/lake would erase 1500 acres of wetlands that provide natural flood control and more than 1500 acres of forest; and

**WHEREAS**, the additional reductions in the flow of the Pearl River during the summer months may further impact the river's larger ecosystem.

**THE TOWN OF PEARL RIVER HEREBY RESOLVES** to oppose the proposed plan to dam the Pearl River at Jackson, Mississippi because of the detrimental effects it will have to down river local ecology and economic development.

**BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED** that a copy of this resolution be provided to the following officials and authorities as evidence of this Municipality's opposition to the proposed plan:

- Governor of the State of Louisiana
- Governor of the State of Mississippi
- Army Corps of Engineers, Vicksburg District
- U.S. Department of Wildlife & Fisheries
- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
- Rankin, Hinds Pearl River Rood and Drainage Control District
- Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality
- Louisiana Department of Natural Resources
- Louisiana Department of Wildlife & Fisheries
- Louisiana Department of Wildlife & Fisheries, Scenic Streams System Coordinator
- Federal and State Legislators

This resolution having been submitted to a vote, the vote thereon was as follows:

YEAS: ( 5 ) (Alderman Bennett, Cutrer, McGregor)  
Phillips, Walsh)  
NAYS: ( 0 )  
ABSTAIN: ( 0 )  
ABSENT: ( 0 )

And the resolution was declared adopted on this, the 27<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2018.

  
Madeline B Campbell, Town Clerk

  
Clarence D. McQueen, Mayor