

1 Introduced July 11, 2023 by Councilman  
2 Brownfield

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4 **RESOLUTION R23-17**

5 A resolution in opposition to the proposed Pearl River Dam/One Lake Project  
6 in Jackson, Mississippi.

7 WHEREAS, the Rankin Hinds Flood Control District and Pearl River Vision  
8 Foundation are exploring the possibility of building a 1,500 acre lake on the Pearl River in  
9 Jackson, Mississippi; and  
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12 WHEREAS, the construction of a dam would significantly reduce the rate of  
13 flow and the amount of water flowing downstream in the Pearl River; and  
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16 WHEREAS, the reduced flow of water would be responsible for lowering the  
17 water oxygen content thereby starving both the Pearl River and Honey Island Swamp  
18 estuaries; and  
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21 WHEREAS, the reduced flow of water would lower the water table of the  
22 Honey Island Swamp which would have a negative impact on water plants; and  
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25 WHEREAS, the reduced flow of water and lowering of the oxygen content  
26 would jeopardize four threatened species of wildlife: the ringed saw-back turtle, the Pearl  
27 River map turtle, the Gulf sturgeon, and the inflated heel splitter mussel; and  
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30 WHEREAS, the reduced flow of water would adversely affect the salinity levels  
31 in the Mississippi Sound and would adversely affect oyster production and recovery efforts  
32 in both Louisiana and Mississippi, which would jeopardize the seafood industry; and  
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35 WHEREAS, the reduced flow of water and lowering of the oxygen content  
36 would jeopardize efforts to preserve the natural beauty of the entire Pearl River basin, the  
37 Pearl River Wildlife Management Area and the Honey Island Swamp; and  
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6 WHEREAS, the destruction of downstream wetlands due to the reduced flow  
7 of water and increase of toxins would not only jeopardize our local animal populations,  
8 such as our aquatic insects, but also migratory species, such as the Swallow-tailed Kite  
9 bird which feed on them, causing a negative ecological ripple effect; and  
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12 WHEREAS, the reduction of the flow of the Pearl River would adversely affect  
13 the swamp tour industry in the State of Louisiana; and  
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16 WHEREAS, the dam and creation of the lake would erase 1,500 acres of  
17 wetlands that provide natural; flood control and more than 1,500 acres of forest; and  
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20 WHEREAS, the reduced flow of water would leave local drinking water wells  
21 extremely vulnerable to saltwater intrusions and as a result of increasing water well failures  
22 it would put public health in jeopardy; and  
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25 WHEREAS, the additional reductions in the flow of the Pearl River during the  
26 summer months may further impact the river's larger ecosystem.

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28 BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED by the Slidell City Council, as the governing  
29 authority for the City of Slidell, that, consistent with Resolution R18-09, it continues in its  
30 opposition to the proposed plan to dam the Pearl River at Jackson, Mississippi due to the  
31 detrimental effects it will have to down-river ecology and economic development.  
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4 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be provided to the  
5 following officials and authorities as evidence of the City's continued opposition to the  
6 proposed plan:  
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9 Governor of the State of Louisiana  
10 Governor of the State of Mississippi  
11 United States Army Corps of Engineers, Vicksburg District  
12 United States Fish and Wildlife Service  
13 United States Environmental Protection Agency  
14 Rankin Hinds Pearl River Flood and Drainage Control District  
15 Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality  
16 Louisiana Department of Natural Resources  
17 Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries  
18 Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries Scenic Streams System Coordinator  
19 Federal and State Legislators for Louisiana

20 **ADOPTED** this 11<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2023.

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24 Kenny Tamborella  
25 President of the Council  
26 Councilman, District E

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28 Thomas P. Reeves  
29 Council Administrator  
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