

ST TAMMANY PARISH COUNCIL

RESOLUTION

RESOLUTION *COUNCIL* SERIES NO: C-3822

COUNCIL SPONSOR: MR. BELLISARIO

PROVIDED BY: COUNCIL OFFICE

RESOLUTION IN OPPOSITION TO THE PROPOSED PEARL RIVER DAM/LAKE PROJECT IN JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI.

WHEREAS, the Rankin Hinds Rood Control District and the Pearl River Vision Foundation are exploring the possibility of building a 1500 acre lake on the Pearl River in *Jackson*; 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 damlake 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 PARISH OF ST. TAMMANY 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 FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be provided to the following officials and authorities as evidence of this Parish'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 Fish and Wildlife
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 and Fisheries
Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries Scenic Streams System Coordinator
Federal and State Legislators

THIS RESOLUTION HAVING BEEN SUBMITTED TO A VOTE, THE VOTE THEREON WAS AS FOLLOWS:

MOVED FOR ADOPTION BY: MR. STEFANCIK, SECONDED BY: MR. THOMPSON


YEAS: DEAN, SHARP, THOMPSON, GOULD, GROBY, CANULETTE, BELLISARIO, O'BRIEN, STEFANCIK, BINDER, ARTIGUE, SMITH (12)

NAYS: FALCONER (1)

ABSTAIN: TANNER (1)

ABSENT: (0)

THIS RESOLUTION WAS DECLARED ADOPTED ON THE 5 DAY OF SEPTEMBER, 2013, AT A REGULAR MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL, A QUORUM OF THE MEMBERS BEING PRESENT AND VOTING.



JERRY BINDER, COUNCIL CHAIRMAN

ATTEST:



THERESA L. FORD, COUNCIL CLERK

IFIED TRUE COPY


CLERK OF COUNCIL