

Appendix H: Public Involvement

Green River Locks and Dams 3, 4, 5 and 6 and Barren River Lock and Dam 1
Disposition Feasibility Study, Kentucky

Appendix H - Public Involvement

For the Green and Barren Rivers Navigation Disposition Study, coordination with federal, state, and local officials was accomplished early and often throughout the conduct of the study. Numerous meetings were held with officials as the study team gathered data and made analyses related to the study. Most often, this was done on an informal basis.

A public meeting was held in June 2001 at Butler County High School in Morgantown, Kentucky in conjunction with the release of the draft report. A public notice was mailed in advance of that meeting. A second public notice was mailed in March 2002, to announce that a recommendation contained in the draft report had changed.

In response to the public meeting, as well as the release of the 2010 draft report, the District received a considerable volume of feedback, much of it opposed to the Corps' recommendations. A representative sample of those letters is contained in this appendix. These letters were written by local officials as well as by private individuals. Most often, the concern expressed was related to the water supplies for local communities. Since there are no water intakes in the Green River Lock and Dam 6 pool, the only facility for which removal was recommended, these concerns are not relative. A considerable number of letters questioned the Corps' decision in 1965 not to repair Green River Lock and Dam 4 after it failed, putting an end to navigation from that point upstream. A number of other letters commented on the Corps' "lack of maintenance" for these facilities, claiming that the Corps should have continued upkeep on the facilities and maintenance dredging, even though the facilities were no longer in use.

A number of responses were received expressing support for the deauthorization of the projects and the removal of Green River Dam 6. These letters came from organizations such as The Nature Conservancy, Mammoth Cave National Park, Kentucky Waterways Alliance, and Trout Unlimited. These letters are included in this appendix as well.

In February 2014, the updated Green and Barren Rivers Navigation Disposition Study and the associated Environmental Assessment were released again for public comment and review. The 2014 disposition study essentially contained the same recommendation with the removal of Green River Dam 6 and minor safety modifications at the other Lock and Dam facilities. All letters and emails are contained in this appendix.

A major focus of the letters written by individual and local officials centered on the removal of Green River Dam 6. In contrast to the response to earlier iterations of the disposition study, the public comments on the 2014 disposition study were mixed. Letters and emails ranged from opposition for removal of Green River Dam 6 to fully supporting the removal of all dams in the Upper Green River System.

There are still concerns with the continued operation of the ferries in Mammoth Cave National Park and impacts to the Brownsville, Kentucky water intake associated with the removal of

Green River Dam 6. However, the study addresses the continued operation of the ferries and it is not anticipated that there will be any impact to the Edmonson County Water District water intake as a result of the removal of Green River Dam 6. Further, Green River Lock and Dam 6 has a serious seepage problem that is destabilizing the right abutment of the lock chamber. A sudden failure of this abutment would impact the Edmonson County water intake structure 1,500 feet downstream and render the two ferries upstream of the dam inoperable. Specifically, the impact from the sudden failure of the dam will result in severe erosion of the right descending bank and increased turbidity which will have a direct impact to the water intake structure. The controlled demolition of Green river Lock and Dam 6 will mitigate the risk to the water intake structure and ferry crossing associated with a sudden failure of the dam.

Additional comments from individuals expressed support for removal of Green River Dam 6 and encouraged the Corps to remove the remaining dams in the Upper Green River System. These lock and dam projects were authorized for navigation only and this study focuses on whether or not the projects should be deauthorized. It is acknowledged that the cleanest alternative from the point of view of disposal is to remove the dams. However, it would be problematic to remove all dams given multiple communities dependence upon the pools for water supply. The Corps does not have an authority to expend funds to study or modify water supply systems or assist other entities study or modify theirs. From a Corps perspective, water supply is considered to be a local responsibility. During the review period for the Corps' 2001 draft report, local water authorities expressed concern that if the dams were removed, the lower pool elevations would not reliably support their supply systems even if intakes were lowered and treatment facilities were enhanced. The Corps did not receive any comment to the contrary from these authorities on the 2014 draft report, and there is no local support for or interest in studying the potential for modified intake structures to accommodate lower pools. For these reasons, the Corps has been coordinating with local officials to assume ownership of the dams that provide water supply.

The study team also acknowledges that removal of the dams would be beneficial from an environmental standpoint. However, while the Corps has authority to plan, design, and build projects to benefit the environment, these projects require a local sponsor. Throughout the study process, the Corps was not able to identify a local or state agency willing to share in the costs of dam removal for environmental purposes. Therefore, we could not recommend the removal of the dams for environmental reasons. Further, the construction recommended at each site is directly related to the safe and orderly disposal of the facilities. Specifically, the recommendation to remove Green River Dam 6 was primarily based on safety concerns associated with the impacts associated with a sudden failure of the structure and the volume of canoe and kayak traffic in this stretch of the Green River..

One public comment letter requested information regarding the impact that the disposition study would have on current Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) permits on the lock and dam projects in the study area. Coordination with FERC was outside the scope of this study. However, it should be noted that of all the lock and dam sites under study for disposition, only Green River Lock and Dam 5 currently has an active FERC Preliminary Permit (P-14270), issued March 19, 2012 for a period of three years to study the feasibility of hydropower development at this site. Active licenses or applications have no impact on the decision to deauthorize and dispose of these projects.

The Rochester Dam Regional Water Commission (RDRWC) submitted comments that reiterated their interest in leasing or acquiring property rights at Green River Lock and Dam 3 and encouraged the Corps to take action to quickly dispose of the facility and take steps needed to maintain the pool formed by Green River Lock and Dam 3. The main report reflects this desire in Section 10.3 and Section 13 of the main report. This comment was further supported by the Butler County Water System.

The Nature Conservancy, Kentucky Waterways Alliance and American Rivers supported the removal of Green River Dam 6. In addition, they also encouraged the Corps to work with communities that utilize the pools formed by Green River Locks and Dams 3 and 5 to explore modifications to their water intake structures that would allow for the eventual removal of these structures.

Mammoth Cave National Park (MCNP) submitted comments supporting the removal of Green River Dam 6. The MCNP also encouraged the Corps to explore modifications to Green River Dam 5 with the Edmonson County Water District that would allow for an additional 24 miles of unobstructed river while maintaining the function of their water intake. As noted in the discussion above, water supply is not a Corps authority and exploring alternate water sources or modifications to existing intake structures is outside of the Corps purview.

Similar to other comment letters, MCNP requested that additional coordination take place with the Corps in order to maintain the operation of the two ferries that operate in the park while removing the recommendation to dredge at the Green River Ferry. As a result, the report was modified to remove the recommendation to dredge at the Green River Ferry and the need to coordinate with MCNP was underscored in Section 10.6. The MCNP also requested further investigation and consultation regarding the preparation of Biological Assessments for the Kentucky cave shrimp and potential impacts to threatened and endangered mussels; continued operation of the gaging station at Lock and Green River Dam 6; and development of a Memorandum of Agreement with the Kentucky State Historic Preservation Office (KSHPO). The preparation of a BA is addressed in section 8.3 of the EA and Section 10 of the main report was revised to detail coordination with the KSHPO. The continued operation of the gaging station will be further addressed during the Preconstruction Engineering and Design (PED) phase of this study.

Finally, MCNP also expressed interest in the potential transfer of property at Green River Lock and Dam 6 to the National Park Service. This interest in acquiring the property at Green River Lock and Dam 6 was added to Section 13 of the main report. The full comment letter is available in this appendix.

The USFWS provided an updated Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act (FWCA) Report (Appendix G) during the Public Comment review of the 2014 disposition study. The FWCA Report offered a current assessment of the proposed alternatives and recommendations related to the disposition of those facilities. Similar to MCNP, there was support for the removal of Green River Dam 6 and a recommendation to transfer the properties to a qualified conservation organization that would ensure public access (e.g. MCNP). Further, the USFWS recommended that the Corps consider utilizing Alternative 3 (removal of dam) for all of the assessed locks and dams, and that it evaluate the potential to implement other habitat protection and restoration options and/or projects in the study area.

The USFWS advocated for modification of Green River Lock and Dam 5 to ensure that backwater from the facility does not impact the subterranean habitat of the Kentucky cave shrimp or restored mussel habitat above Lock and Dam 6. Regarding the issues of water supply, the USFWS recommended that the Corps assist local communities and water authorities to develop alternatives that would make retention of the dams and associated impoundments unnecessary for municipal water supply.

The USFWS stated the implementation of the Corps' preferred alternatives at each of the facilities could have direct and/or indirect adverse effects on federally-listed species. These effects may be caused by the dewatering of habitat areas upstream of Green River Lock and Dam 6, release and movement of sediment both upstream and downstream of Green River Lock and Dam 6, releases of contaminated sediments (if present), and alterations of normal behavior patterns and fish host availability as areas above Green River Lock and Dam 6 transition from to a lotic (riverine) condition. Because of these potential effects, surveys for federally-listed species may need to be conducted, and a Biological Assessment (BA) may need to be prepared for any particular action that the Corps may implement during PED. Section 8.3 of the EA was revised to include the USFWS decision that a BA is not needed at this time. Information on the occurrences of federally listed species in the study area was also provided by the USFWS, and incorporated into Section 3.9.3 of the EA. As stated in Section 4.11.3 of the EA, The proposed method of dam removal would involve a gradual drawdown of the pool to reduce the potential for bank sloughing and erosion associated with rapid water level change. A gradual drawdown would also lessen impacts to the aquatic fauna above and below Green River Dam 6.

Additionally, the USFWS suggested the Corps complete an examination of accumulated sediments upstream of the dam and determine the appropriate method of dam removal to control the release of sediments downstream so that negative impacts to the aquatic fauna and downstream facilities and lands are avoided and/or minimized. Concerns of contaminated sediment are addressed in Section 4.7.3 of the EA. It is not anticipated that soils above Dam No. 6 would have contamination issues since the samples from further downstream at Lock and Dam no. 3 were not problematic. It is assumed that soils upstream of Lock and Dam No.3 would be less likely to accumulate harmful constituents due to the decreasing size and land use of the watershed. However, as stated in Section 8.1 of the EA, the Corps will be applying for a 401 Water Quality Certification during PED and before construction activities began. It is likely that this permit will require sediment sampling above Dam No. 6. In this case, the Corps will comply with all requirements of the permit.

The Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources (KDFWR) also submitted a letter indicating that the conclusions and recommendations outlined in the FWCA Report were acceptable. A separate comment letter from KDFWR was also submitted and echoed concerns similar to USFWS. Specifically, KDFWR voiced their support for the removal of Green River Dam 6 and encouraged the Corps to consider Alternative 3 for the remaining dams. KDFWR's support for the removal of dam 6 was qualified: it noted that additional information is needed in impacts to Asian carp movement, sediment upstream of the dam, sediment contamination studies, demolition methods, physical channel effects from the pool elevation changes, and construction season.

Section 4.11.3 of the EA states that the method of dam removal would involve a gradual drawdown of the pool to reduce issues associated with rapid water level changes. Any construction activities would occur during low water season. In regards to the concerns of increased Asian carp movement, Dam No. 6 currently does little to impede carp movement within the Green River. Asian carp are more likely to travel upstream during high water events, at which times Dam No. 6 can be completely inundated. The dam's inefficiency as a migration barrier is further evidenced by the fact that Asian carp have already been found upstream of Dam No. 6. It is the Corps' stance that restoring natural ecosystem processes through removal of Dam No. 6 will lessen the effects of invasive species on the biological resources of the Green River.

Additionally, the KDFWR stated that the proposed alternative of fan fencing barricade installation and signage with presently unspecified parties to acquire property ownership and maintenance responsibility is not a viable alternative to the responsible disposition of these Federal properties. This alternative was chosen by the Corps because it was the least costly method to reasonably secure these facilities. Any additional investment for this purpose was considered excessive and outside the scope of this study.

Questions were also raised by KDFWR regarding the uncertainty of future ownership of the projects and how this may impact or benefit aquatic and recreation resources. In the absence of a definitive future owner of the projects and if Alternative 3 was found to be infeasible, KDFWR recommended that the Corps pursue the no action alternative at Green River Locks and Dams 3, 4, 5 and Barren River Lock and Dam 1. During the General Services Administration (GSA) disposal process, other federal agencies will have the first opportunity to assume control of these facilities, and consequently, have the ability to achieve any ecosystem restoration or other endeavors within their respective missions. Furthermore, it is outside the scope of this disposal study to identify specific entities to assume control of these facilities after deauthorization and disposal.

Additional comments were received from the Kentucky Division of Water, 401 Water Quality Certification Section. Comments discussed the method of removal for Green River Dam 6; analysis of sediments that may be behind the dam; and consideration to remove all dams. Similar to other agency comments, the uncertainty surrounding who may assume ownership of these properties following deauthorization is a concern for the Division of Water. Section 8.1 of the EA was revised to include the Division of Water's acknowledgment that the Corps will submit a § 401 Water Quality Certification application prior to beginning construction activities.

The KYSHPO submitted comments focusing on compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA). The agency continues to concur with the National Register of Historic Places eligibility of the locks and dams and that transfer from federal ownership would result in an adverse effect to these historic properties. The agency also agreed that developing a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) or a Programmatic Agreement was the appropriate course of action to resolve adverse effects and ensure compliance with the NHPA. The KYSHPO also recommended that, as Section 106 consultation moves forward, the Corps consider updated photographs of land-based structures at the facilities (KYSHPO is requiring current photographs but formal studies are not anticipated), ways to preserve the integrity of the facilities going forward and a plan to address the potential inadvertent exposure and discovery of cultural resources resulting from removal of Lock and Dam 6.. The agency also recommended

Dr. George Crothers, Director of the Office of State Archaeology, as a consulting party due to his specific expertise on the resources of the study area. Further the agency concurred with Section 106 consultation and execution of a MOA being completed during design work (PED) and prior to the commencement of any demolition/construction activities. Section 9.0 of the main report was updated to include acknowledgement of the ongoing coordination with the KY-SHPO, and Section 8.9 was added to address the NHPA.

At the time the 2014 Green River Locks and Dams 3, 4, 5 and 6 and Barren River Lock and Dam 1 Disposition Feasibility Study, Kentucky was originally made available for public review, the Corps recommended seeking Congressional deauthorization of the projects' purpose, modification of several of the facilities, and ultimately disposition of the facilities. The Study was subsequently changed to recommend only deauthorization, with minor modification of and, ultimately, disposal of the facilities to be undertaken outside the purview of the Study's recommendations.

The contents of this appendix:

1. Public Notices (June 2001 and March 2002)
2. Mailing List (2001 & 2002)
3. Letters from Agencies and Organizations (2001 -2002)
4. Letters and Emails From Individuals (2001-2002)
5. Public Notice (February 2014)
6. Mailing List (2014)
7. Letters From Agencies and Organizations (2014)
8. Letters and Emails from individuals (2014)



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
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May 31, 2001

Planning Branch
Plan Formulation Section

PUBLIC NOTICE

Green and Barren Rivers, Kentucky
Navigation Disposition Study

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

Notice is given that the U.S. Army Engineer District, Louisville has prepared a report related to the disposal of formerly used navigation sites along the Green and Barren Rivers in Kentucky. This report was prepared under the authority of Section 216 of the Flood Control Act of 1970 (P.L. 91-611). This is a general authority for the Secretary of The Army to review completed projects, when found advisable due to changed physical, economic, or environmental conditions.

The sites investigated in this study are:

- Green River Lock and Dam #3, located near Rochester, Kentucky
- Green River Lock and Dam #4, located at Woodbury, Kentucky
- Green River Lock and Dam #5, located near Glenmore, Kentucky
- Green River Lock and Dam #6, located near Brownsville, Kentucky
- Barren River Lock and Dam #1, located near Greencastle, Kentucky

These projects were built in the years between 1833 and 1934, and were used for commercial navigation until locking operations ceased in 1981 at Green River Lock #3. Since that time, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has been maintaining these facilities in a caretaker status. The Corps still has ownership of the properties and inspects the facilities periodically. A study was done in the early 1990's to determine if it would be feasible to restore navigation to the upper reaches of the Green River. That study found that there were insufficient benefits from commercial navigation operations to support restoration of navigation.

The purpose of this study was to prepare a report making recommendations regarding the possible deauthorization and disposal of the facilities. The major components of the disposition study are:

- An analysis of the condition and stability of the structures, including an analysis of the risk of failure of the structures in their current condition.
- Cost estimates of restoring structural integrity and improving the public safety of the sites.
- Cost estimates of demolition of the structures.
- An inventory of the non-navigation uses of the pools, such as boat ramps, water supply intakes, ferries, etc.
- A determination of the consequences of the loss of pool through failure or deliberate demolition to these facilities.
- A description of the fish and wildlife resources of the properties and the pools.
- A determination of the potential consequences, positive and negative, of the loss of pool to the fish and wildlife resources.
- A description of possible hazardous, toxic and radiologic waste on the properties.
- A description of cultural resources at the sites. A determination of the government's responsibility in relation to these resources.

This report will recommend that the projects be deauthorized and that the properties be disposed. The report will also recommend that certain construction be done prior to disposal of the properties in order to improve the public safety at the properties. This construction would consist of the following items at these sites:

- At Green River Lock and Dam #3, the lock chamber would be filled with rock. Additionally, rock would be placed around the outside of the lock chamber at a slope from the top of the lock wall to the river bottom, to eliminate the vertical face of the lock wall. Buildings at the site would be demolished.
- At Green River Lock and Dam #4, rock would be placed in and around the lock chamber as at Lock #3.
- At Green River Lock and Dam #5, the lock chamber would be filled with rock. Additionally, rock would be placed around the outside of the lock chamber at a slope from the top of the lock wall to the river bottom, to eliminate the vertical face of the lock wall. Buildings at the site would be demolished.
- At Green River Lock and Dam #6, the dam would be removed. This would be accomplished by constructing a platform out across the river on the upstream side of the dam from the lock side of the river. The dam would be breached slowly, and the material removed from the dam would be placed in the lock chamber. The construction platform would also be demolished as demolition of the dam proceeds toward the lock. Material used to construct the platform would also be placed in the lock chamber. Additional material would be placed around the lock chamber to eliminate the vertical face of the lock wall.
- At Barren River Lock and Dam #1, the dam would be breached. A section of the dam 135 feet long would be removed. This would be accomplished by building a platform across the lock chamber and across the downstream face of the dam to

the point where removal would begin. The material removed from the dam would be placed in the lock chamber. The construction platform would also be removed and placed in the lock chamber. Additional rock would be placed in the lock chamber and around it to eliminate any vertical faces that would pose a safety hazard. Buildings at the site would be demolished.

After the recommended construction is complete, ownership of the properties would be transferred. The disposal would follow a specific procedure. With the exception of the property at Green River Lock and Dam #6, the properties would be disposed in the following manner:

- The properties would first be offered to other Department of Defense agencies.
- If no Defense agency accepts the properties, then they would be offered to other Federal agencies.
- If no Federal agency accepts the properties, then they would be offered to state agencies.
- If no state agency desires the property, then it would be offered to local governments.
- If there were no transfer at this point, then the properties would be placed for sale on the open market.

In the case of Green River Lock and Dam #6, the report will recommend that ownership of the property on the right side of the river (the lock side) be conveyed directly to Edmonson County, which has expressed an interest in ownership.

After the projects are deauthorized, the Corps will no longer act as caretaker of these properties.

The Corps of Engineers will be holding a workshop to present the recommendations of this report to the public. This meeting will be held at Butler County High School in Morgantown, Kentucky at 7:00 pm on June 26, 2001. Anyone may attend this meeting.

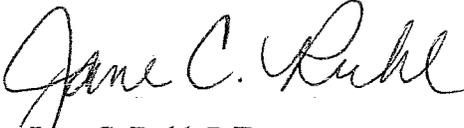
A copy of the report will be available on the Louisville District Corps of Engineers website on June 5, 2001. The address of the Louisville District's home page is <http://www.lrl.usace.army.mil/>. From that page, you will find a link to the Green and Barren River Navigation Disposition Study. The report will also be available on a CD-ROM or in a hard copy. If you wish to receive a CD-ROM, please submit your request to Ms. Jane Ruhl, CELRL-PM-P, at the address given above, or e-mail jane.c.ruhl@lrl02.usace.army.mil, or telephone (502) 315-6862. CD-ROMs will be shipped at no cost. A shipping address must be included with the request.

Bound copies of the report will cost \$25.00. If you wish to receive a bound copy of the report, please submit your request in writing to Ms. Jane Ruhl, CELRL-PM-P, at the address given above. Payment should be in the form of a check made out to "U.S. Army Corps of Engineers" and must accompany the request. A shipping address must be included with the request.

Copies of the report will also be available for your inspection at the following locations:

- Central City Public Library, 108 East Broad Street, Central City KY 42330
- Bowling Green Public Library, 1225 State Street, Bowling Green, KY 42101
- Muhlenburg County Public Library, 117 South Main Street, Greenville, KY 42345
- Ohio County Public Library, 413 Main Street, Hartford, KY 42347
- Butler County Library, 116 West Ohio Street, Morgantown, KY 42261
- Edmonson County Public Library, 503 Washington Street, Brownsville, KY 42210

Please address all comments or inquiries to the above address, ATTN: Ms. Jane C. Ruhl, CELRL-PM-P, or e-mail jane.c.ruhl@lrl02.usace.army.mil, or telephone (502) 315-6862.



Jane C. Ruhl, P.E.
Project Manager
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March 15, 2002

Planning Branch
Plan Formulation Section

PUBLIC NOTICE

Green and Barren Rivers, Kentucky
Navigation Disposition Study

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

The purpose of this public notice is to inform the public of a change in the recommendation for the Barren River Lock and Dam #1 in the Green and Barren Rivers Navigation Disposition Study.

Notice is given that the U.S. Army Engineer District, Louisville has prepared a draft report related to the disposal of formerly used navigation sites along the Green and Barren Rivers in Kentucky. This report was prepared under the authority of Section 216 of the Flood Control Act of 1970 (P.L. 91-611). This is a general authority for the Secretary of The Army to review completed projects, when found advisable due to changed physical, economic, or environmental conditions.

The sites investigated in this study are:

- Green River Lock and Dam #3, located near Rochester, Kentucky
- Green River Lock and Dam #4, located at Woodbury, Kentucky
- Green River Lock and Dam #5, located near Glenmore, Kentucky
- Green River Lock and Dam #6, located near Brownsville, Kentucky
- Barren River Lock and Dam #1, located near Greencastle, Kentucky

This report was released for public review in June 2001. Since the time of the initial public release of that report and in response to public comment on that report, the Corps of Engineers has determined that the recommended plan for Barren River Lock and Dam #1 should be changed. This public notice deals with the changes in the recommended plan for Barren Lock and Dam #1. The recommendations for the other locks and dams remain unchanged.

This project was built in 1841 and was used for commercial navigation until 1965. The federal government acquired the facility in February 1886. A new lock was built in 1933-1934 at the same site, and was put into operation in September 1934. Since 1965, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has been maintaining this facility in a caretaker status. The Corps still has ownership of the property and inspects the facility periodically.

There are also a number of individuals who have intakes in the pool for private irrigation systems. The county also wants to keep these individuals' farming operations from being affected by any change in pool.

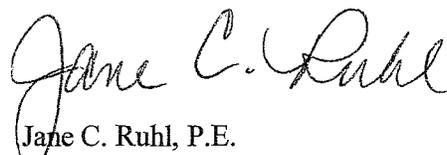
County officials are also concerned about the recreational use of the pool. Larger motorboats often use the pool. County officials fear that the loss of the pool would force the boaters to other areas. There are many opportunities for this type of water recreation in the area, with Barren River Lake and Nolin River Lake. Local officials fear that the local economy would suffer if boaters were forced to use different venues for their recreational boating. This concern also contributes to the county's desire to assume ownership of the lock and dam property.

Bowling Green Municipal Utilities fears that the loss of the pool would adversely affect the city's ability to meet pollution control requirements. While breaching the pool would improve the aeration of the pool and subsequently its BOD, local officials feel that the pool is necessary to meet standards for other pollutants. Again, local officials are willing for the county to assume ownership of the property in order to prevent loss of the pool.

Because of the willingness of Warren County to assume ownership of the property if the dam is not breached, the Corps has changed its recommendation to the following:

- The operations building would be demolished, and the debris placed in the lock chamber.
- Additional stone would be placed in the lock chamber to fill it. Stone would be placed on the outside of the lock chamber, sloping from the top of the lock walls to the river bottom.
- After this construction is complete, it is recommended that the property be directly conveyed to Warren County.

The public is invited to make comments on this change in recommendation at Barren River Lock and Dam #1. Comments or inquiries should be addressed to Ms. Jane C. Ruhl, CELRL-PM-P at the above address. Comments may also be made by e-mail to jane.c.ruhl@lr102.usace.army.mil. A supplement to the draft report is available for review at www.lrl.usace.army.mil.



Jane C. Ruhl, P.E.
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The purpose of this study was to prepare a report making recommendations regarding the possible deauthorization and disposal of the facility. The major components of the disposition study are:

- An analysis of the condition and stability of the structures, including an analysis of the risk of failure of the structures in their current condition.
- Cost estimates of restoring structural integrity and improving the public safety of the sites.
- Cost estimates of demolition of the structures.
- An inventory of the non-navigation uses of the pools, such as boat ramps, water supply intakes, ferries, etc.
- A determination of the consequences of the loss of pool through failure or deliberate demolition to these facilities.
- A description of the fish and wildlife resources of the properties and the pools.
- A determination of the potential consequences, positive and negative, of the loss of pool to the fish and wildlife resources.
- A description of possible hazardous, toxic and radiologic waste on the properties.
- A description of cultural resources at the sites. A determination of the government's responsibility in relation to these resources.

Previous Recommendation: The draft report released in June 2001 recommended that the project be deauthorized and that the Government dispose of the property. The report also recommended that the dam at Barren River Lock and Dam #1 be breached. The report recommended that a section of the dam 135 feet long be removed. The material removed from the dam would have been placed in the lock chamber. Additional rock would have been placed in the lock chamber and around it to eliminate any vertical faces that would pose a safety hazard. Buildings at the site would have been demolished.

Upon completion of the recommended construction, ownership of the property would have been transferred. The disposal would have followed a specific procedure. The original recommendation was to dispose of the property in the following manner:

- The property would first be offered to other Department of Defense agencies.
- If no Defense agency accepts the property, then they would be offered to other Federal agencies.
- If no Federal agency accepts the property, then they would be offered to state agencies.
- If no state agency desires the property, then it would be offered to local governments.
- If there were no transfer at this point, then the property would be placed for sale on the open market.

New Recommendation: Feedback from local public officials in Warren County and Bowling Green, Kentucky led to a reexamination of the plan formulation for the disposition of Barren River Lock and Dam No. 1. Several local officials and agencies contacted the Corps about the possibility of removing or breaching the dam. All of the officials were opposed to the alternative for various reasons. While the City of Bowling Green does not have a water intake in the pool formed by the dam at Barren River Lock & Dam #1, Bowling Green and Warren County officials regard the pool as a potential source of water. They believe that future growth and development of the city and county will require that additional sources of water be found. Warren County is interested in assuming ownership of the property upon a disposal action by the Corps as long as the dam is not removed or breached.

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**FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT
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**Region IV
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Atlanta, Georgia 30341-4130**

July 5, 2001

Ms. Jane Ruhl
ATTN: CELRL-PM-PF
U.S. Army Engineer District, Louisville
Corps of Engineers
P.O. Box 59
Louisville, Kentucky 40201-0059

Re: Green River Locks and Dams 3, 4, 5, and 6 and Barren River Lock and Dam 1
Disposition Study

Dear Ms. Ruhl:

Thank you for your notice and request for comment on the above proposed project, and for your excellent presentation. Please address future correspondence of this nature to William Straw, Regional Environmental Officer at the letterhead address.

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has limited jurisdiction under Presidential Executive Order (EO) 11988 (Floodplain Management) and the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP), with its Community Rating System (CRS) for flood insurance rates. FEMA provides relevant guidance, evaluations, findings, advisement/recommendations, and many other relevant services.

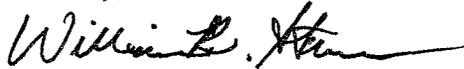
We have reviewed the Disposition Study and at this time we have no site-specific comments. However, the proposed project requires consultation with Floodplain Management Administrators (or other, similar titles) in each applicable NFIP-participating community and county, and in some cases, from the State Floodplain Management Coordinator. Your consultation with the local governments about their pertinent floodplain management concerns and ordinances may have already met this requirement.

The Study's several generally reassuring statements as to the proposed project's minimal flooding effects include, "The Green River or the Barren River lock and dam structures have little or no effect on larger flood water surface profiles" (Appendix B, page 17). We request that we be informed as to what general steps were taken to include consideration of the potential flooding effects and their possible cooperative remediation. In that regard we are requesting that we be granted an additional 30 days to respond based on that

added information. It appears that such an extension would not be detrimental to the indicated project schedule.

Thank you again for your excellent work, for the opportunity to review and comment on this proposed project, and in advance, for your response to our concerns. Please feel free to call me at 770.220.5432 with any questions on these and related matters.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "William R. Straw". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

William R. Straw
Regional Environmental Officer



United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
Mammoth Cave National Park
P.O. Box 7
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*PM-P
Jane Ruhl*

IN REPLY REFER TO:

L7621

July 20, 2001

Colonel Robert E. Slockbower
District Engineer
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Louisville District
P.O. Box 59
Louisville, Kentucky 40201-0059

Dear Colonel Slockbower:

We have reviewed the "Disposition Study: Green River Lock and Dam Nos. 3-6 and Barren River Lock and Dam No. 1" and the appended Environmental Assessment. We appreciate all the effort and hard work that was required to produce the report. Our comments are limited to Lock and Dam No. 6 (LD6) because it directly affects Mammoth Cave National Park whereas the other facilities involved in the study do not.

Mammoth Cave National Park is a unique area. On October 27, 1981, Mammoth Cave National Park was listed by the United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) as a World Heritage Site and on March 27, 1990, as an International Biosphere Reserve. In April 1996, the Mammoth Cave Area Biosphere Reserve was officially extended and now includes lands within Barren, Butler, Edmonson, Hart, Metcalfe, and Warren counties in Kentucky. As the primary land manager affected by decisions related to LD6 (over 90% of the LD6 pool is within Mammoth Cave National Park), we hope our comments will be useful to you in finalizing your report and environmental assessment.

The position of the National Park Service since 1951 has been and continues to be that the LD6 pool should be eliminated. The continued presence of this structure is the single greatest unresolved ecosystem management issue at Mammoth Cave National Park. The current situation has tremendous direct adverse effects on resources and resource values within Mammoth Cave

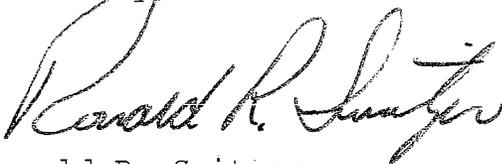
National Park as defined in the National Park Service (NPS) Organic Act of 1916 (16 USC 1); the NPS General Authorities Act of 1970, including amendments in 1978 (16 USC 1a-1); and the NPS Management Policies 2001 (Section 1.4).

Elimination of the LD6 pool would provide a number of benefits. The suitable habitat for a number of Federal threatened and endangered species and a large number of state list species would be increased. Mammoth Cave contains an internationally important, if not unique, ecosystem that is impaired by the LD6 pool which extends into Mammoth Cave itself, altering habitat, producing sedimentation, and impairing geological processes. Elimination of the pool would provide for restoration of the ecosystem and improve its long-term sustainability. Removal of the pool would also result in benefits for research and understanding of the longest and most renowned cave system in the world.

There would be benefits for recreational use of the river within the park by paddlers using canoes and kayaks. The river will remain accessible to small motorboats. We continue to operate park motorboats in the unimpounded reaches of the Green River above the LD6 pool during even the driest weather. Likewise, we do not believe there will be any adverse consequences related to fishing.

Any negative environmental effects related to removal of LD6 and modification of the ferries within the park appear to be only the minor and short-lived impacts related to construction activities. Conversely, the benefits are expected to be vast and long lasting. Therefore, we concur with the recommendation to remove LD6 and modify the ferry landings within the park and with the proposed Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Ronald R. Switzer".

Ronald R. Switzer
Superintendent

cc:

Ms. Jane Ruhl, P.E., Project Manager

JAMES E. BICKFORD
SECRETARY



PAUL E. PATTON
GOVERNOR

COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY
NATURAL RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION CABINET
DEPARTMENT FOR ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

FRANKFORT OFFICE PARK
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August 30, 2001

Jane Ruhl
ATTN: CERL-PM-PF
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Re: Disposal of formerly used navigation sites along the Green and Barren Rivers in Kentucky: Green River Lock and Dams #3 near Rochester, KY, #4 at Woodbury, KY, #5 near Glenmore, KY, # 6 near Brownsville, KY, and Barren River Lock and Dam #1 near Greencastle, KY. (SERO 2001-51)

Dear Ms. Ruhl:

The Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Cabinet (NREPC) serves as the state clearinghouse for review of environmental documents generated pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). Within the Cabinet, the Commissioner's Office in the Department for Environmental Protection coordinates the review for Kentucky State Agencies.

The Kentucky agencies listed on the attached sheet have been provided an opportunity to review the above referenced report. Responses were received from nine (also marked on enclosed sheet) of the agencies that were forwarded a copy of the document. Attached are comments from the Kentucky Divisions of Water, Waste Management, and Air Quality, and The Kentucky State Nature Preserves Commission.

The Kentucky Heritage Council has requested a copy of the referenced report relating to the disposal of the navigation sites along the Green and Barren Rivers. Comments will be provided to the Louisville District of the Corps of Engineers after reviewing this report.

If you should have any questions, please contact me at (502) 564-2150, ext. 112.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Alex Barber".

Alex Barber
State Environmental Review officer

Enclosure



**NATURAL RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
CABINET
ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW**

Disposal of formerly used navigation sites along the Green and Barren Rivers in Kentucky:
Green River Lock and Dams #3 near Rochester, KY, #4 at Woodbury, KY, #5 near Glenmore,
KY, # 6 near Brownsville, KY, and Barren River Lock and Dam #1 near Greencastle, KY.

The following agencies were asked to review the above referenced project. Each agency that returned a response will appear below with their comments and the date the project response was returned.

**C denotes Comments
NC denotes No Comment
IR denotes Information Request
NR denotes No Response**

REVIEWING AGENCIES:

Division of Water _____	comments
Division of Waste Management _____	comments
Division for Air Quality _____	comments
Department of Health Services _____	
Economic Development Cabinet _____	
Division of Forestry _____	
Department of Surface Mining Reclamation & Enforcement _____	nc
Department of Parks _____	nc
Department of Agriculture _____	
Nature Preserves Commission _____	comments
Kentucky Heritage Council _____	comments
Division of Conservation _____	nc
Department for Natural Resources _____	ns
Department of Fish & Wildlife Resources _____	
Transportation Cabinet _____	
Department for Military Affairs _____	nc



COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY
NATURAL RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION CABINET
DEPARTMENT FOR ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
FRANKFORT OFFICE PARK
14 REILLY RD
FRANKFORT KY 40601

MEMORANDUM

TO: Alex Barber
State Environmental Review Officer
Department for Environmental Protection

FROM: Timothy Kuryla *TK*
EIS Coordinator
Division of Water

DATE: August 23, 2001

SUBJECT: SN, Filling of Locks along Green & Barren Rivers, (Edmonson, Muhlenberg, Ohio, & Warren Counties), SERO 010619-51

The Division of Water has reviewed the Scoping Notice for an Environmental Assessment to be prepared by U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (COE), Louisville District Office, regarding the filling of the locks along the Green and Barren Rivers:

River	Lock & Dam Number	River Mile (RM)	County
Green	4	149.1	Muhlenberg, Ohio
	5	168.2	Warren
	6	181.7	Edmonson
Barren	1	15.0	Warren

The Division of Water comments discuss matters the Division desires addressed in the EA.

WATER QUALITY
Wetlands

If the project can result in a discharge of dredge or fill material into:

- 200 linear feet of any "blue line" stream (as shown on the U.S. Geological Survey 7.5 minute topographical map for the project area), or
- One acre or more of any wetland,



then a 33 USC § 1341 ("401") water quality certification by the Division of Water for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and a 33 USC § 1344 ("404") dredge or fill permit must be obtained. The EA must address the existence of wetlands (and wetland mitigation or replacement).

Construction Practices

In project construction, Best Management Practices (BMPs) must be utilized to prevent nonpoint source pollution and, thereby, control stormwater runoff and sediment damage to water quality and aquatic habitat. The EA must outline the BMPs proposed to be used. For technical assistance on the kinds of BMPs most appropriate for construction, please contact the Edmonson, Muhlenberg, Ohio, or Warren County Soil and Water Conservation District or the Division of Conservation of the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Cabinet. The Division of Water, also, has available BMP construction manuals.

Barber, Alex (NREPC, DEP)

From: Palmer-Ball, Brainard (NREPC, KSNPC)
Sent: Thursday, July 26, 2001 12:23 PM
To: Barber, Alex (NREPC, DEP)
Subject: FW: KSNPC responses to KIRPs

From: Palmer-Ball, Brainard (NREPC, KSNPC)
Sent: Thursday, July 26, 2001 11:34 AM
To: Barber, Alex (NREPC, DEP)
Subject: KSNPC responses to KIRPs

TO: Alex Barber, NREPC-DEP, Intergovernmental Review Coordinator
FROM: Brainard Palmer-Ball, Jr., Ky State Nature Preserves Commission
RE: KSNPC responses to KIRPs
DATE: July 26, 2001

RE: Project No. SERO2001-51 (Green and Barren rivers Locks and Dams disposal)

KSNPC has reviewed this document and support the conclusions, especially removal or breaching of Green River Lock and Dam 6 and Barren River Lock and Dam 1. These actions would: (1) restore free-flowing riverine habitat to segments of the Green and Barren rivers currently impounded behind the dams; (2) allow stream communities, including freshwater mussels and fishes, the two most imperiled groups of organisms in the US, to recolonize these restored areas; and (3) restore natural hydrologic conditions to the unique Mammoth cave system. The free-flowing rivers of the US and Kentucky have been greatly degraded or destroyed by impoundment, channelization, and pollution. Elsewhere in the US, rivers and their aquatic communities have been restored by removing dams. The proposed actions are important first steps in the restoration of segments of the Barren and Green rivers.

we recognize that the proposed actions may adversely affect water supplies, ferries, and some commercial activities. However, we believe these affects can be resolved through planning and support from the Corps.

JAMES E. BICKFORD
SECRETARY



PAUL E. PATTON
GOVERNOR

COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY
NATURAL RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION CABINET
DEPARTMENT FOR ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
FRANKFORT OFFICE PARK
14 REILLY RD
FRANKFORT KY 40601

July 10, 2001

Division of Waste Management

Comments for Project #SER02001-51

All solid waste generated by this project must be disposed at a permitted facility.

During projects such as this soil contamination may be encountered. If this occurs, whatever is encountered must be properly addressed.



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COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY
NATURAL RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION CABINET
DEPARTMENT FOR ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
DIVISION FOR AIR QUALITY
803 SCHENKEL LN
FRANKFORT KY 40601-1403

rev.2/99

RENOVATION/DEMOLITION NOTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS*

Under 401 KAR 58:025, all facility demolitions and those planned facility renovations involving removal of at least 160 square, 260 linear, or 35 cubic feet of friable asbestos over a year's time require notification to the Division for Air Quality at least ten weekdays before starting the job. Exceptions are emergency renovations (i.e., removals necessitated by a sudden, unexpected event) and ordered demolitions of structurally unsound buildings that are in imminent danger of collapse, in which cases the notification must be submitted no later than the next weekday after work starts. To notify, use either DEP Form 7036 or the form shown in Figure 3 of 40 CFR 763, Subpart M.

Annual or blanket notifications are required for facilities with many small removals, each of which is below the threshold amounts given above, but added together, they exceed those amounts over a calendar year. These are removals that are necessitated by routine failures of equipment and can be expected to occur over the upcoming calendar year based on past operating experience but for which an exact schedule cannot be predicted. Submit this notification at least ten weekdays before January 1, and include an estimate of the collective amount of these sub-threshold removals. To receive documentation that these removal projects are in compliance, you should phone our inspector in your region at least one day before doing each removal so that an inspection can be arranged.

Notification is recommended but not required for renovations involving nonfriable removals. However, if the nonfriable materials will be crumbled, abraded, ground, sawed, etc., such that they will become friable, then the ten-day prior written notification is required.

Update the notification as necessary when changes occur that invalidate information provided on an earlier notification. Updates are required when the amount of asbestos changes by at least 20%. If the removal's start date is delayed, alert our inspector in your region immediately by phone, and submit an updated notification no later than the original start date. If the new start date is earlier than the original start date, update the notification at least ten weekdays before the new start date.

Detailed instructions for completing notifications are given on the back of DEP Form 7036. Additionally, any questions on notifications or other asbestos requirements may be directed to any Division for Air Quality Regional Office (offices are located in Ashland, Bowling Green, Hazard, Florence, Frankfort, London, Owensboro, and Paducah).

**For informational purposes only. Relying on this notice alone shall not guarantee full compliance with all legal requirements. This notice simply clarifies the notification provisions of 401 KAR 58:025.*



Kentucky Intergovernmental Review Process Division for Air Quality – Asbestos Comments

The project to which this comment is attached involves construction, renovation, demolition, or some other activity, which might result in the discovery of asbestos-containing materials. The Kentucky Division for Air Quality conditionally approves the proposed project, contingent upon conformance with regulatory requirements for asbestos. The information listed below provides guidelines on Kentucky's asbestos regulations:

Asbestos includes the asbestiform varieties of serpentinite (chrysotile), riebeckite (crocidolite), cummingtonite-grunerite, anthophyllite, and actinolite-tremolite.

Demolition means the wrecking or taking out of any load-supporting structural member of a facility together with any related handling operations.

Renovation means altering in any way one or more facility components. Operations in which load-supporting structural members are wrecked or taken out are excluded.

The coordinators of this project should be aware of the following facts and requirements:

- Breathing asbestos fibers can cause lung cancer and other respiratory diseases.
- Without proper precautions, renovations, demolitions, and even routine maintenance can release microscopic asbestos fibers into the air. Undisturbed asbestos materials, on the other hand, can be safely maintained if they are kept in good condition.
- Asbestos may be found in pipe and boiler insulation, flooring, roofing, wall and ceiling surfacing, ceiling tiles, exterior siding shingles, and even duct tape. More than 3,000 different products containing asbestos were used and are present in an estimated 733,000 public and commercial buildings and older residences nationwide.
- Before renovating or demolishing a structure, have it checked for asbestos by a qualified professional. Any asbestos that will be affected by the activity must be removed by a certified contractor before renovation or demolition begins.
- Written notification to the Division for Air Quality must precede asbestos removal and demolition of a structure in most cases. The purpose of these notifications is to allow Division inspectors an opportunity to check the site and assess the presence of asbestos.
- Removed asbestos wastes must be properly packaged, labeled and disposed at an approved landfill.
- The Division of Occupational Safety and Health Compliance, the Division of Waste Management, and the Transportation Cabinet also regulate handling, transportation, and disposal of asbestos. If a structure is owned by a federal or local agency, there may be additional procedural requirements for handling asbestos.
- The only outright exemptions from the Division's asbestos regulations are for homeowners who renovate or demolish their homes for residential purposes.

The requirements for asbestos may found in the following regulations:

- 401 KAR 57:011 Emission standards for asbestos
- 401 KAR 58:005 Accreditation of persons conducting asbestos work at schools
- 401 KAR 58:010 School management plan requirements; and
- 401 KAR 63:042 Requirements for asbestos abatement entities.

Questions may be directed to the Division for Air Quality, Special Programs Branch, at 502-573-3382.

Ruhl, Jane C LRL02

From: Richard Kessler [rkessler@tnc.org]**Sent:** Tuesday, August 07, 2001 3:27

Ruhl, Jane C

Subject: L&D 6

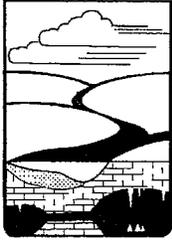
Dear Jane,

On behalf of The Nature Conservancy, I would like to take this opportunity to speak in favor of the removal of Lock and Dam 6 on Green River. After much review and consultation with Corps staff, hydrologists, ecologists, park service staff and others, it is apparent that the potential positive impact on ecosystem health and ecological integrity resulting from the removal now far outweighs any potential positive economic impact of leaving the dam in place. We understand that this has been a divisive issue locally and that there has been some outspoken opposition. We also feel that there is a great deal of support from the conservation community, both organizations and individuals, that have not been voiced. The Nature Conservancy has always been interested in seeking common sense solutions to conservation challenges, and in this case the removal of L&D 6 makes the most sense in light of my earlier statements. It is our hope that the removal will be conducted in an environmentally sensitive manner and that we can all continue to seek ways to positively work together to enhance the ecology of the Green River and the communities that exist along its shores.

Sincerely,

Richie Kessler, PhD
Director
Green River Bioreserve
The Nature Conservancy
Kentucky Chapter

08/09/2001



Kentucky Waterways Alliance

854 Horton Lane, Munfordville, KY 42765-8135
270-524-1774 Director@KWAlliance.org

August 6, 2001

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Louisville District
Attention: CELRL-OP-F
Ms. Jane Ruhl
P.O. Box 59
Louisville, KY 40401-0059

RE: Comments on June 2001, Green River Locks and Dams 3, 4, 5, and 6 & Barren River Lock and Dam 1, Disposition Study by the US Army Corps of Engineers

Dear Ms. Ruhl,

The Kentucky Waterways Alliance Inc. (KWA) is a statewide non-profit membership organization whose mission is to protect and restore Kentucky's waterways and their watersheds by building effective alliances for their stewardship. I submit these comments on behalf of KWA in response to the above referenced Disposition Study.

- We support improving public safety at each of the sites by filling in each of the lock chambers.
- We support the federal disposition of the sites and the plan to do so. KWA strongly encourages the Corps to continue to work with the affected local communities to present a clear and compelling case that it would be in their best interest to either move the existing water intakes out of the pools and allow the Corps to remove the dams or take ownership and responsibility for the land and the dam sites.

Does the Corp have the data to support these public and private entities moving their water intakes to the natural river channel so that the Green River dams #3 and #5 could be removed? KWA can certainly understand the reluctance by local officials to assume the responsibility for these dams and it would appear that the pool created by the dams provide only some measure of short-term water supply drought "insurance" for these systems. If this is not an option, then we encourage the Corp to continue to provide community leadership and explore some joint public ownership for Lock & Dam #3 on the Green River since a number of water intakes are currently located in the pool from this dam. We also encourage the Corp to continue to work with Edmonson County for the public ownership of #5. Ultimately however, each water supplier is responsible for the water supply infrastructure including any dams used for their system.

- We would prefer the removal of #3 and #5 on the Green, but could support leaving them intact if the water supply intakes cannot or will not be moved or lowered from the pools associated with these Dams.
- We fully support the plan to remove Dam #6 on the Green River. The unsafe condition of this structure warrants its removal. The continued impacts on threatened and endangered species in Mammoth Cave National Park warrant its removal. The ongoing threat to recreational canoeists and small boaters on the river warrant its removal. The removal must however, be slowly and carefully carried out so as not to adversely impact Edmonson County Water intake 1500 feet downstream and to minimize the impacts of lowering the water levels in both the river and in the connected flooded cave passages. We hope this removal action can begin as quickly as possible for the reasons outlined above.
- We would prefer the removal of #1 on the Barren River given the increased margin of safety for recreational use on the river. If removal is not an option, we could support the notching of the 135-foot section of the dam as outlined in the study.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment, any questions or concerns should be addressed to our office.

Sincerely,



Judith D. Petersen
Executive Director

Ruhl, Jane C LRL02

From: Ruhl, Jane C LRL02

Sent: Monday, June 18, 2001 8:14

'Steve Woodring'

Subject: RE: Green River dams

Dear Mr. Woodring,

The decision to leave Dams 3 and 5 in place was based on the fact that the pools formed by these dams are being used for municipal water supply. While these projects were not constructed for water supply, the pools formed by the L&D 3 and 5 projects have become a vital public resource. Our recommendation to leave the dams in at these two sites recognizes that the water supply issues of removing the dams at these two sites outweigh the public safety issues associated with leaving the dams in at these two sites. The water supplies provided by these two pools are vital, and there are few, if any, viable alternatives for water supply. However, the recreational use of these pools is much less than the existing use of the Green L&D 6 pool and the projected use Barren L&D 1. Additionally, the recreational use of the L&D 3 and L&D 5 pools consists of local residents who are acquainted with the existence of the dam.

I hope this answers your question. Please let me know if you have any other comments or concerns. Thanks so much for commenting.

Jane Ruhl

-----Original Message-----

From: Steve Woodring [mailto:swoodring@kca.org]

Sent: Friday, June 15, 2001 2:43 PM

To: 'jane.c.ruhl@lrl02.usace.army.mil'

Subject: Green River dams

Dear Ms. Ruhl,

Thank you for the information concerning the decommissioning and disposition of the Green River Lock and Dam system. Trout Unlimited has long advocated the removal of dams on Green River which no longer serve their original intended function. We fully support the removal of Lock and Dam 6 on Green River, and the breaching of Dam 1 on Barren River.

After reading the materials on your web site, I am still unclear as to why the Corps chooses to leave Dam 5 in place, since Dam 4 has been breached by nature, thereby rendering Dam 5 useless. Particularly since its locks will be filled. Wouldn't removal eliminate a safety hazard and restore the natural biological processes in that reach of river? There would also seem to be little purpose to leaving Dam 3 in place, since its locks will also be filled. Why leave an unnecessary safety hazard and biological liability?

Trout Unlimited fully recognizes and supports the Louisville District Corps' decision to begin restoring Green River through dam removals. Additionally, we encourage you to take the extra step to fully restore all of the river no longer needed for commercial navigation, by removing Dams 3, 4, and 5.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this proposed action, and I look forward to your response.

Yours truly,
Steve Woodring
Kentucky Council Trout Unlimited
swoodring@kca.org

08/09/2001

Patrick L. Curran
Attorney at Law
9202 Bermuda Court
Crestwood, KY 40014
502-241-1878

August 10, 2001

Jane Ruhl
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
P.O. Box 59
Louisville, KY 40201

Re: Removal of dams on Green and Barren Rivers

Dear Ms. Ruhl,

Rarely do I agree with Corps proposals. However, I wholeheartedly endorse the current proposal to remove the Brownsville dam on the Green River and the Greencastle dam on the Barren River.

These dams have outlived their usefulness and serve no useful purpose whatsoever. They have not carried navigation for 20 years. The only reason for their existence was commercial navigation. Lack of commercial traffic is reason enough to remove these antiquated obstructions. As it stands now, the Corps is saddled with maintaining the dams at taxpayer expense for no worthwhile purpose. From a cost-benefit perspective alone, they should be removed.

The pools created by these dams are not used to provide any water supplies of area communities, so their removal would not impact water supplies in the area. The dams were not built for flood control, and their removal would not increase the threat of flooding to the communities downstream. The large dams at Nolin Lake and Green River Lake can handle the flood control needs of these residents.

Apart from the obsolescence of these dams, there are beneficial reasons to remove these impoundments. The area in question is home to Mammoth Cave National Park. The existence of these dams has created an artificially high water level inside the Park's caverns and has halted the natural creation of caverns and formations at Mammoth Cave as well as in other area caverns. This area is a recreational mecca for tourists from around the world. Most come for the cave tours, but there is much to do on the surface as well. Increasing numbers of people enjoy canoeing, kayaking and fishing the Green and Nolin Rivers. The dam at Brownsville makes for poor canoeing conditions and actually makes it more dangerous. Years ago, my wife and I were canoe-camping on the Nolin

between the Nolin Lake dam and the confluence of the Green River. Our take-out point was at Houchins Ferry, about 2 miles upstream on the Green River. The Green River was raging that day, and we needed to paddle upstream in turbulent muddy water. Less experienced paddlers could easily have been swept downstream and over the hazardous Brownsville dam and could have drowned. It truly is dangerous.

Changing the river back to its natural river habitat would benefit local businesses that depend on tourism. More people would come to canoe these beautiful rivers. Removing the dams would improve conditions inside Mammoth Cave National Park. Removing the dam creates no shortage of water for drinking or other use to area residents. No commercial traffic is affected by removal of the dam. And then there are the benefits for those who love to fish. Bonny Laflin, a biologist for the Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife was quoted in the Louisville Courier Journal that flowing water is more productive than stagnant pools for fishing purposes. She went on to say that "It's always better to have an open stream than a pooled stream."

To recap, removing the dams benefits tourism business, benefits conditions inside Mammoth Cave, benefits canoeists, benefits fishermen, and harms no one. So, let's do the logical thing for a change. Remove these dams. And when these are gone, let's look for others that may have outlived their usefulness as well. Go Corps!

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Patrick Curran". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "P" and a long, sweeping underline.

Patrick Curran

MILLIKEN LAW FIRM

410 EAST TENTH AVENUE

P.O. BOX 1640

BOWLING GREEN, KY 42102-1640

W. CURRIE MILLIKEN
WESLEY V. MILLIKEN

MLF410@BELLSOUTH.NET

TELEPHONE 270-843-0800
FACSIMILE 270-842-1237

September 10, 2001

Ms. Jane C. Ruhl, P.E.
US Army Corps of Engineers
Louisville District
Post Office Box 59
Louisville KY 40201-0059

In Re: Greencastle Lock and Dams

Dear Ms. Ruhl:

I was glad to be able to be in attendance at the meeting last Wednesday concerning the Corps of Engineers recommendations concerning the various Locks and Dams located on Green and Barren Rivers.

I was also happy to learn, that after due consideration, you had agreed to change your recommendation concerning Barren River Lock and Dam number 1. You stated that your new recommendation would be that the Dam would be repaired by the Corps and retained. The Locks would be filled, and the property would be transferred to either Warren County or to some entity which would be created by Warren County in order that this Dam would remain in place.

We believe that this Dam at Greencastle is vital to this community and this area and we appreciate your being responsive to our sentiments in this regard.

Very Truly Yours,

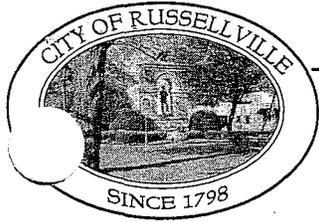
MILLIKEN LAW FIRM



W. Currie Milliken
WCM/adj

C:\M L F\New Folder\CLIENTS\GreencastleDam\jane1.wpd

cc: Judge Executive Michael O. Buchanon
Warren County Attorney Michael Caudill
Esq. Doc Kaelin
Esq. Terry Stahl
Esq. Tony Payne
Esq. Tommy Hunt
Esq. Lonnie White
Esq. Robert Donoho
Mayor Sandy Jones
Commissioner Jim Bullington
Commissioner Joe Denning
Commissioner Dan Hall
Commissioner Alan Palmer
Hon. Brett Guthrie
Rep. Jody Richards
Mr. David Garvin
Mr. David Bradford
Dr. Jess Funk
Mr. Johnny D. Webb
Mr. Marshall Love
Edmonson County Attorney Gregory R. Vincent
Edmonson County Judge Executive N.E. Reed
Butler County Judge Executive David R. Martin
Butler County Attorney Bobby Wade
Bowling Green Land Mark Association
Editor Park City Daily News
Col. Robert E. Slockbower
Senator Mitch McConnell
Senator Jim Bunning
Representative Ed Whitfield
Representative Ron Lewis



CITY OF RUSSELLVILLE

City Hall • 168 S. Main Street • Russellville, KY 42276 • Phone 270.726.5000 • Fax 270.726.5008

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Louisville District
Attn: CELRL – PM – PF (RUHL)
P.O. Box 59
Louisville, KY 40201-0059

August 2, 2001

To Whom It May Concern,

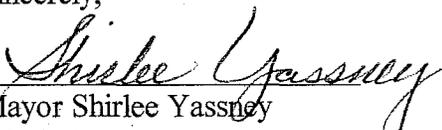
The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has released a disposition study for Green River Locks and Dams 3,4,5, and 6 and Barren River Lock and Dam 1 that has a purpose other than supporting an adequate and stable water supply.

There is a great concern that we will not have an adequate and quality water supply for the individual communities of our region. Also, there is concern about the likelihood of flash flooding down stream, and the environmental concerns regarding waste disposal in dry riverbeds.

Russellville opposes any approval or adoption of the disposition study until the requirements for an adequate and stable water supply are assured and request that the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers be directed to perform their duties in the maintenance of these Locks and Dams.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

Sincerely,



Mayor Shirlee Yassney
LSY8-02-01

Shirlee Yassney
Mayor

Ken Smith
Councilman

Gerald Chapman
Councilman

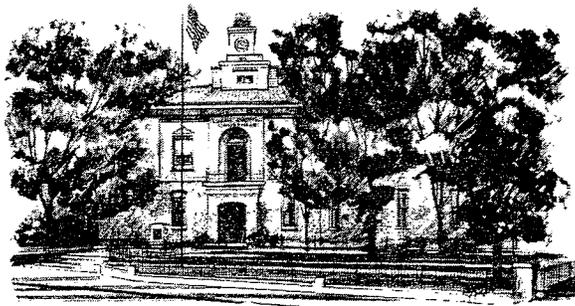
Jan Hankins
Councilwoman

Russell Jones
Councilman

Morris Kisselbaugh
Councilman

Howard Wren
Councilman

Office Of
Logan County-Judge Executive
John H. Guion III



P.O. Box 365
Russellville, Kentucky 42276
Telephone 270-726-3116
Fax 270-726-3117

August 1, 2001

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Louisville District
Attn: CELRL-PM-PR (RUHL)
P.O. Box 59
Louisville, Ky 40201-0059

Dear Ms. Ruhl:

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has released a disposition study for Green River Locks and Dams 3, 4, 5, and 6 and Barren River Lock and Dam 1 that has a purpose other than supporting an adequate and stable water supply.

There is a great concern that we will not have an adequate and qualified water supply for the individual communities of our region. Also, there is concern about the likelihood of flash flooding downstream, and the environmental concerns regarding waste disposal in dry riverbeds.

Logan County opposes any approval or adoption of the disposition study until the requirements for an adequate and stable water supply are assured and request that the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers be directed to perform their duties in the maintenance of these Locks and Dams.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

Sincerely,

John H. Guion III
Logan County Judge/Executive

JHG/anw



MICHAEL O. BUCHANON

TEL: (270) 843-4146

WARREN COUNTY JUDGE EXECUTIVE

FAX: (270) 781-2777

August 12, 2001

Ms. Jane Ruhl
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
P.O. Box 59
Louisville, KY 40201-0059

Dear Ms. Ruhl:

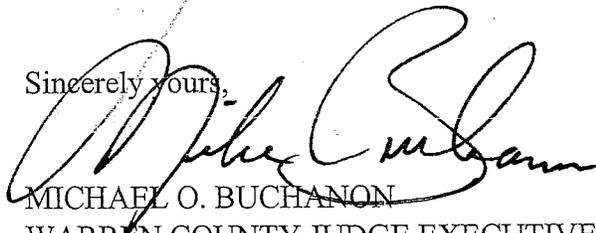
Warren County adopted the attached resolution opposing any approval or adoption of the disposition study released by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers for Green River Locks and Dams 3,4,5, and 6, and Barren River Lock and Dam 1 until the requirements for a adequate and stable water supply are assured.

The Barren River Area has a great concern that an adequate stable water supply is essential to the growth and prosperity of the area. We are concerned that we will not have a sufficient and quality water supply for the individual communities in our region. Also a concern is the possibility of flash flooding down stream, and the environmental problems regarding waste disposal in dry riverbeds.

It is requested that the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers continue to perform their duties in the maintenance of these Lock and Dams.

Thank you for your help in this matter. If you need additional information, please let me know.

Sincerely yours,



MICHAEL O. BUCHANON
WARREN COUNTY JUDGE EXECUTIVE

MOB:ms

COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY
WARREN FISCAL COURT
RESOLUTION NO. 21

**RESOLUTION OPPOSING DEAUTHORIZATION OF LOCKS AND DAMS
LOCATED ON THE GREEN AND BARREN RIVERS LOCATED
BETWEEN BROWNSVILLE AND ROCHESTER, KENTUCKY AND
LOCATED ON THE GREEN RIVER AT THE GREEN CASTLE,
KENTUCKY ON THE BARREN RIVER**

WHEREAS, in June, 2001, the United States Corps of Engineers published a "Navigation Disposition Study" pertaining to Green River Locks and Dams 3, 4, 5 and 6 and Barren River Lock and Dam 1, and

WHEREAS, it is expected that the recommendation of the United States Corps of Engineers will be for the deauthorization and or breaching of these locks and dams according to the Corps' Property Manager, Jane Ruhl, and

WHEREAS, many citizens and local government groups are in opposition to the Corps of Engineers recommendation pertaining to the Corps' plan, and

WHEREAS, the Barren River Area Development District, the Edmonson County Fiscal Court and the Morgantown City Council have all passed resolutions opposing said deauthorizations, and

WHEREAS, it is the opinion of the elected magistrates of the Warren Fiscal Court that the hereinabove locks and dams are necessary and essential to Warren and surrounding counties, and

WHEREAS, it is the opinion of the Warren Fiscal Court that relevant issues affecting the health safety and welfare of the regions citizens have not fully been considered, and

WHEREAS, issues such as flash flooding potential, waste water disposition, recreational usage and water supply sources are issues, which in the opinion of the Warren Fiscal Court have not been fully considered and analyzed, and

WHEREAS, it is the further opinion of the Warren Fiscal Court that the environmental assessment contained in Appendix E, Dated June 2001, is

incomplete and requires further study so as to insure protection of any and all endangered species and or historical resources.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Warren Fiscal Court of Warren County Kentucky:

1. That it joins in concurs and agrees with the heretofore past resolutions and Edmonson County, Butler County and the Barren River Area Development District Board of Directors. Said resolutions are in opposition to deauthorization and or breaching of said facilities;

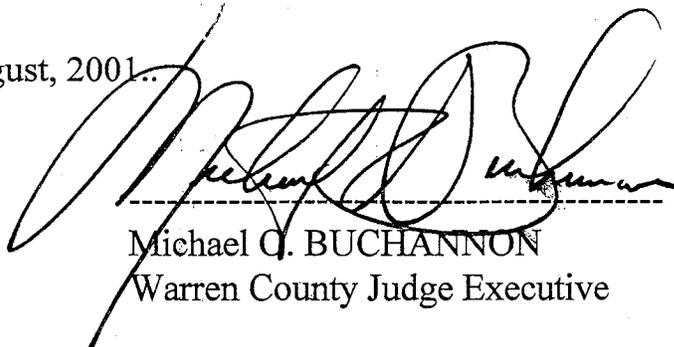
2. That the Warren Fiscal Court hereby officially requests that prior to an official recommendation by the United States Corps of Engineers that further study and analysis be conducted addressing other potential and probable affects of deauthorization;

3. That in the alternative , if and when deauthorization is approved, the Warren County Judge Executive and the Warren County Attorney are hereby authorized and empowered to enter into cooperative agreements by and between Warren County, Kentucky and other counties and or by and between Warren County, Kentucky and other governmental or quasi governmental entities including but not limited to non-profit public purpose governmental entities. Said cooperative agreements shall be for the purpose of retaining the abovementioned locks and dams in their present or improved state;

4. That by this resolution the Warren Fiscal Court requests the Congress of the United States not to follow the recommendation of the United States Corps of Engineers, which would result in the deauthorization of the locks and dams mentioned hereinabove; and

5. That the United States Army Corps of Engineers shall be directed to perform their duty in the maintenance of these locks and dams

This the 3rd day of August, 2001..



Michael C. BUCHANNON
Warren County Judge Executive

Russell Young

Monroe County Judge Executive

P.O. Box 305

Tompkinsville, Kentucky 42167

July 31, 2001

U. S. Army Corps of Engineers
Louisville District
ATTN: CELRL-PM-PF (RUHL)
P>O> Box 59
Louisville, KY 40201-0059

Dear Sirs:

With much concern, we are writing to question your recommended alternatives to the maintenance of the locks and dams on the Green and Barren Rivers. Your proposals appear to place a low priority on the maintenance of an adequate and stable water supply for the citizens of our area.

We feel there should be a federal interest in maintaining an adequate and stable water supply for the people. Until this domestic supply can be assured, we feel no action should be presented for Congressional authorization.

In the interim, the Corps should continue to perform the maintenance of these locks and dams, as is their duty.

In earlier stakeholders meetings, there was a clear expression that navigation should not be the sole concern of the Corps on the Green and Barren Rivers. The obligation to a domestic water supply was a recurring theme.

Respectfully, we request your reconsideration of the alternatives in your disposition study.

Sincerely,


Russell Young

Monroe County Judge/Executive

CITY OF
ADAIRVILLE, KY

P.O. Box 185
110 North Main Street • Adairville, KY 42202
(270) 539-6731 • Fax (270) 539-5503

July 30, 2001

U. S. Army Corps of Engineers
Louisville District
ATTN: CELRL-PM-PF (RUHL)
P O Box 59
Louisville, KY 40201-0059

Dear Sirs:

With much concern, we are writing to question your recommended alternatives to the maintenance of the locks and dams on the Green and Barren Rivers. Your proposals appear to place a low priority on the maintenance of an adequate and stable water supply for the citizens of our area.

We feel there should be a federal interest in maintaining an adequate and stable water supply for the people. Until this domestic supply can be assured, we feel no action should be presented for Congressional authorization.

In the interim, the Corps should continue to perform the maintenance of these locks and dams, as is their duty.

In earlier stakeholders meetings, there was a clear expression that navigation should not be the sole concern of the Corps on the Green and Barren Rivers. The obligation to a domestic water supply was a recurring theme.

Respectfully, we request your reconsideration of the alternatives in your disposition study.

Sincerely,



Curtis M. Ramsey

Mayor

City of Edmonton

Phone: 270-432-2811

P.O. Box 374 • Edmonton, Kentucky 42129

Fax: 270-432-3949 E-mail: cityofed@scrtc.com

July 30, 2001

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Louisville District
ATTN: CELRL-PM-PF (RUHL)
P. O. Box 59
Louisville, KY 40201-0059

Dear Sirs:

With much concern, we are writing to question your recommended alternatives to the maintenance of the locks and dams on the Green and Barren Rivers. Your proposals appear to place a low priority on the maintenance of an adequate and stable water supply for the citizens of our area.

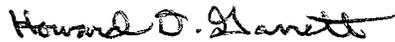
We feel there should be a federal interest in maintaining an adequate and stable water supply for the people. Until this domestic supply can be assured, we feel no action should be presented for Congressional authorization.

In the interim, the Corps should continue to perform the maintenance of these locks and dams, as is their duty.

In earlier stakeholders meetings, there was clear expression that navigation should not be the sole concern of the Corps on the Green and Barren Rivers. The obligation to a domestic water supply was a recurring theme.

Respectfully, we request your reconsideration of the alternatives in your disposition study.

Sincerely,



Howard D. Garrett, Mayor

CC

**U.S. Senator Jim Bunning
316 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510**

**U.S. Senator Mitch McConnell
261A Russell Senate Building
Washington, D.C. 20510**

**U.S. Congressman Ed Whitfield
236 Cannon House
Washington, D.C. 20515**

**U.S. Congressman Ron Lewis
2418 Rayburn Building
Washington, D. C. 20515**

City of Brownsville

P.O. Box 238
Brownsville, Ky. 42210-0238

JULY 30, 2001

U. S. Army Corps of Engineers
Louisville District
ATTN: CELRL-PM-PF (RUHL)
P. O. Box 59
Louisville KY 40201-0059

Dear Sirs:

With much concern, we are writing to question your recommended alternatives to the maintenance of the locks and dams on the Green and Barren Rivers. Your proposals appear to place a low priority on the maintenance of an adequate and stable water supply for the citizens of our area.

We feel there should be a federal interest in maintaining an adequate and stable water supply for the people. Until this domestic supply can be assured, we feel no action should be presented for Congressional authorization.

In the interim, the Corps should continue to perform the maintenance of these locks and dams, as is their duty.

In earlier stakeholders meetings, there was a clear expression that navigation should not be the sole concern of the Corps on the Green and Barren Rivers. The obligation to a domestic water supply was a recurring theme.

Respectfully, we request your reconsideration of the alternatives in your disposition study.

P. S. AS OF WORKING WITH THE CORP OF ENGINEER'S FOR OVER 50 YEARS THIS WOULD BE A TREMENDOUS EFFECT TO THE LOWER LOCK & DAM AND THE EDMONSON COUNTY WATER DISTRICT PUMPS WATER FROM THEIR AND THAT WOULD CAUSE THE DRINKING WATER TO BE UNHEALTHY AND UNSAFE.

SINCERELY,

EMO MEREDITH, MAYOR CITY OF BROWNSVILLE



Freddie L. Travis

BARREN COUNTY JUDGE/EXECUTIVE

Telephone 270/651-3338
Fax 270/651-2844

P.O. Box 129
Glasgow KY 42142-0129

July 31, 2001

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Louisville District
Attn: CELRL-PM-PF (RUHL)
P. O. Box 59
Louisville, Kentucky 40201-0059

Dear Sirs:

With much concern, I am writing to question your recommended alternatives to the maintenance of the locks and dams on the Green and Barren Rivers. Your proposals appear to place a lot priority on the maintenance of an adequate and stable water supply for the citizens of our area.

We feel there should be a federal interest in maintaining adequate and stable water supply for the people. Until this domestic supply can be assured, we feel no action should be presented for Congressional authorization.

In the interim, the Corps should continue to perform the maintenance of these locks and dams, as is their duty.

In earlier stakeholders meetings, there was a clear expression that navigation should not be the sole concern of the Corps on the Green and Barren Rivers. The obligation to a domestic water supply was a recurring theme.

Respectfully, we request your reconsideration of the alternatives in your disposition study.

Thank you for your attention to this letter of concern.

Very sincerely yours,

Freddie L. Travis
Barren County Judge/Executive

FLT/sjj

cc: Congressman Ed Whitfield, Congressman Ron Lewis,
Senator Jim Bunning, Senator Mitch McConnell

Metcalfe County Judge / Executive

M. Butler, II

100 East Stockton Street • Suite 3
Post Office Box 149
Edmonton, Kentucky 42129
Ph. 270-432-3181 • Fax 270-432-3726

August 3, 2001

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Louisville District
ATTN: CELRL-PM-PF (RUHL)
P.O. BOX 59
Louisville KY 40201-0059

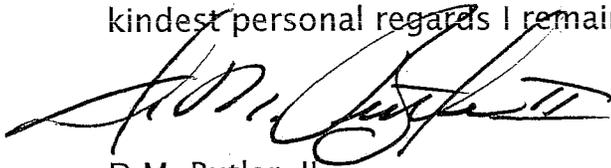
Dear Sirs:

With much concern, we are writing to question your recommendation for alternatives to the maintenance of the locks and dams of the Green River and Barren River. It seems that your proposals appear to place a low priority on the future supply of stable and adequate water for the citizens in our area.

In prior meetings, there was an expression that navigation should not be the sole concern of the Corps of Engineers on the Green and Barren Rivers. Our citizens have great concerns about the possibility of flash flooding down stream and the environmental concerns regarding waste disposal in dry riverbeds. We feel there should be Federal interest in maintaining quality water for our people.

Metcalfe County Government and Metcalfe County citizens oppose any approval or adoption of the disposition study until the requirements for an adequate and stable water supply are assured. We, as Metcalfe County residents, request that the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers be directed to perform their duties in the maintenance of these Locks and Dams.

Thank you for your time and consideration in this matter, with kindest personal regards I remain,



D.M. Butler, II
Judge/Executive
Metcalfe County

DMBII/lfr

Charles W. Hays
Mayor



City of Munfordville

P.O. Box 85
Munfordville, Kentucky 42765
Ph. (270) 524-5701
Fax (270) 524-3021

COUNCIL
Mary W. Mills
Robert Nash
Daryl Miles
Patricia Wright
Chip Wilcoxson
Harvey Branstetter

ta Sims,
Clerk

AUGUST 7, 2001

**U. S. Army Corps of Engineers
Louisville District
ATTN: CELRL-PM-PF (RUHL)
P. O. Box 59
Louisville KY 40201-0059**

Dear Sirs:

With much concern, we are writing to question your recommended alternatives to the maintenance of the locks and dams on the Green and Barren Rivers. Your proposals appear to place a low priority on the maintenance of an adequate and stable water supply for the citizens of our area.

We feel there should be a federal interest in maintaining an adequate and stable water supply for the people. Until this domestic supply can be assured, we feel no action should be presented for Congressional authorization.

In the interim, the Corps should continue to perform the maintenance of these locks and dams, as is their duty.

In earlier stakeholders meetings, there was a clear expression that navigation should not be the sole concern of the Corps on the Green and Barren Rivers. The obligation to a domestic water supply was a recurring theme.

Respectfully, we request your reconsideration of the alternatives in your disposition study.

Sincerely,



Charles W. Hays, Mayor
City of Munfordville

A RESOLUTION

WHEREAS AN ADEQUATE, STABLE WATER SUPPLY IS ESSENTIAL to the well-being, the continued growth and the prosperity of the Barren River Area; and

WHEREAS THE U. S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS has released a disposition study for Green River Locks and Dams 3, 4, 5, and 6 and Barren River Lock and Dam 1 that has a purpose other than supporting an adequate and stable water supply;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE CONGRESSIONAL VOICE for the 36 local governments included in the BARREN RIVER AREA DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT, and the citizens they serve, oppose any approval or adoption of the disposition study until the requirements for an adequate and stable water supply are assured, and

BE IR FURTHER RESOLVED THAT THE U. S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS be directed to perform their duties in the maintenance of these Lock and Dams.

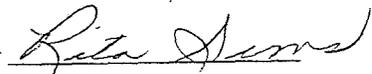
Adopted this 23rd day of July, 2001 by the Board of Directors of the Barren River Area Development District.

And Adopted this 6th Day of August 2001 by the Munfordville City Council



Charles W. Hays, Mayor

ATTESTED:



Rita Sims, Clerk



OFFICE OF THE
WARREN COUNTY
JUDGE EXECUTIVE

Michael O. Buchanon
Warren County Judge Executive

429 East Tenth Street
Bowling Green, Kentucky 42101
Office: 270-843-4146
Fax: 270-781-2777

Michael E. Caudill
Warren County Attorney

James "Doc" Kaelin
Magistrate • District 1

Terry Stahl
Magistrate • District 2

Tony Payne
Magistrate • District 3

Tommy Hunt
Magistrate • District 4

Lonnie White
Magistrate • District 5

Robert Donoho
Magistrate • District 6

August 10, 2001

U. S. Core of Engineers
Louisville District
Attention C.E.L.R.L-P.F. (Ruhl)
P. O. Box 59
Louisville, KY 40201-0059

Re: Resolution # 21

Dear Sir:

Enclosed you will find the above referenced Resolution opposing deauthorization of locks and dams located on the Green and Barren Rivers located between Brownsville and Rochester, Kentucky and located on the Green River at the Green Castle, Kentucky on the Barren River.

Warren Fiscal Court unanimously passed this resolution on the 3rd day of August 2001.

Should you need additional information, kindly let me know.

Sincerely yours,


Sue Greathouse
Fiscal Court Clerk

Enclosure

COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY
WARREN FISCAL COURT
RESOLUTION NO. 21

**RESOLUTION OPPOSING DEAUTHORIZATION OF LOCKS AND DAMS
LOCATED ON THE GREEN AND BARREN RIVERS LOCATED
BETWEEN BROWNSVILLE AND ROCHESTER, KENTUCKY AND
LOCATED ON THE GREEN RIVER AT THE GREEN CASTLE,
KENTUCKY ON THE BARREN RIVER**

WHEREAS, in June, 2001, the United States Corps of Engineers published a "Navigation Disposition Study" pertaining to Green River Locks and Dams 3, 4, 5 and 6 and Barren River Lock and Dam 1, and

WHEREAS, it is expected that the recommendation of the United States Corps of Engineers will be for the deauthorization and or breaching of these locks and dams according to the Corps' Property Manager, Jane Ruhl, and

WHEREAS, many citizens and local government groups are in opposition to the Corps of Engineers recommendation pertaining to the Corps' plan, and

WHEREAS, the Barren River Area Development District, the Edmonson County Fiscal Court and the Morgantown City Council have all passed resolutions opposing said deauthorizations, and

WHEREAS, it is the opinion of the elected-magistrates of the Warren Fiscal Court that the hereinabove locks and dams are necessary and essential to Warren and surrounding counties, and

WHEREAS, it is the opinion of the Warren Fiscal Court that relevant issues affecting the health safety and welfare of the regions citizens have not fully been considered, and

WHEREAS, issues such as flash flooding potential, waste water disposition, recreational usage and water supply sources are issues, which in the opinion of the Warren Fiscal Court have not been fully considered and analyzed, and

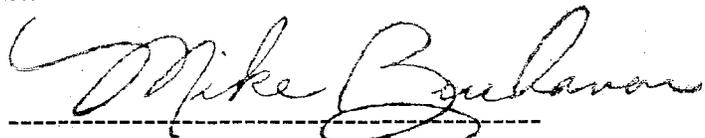
WHEREAS, it is the further opinion of the Warren Fiscal Court that the environmental assessment contained in Appendix E, Dated June 2001, is

incomplete and requires further study so as to insure protection of any and all endangered species and or historical resources.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Warren Fiscal Court of Warren County Kentucky:

1. That it joins in concurs and agrees with the heretofore past resolutions and Edmonson County, Butler County and the Barren River Area Development District Board of Directors. Said resolutions are in opposition to deauthorization and or breaching of said facilities;
2. That the Warren Fiscal Court hereby officially requests that prior to an official recommendation by the United States Corps of Engineers that further study and analysis be conducted addressing other potential and probable affects of deauthorization;
3. That in the alternative , if and when deauthorization is approved, the Warren County Judge Executive and the Warren County Attorney are hereby authorized and empowered to enter into cooperative agreements by and between Warren County, Kentucky and other counties and or by and between Warren County, Kentucky and other governmental or quasi governmental entities including but not limited to non-profit public purpose governmental entities. Said cooperative agreements shall be for the purpose of retaining the abovementioned locks and dams in their present or improved state;
4. That by this resolution the Warren Fiscal Court requests the Congress of the United States not to follow the recommendation of the United States Corps of Engineers, which would result in the deauthorization of the locks and dams mentioned hereinabove; and
5. That the United States Army Corps of Engineers shall be directed to perform their duty in the maintenance of these locks and dams

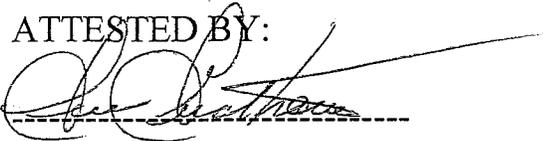
This the 3rd day of August, 2001..



Michael O. BUCHANNON
Warren County Judge Executive

Passed by vote of 7 to 0.

ATTESTED BY:



Sue Greathouse
Warren Fiscal Court Clerk

PREPARED BY:

MICHAEL E. CAUDILL
AMY HALE MILLIKEN
Warren County Attorney's Office
1001 Center Street, Suite 206
Bowling Green, KY 42101

Soft Energy Associates

Renewable Energy Development and Consulting

August 13, 2001

Ms. Jane Ruhl
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Louisville District
ATTN: CELRL-PM-PF (RUHL)
P.O. Box 59
Louisville, KY 40201-0059

Dear Ms. Ruhl,

Soft Energy Associates appreciates the opportunity to comment on the Corps of Engineers plans to dispose of the Green River and Barren River dams. A copy of our comments is attached. Soft Energy Associates is Kentucky's only developer of hydro-electric projects. For years we have investigated the development of the Green River and Barren River dams for electric generation, using the lock chambers to dramatically lower construction costs. We have not pursued these projects since we feared that like the Kentucky River, residents held out hope that the locks would be repaired and once again used for navigation. But the plans put forth by the Corps make it clear that these lock chambers will not be rebuilt for navigation but will be filled with gravel. By the Corps resolving this issue, we feel the time is now right to develop these sites for hydro-electric generation.

Hydro-electric development at Green River Lock and Dam 3 and 5, and Barren River Lock and Dam 1 could add over 5 Megawatts of clean renewable power generation to our state. Instead of the Corps spending about \$10 millions to "modify" these sites for safety reasons, private money could be used to put turbines in the lock chambers and make the sites safe for local fishermen. We believe that these sites are not a liability but a great asset for southern Kentucky for water supply, recreation, and power generation. Whether the Corps retains the properties or disposes of them, the structures should be left intact for the benefit of the citizens of Kentucky.

Soft Energy Associates stands ready to work with the Corps of Engineers or any new owner to develop these three sites. We have already begun the process by applying for a FERC Preliminary Permit on the two sites presently available. Please let us know if we can answer any questions or provide you with any additional information.

Sincerely,



David Brown Kinloch
President, Soft Energy Associates

PROPOSED DISPOSAL OF GREEN RIVER LOCK AND DAM 3-6 AND BARREN RIVER LOCK AND DAM 1

COMMENTS OF SOFT ENERGY ASSOCIATES

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has developed a plan to dispose of Lock and Dam 3 through 6 on the Green River and Lock and Dam 1 on the Barren River. These structures were built for navigation of these rivers and have not been used for this purpose in many years. The Corps of Engineers has drawn up detailed plans to modify these structures and then dispose of these properties. Soft Energy Associates appreciates the opportunity to comment on these plans.

In general, the plan calls for filling all lock chambers with gravel, breaching two of the dams, and removing structures on the properties. While we appreciate the Corps of Engineers' efforts to leave these properties in a state that will minimize danger to the public, we feel that the best options for these resources were not considered, probably because they were beyond the usual options considered by the Corps.

The Corps must recognize that these properties constitute a valuable resource for southern Kentucky for water supply, transportation and recreation. These structures also offer a valuable opportunity for the generation of clean electricity for this part of the Commonwealth of Kentucky. Unfortunately, the plans drawn up by the Corps would first destroy many of these resources then dispose of them. These plans are clearly not in the best interest of the citizens of southern Kentucky. Instead of requesting \$12,749,800 to waste on destroying these resources, the Corps of Engineers should propose to the U.S. Congress to simply change its authorization from navigation to maintain these public resources for water supply and recreation. The cost of annual maintenance of these resources would be a small fraction of the money sought to destroy them, only \$50,000 per year for the 5 dams. It should be noted that the Corps could maintain the sites at this cost for 255 years before the cost would exceed the cost of destroying and disposing of the property. The best option as outlined in the disposal study is "Alternative 1, No Action". This alternative was rejected due to the danger associated with falling from the lock wall. This risk and liability for the Corps can be eliminated if the sites are developed for hydroelectric generation and the lock chambers are used for turbines and made safe.

Whether the Corps of Engineers changes its authorization and retains ownership, or disposes of these properties, the proposed plan to modify these structures constitutes an expensive waste of money that would destroy a valuable resource of southern Kentucky. The plan put forth would fill the lock chambers with gravel, for safety reasons. The lock chambers offer a unique opportunity to add hydro-electric turbines to these dams at a very affordable cost. Instead of expensive dam modification required to add turbines, the lock chambers offer a way to add turbines with minimal civil costs. Our nation is presently in an energy crisis. President Bush has directed federal facilities to maximize energy production. The Corps plan to destroy the electric generation potential of these federal resources seem contrary to the President's directive. Even worse, the Corps' plan would destroy the potential of these resources, then

dispose of the destroyed resources onto the local public. We understand that the options that the Corps can propose are limited, but it would be better to dispose of the properties without destroying them, and save the American taxpayer over \$12 million. "Alternative 2, Disposal without alternations to structures" was rejected since it was judged that "Without alterations to structures, it is not likely that a party interested in ownership would be found". Nothing could be further from the truth. If the structures are destroyed and rendered unusable for hydro-electric production, it is unlikely that dams in a useless condition would find a purchaser. While Alternative 1 is clearly the best option, Alternative 2 is clearly the most attractive option if the Corps of Engineers disposes of the properties.

Our comments will now address the plans for each of the five structures individually. Obviously, Green River Lock and Dam 4 has no hydro-electric potential since the dam is breached. We have no problem with filling the lock chamber with gravel at the useless site. But the other four dams each have substantial potential to be used to generate clean renewable electricity, though the potential varies for each of the sites.

The site which is most marginal for hydro-electric development is Green River Lock and Dam 6. If the lock and dam are in as bad of shape as represented in the Disposal Study, investment in hydro-electric equipment at this site without significant repairs would be difficult to justify. The cost of hydro-electric development in this part of the country requires optimum sites due to the low cost of power in the region. It is unlikely that a hydro-electric project could afford both new generating equipment and significant dam repairs. In addition, the impact of the site on Mammoth Cave would make licensing such a project difficult. Thus hydro-electric development at Lock and Dam 6 is not feasible, unless a commitment is made by other parties to repair the site structures.

Probably the most attractive site for hydro-electric development is Barren River Lock and Dam 1. Like Green River Lock and Dam 5, Barren River 1 has a very high head potential due to the loss of Dam 4. This dam is slightly more attractive than Dam 5 due to easier access to the site. There is though a problem with the Barren River 1 site. The Disposal Study recommends breaching this dam. We believe this would be major mistake and a tremendous waste of a valuable resource. This site has the potential for a 2 Megawatt hydro-electric project, which could generate 8,000,000 kilowatt-hours per years (enough for 1000 homes). This clean power could eliminate 15,000,000 pounds of carbon dioxide per year (global climate change emissions) and 177,000 pounds of sulfur-dioxide per year (acid rain emissions). The Disposal Plan talks about the possibility of canoeists using the river if the dam is breached. But the hearing at the Butler County High School proved that many fisherman with motorized boats use this pool and are opposed to breaching this dam. The Corps would destroy the currently used recreational use for a possible use by others if the dam is destroyed. We do not intend to stand in the way of the will of the local residents if they want the dam breached. But it appears the local residents do not want the dam breached and want the pool preserved for fishing and boating with motorized boats. In addition, the Corps would waste over \$3 million to destroy this valuable resource. If the Corps decides to listen to the will of local residents and not destroy the Barren River Dam 1, the lock chamber should also not be destroyed by filling it with rock. Soft Energy Associates would be more than willing to develop this site with hydro-electric turbines if the Corps does not

breach the dam. A FERC Preliminary Permit for the site is currently held by Universal Electric. This permit will expire in about a year, and it is evident that Universal Electric is making no effort to investigate development. If the Corps abandons the concept of breaching the dam, we will move immediately after the Universal Electric permit expires to work on development of the site.

The other extremely attractive site for hydro-electric development is Green River Lock and Dam 5. The Corps plans are to leave this dam for water supply, but fill the lock chamber with gravel and demolish the operations building. This would be a tragic waste of almost \$2 million dollars that would also destroy this valuable resource. Instead of filling the lock chamber with gravel, we instead propose to fill the locks with hydro-electric generating equipment and make the site safe for local fishermen. The operations building on site would be very valuable for housing hydro-electric control equipment and should not be removed. Soft Energy Associates believes that this site can be economically developed for hydro-electric generation. Like Barren River 1, this site has the potential for a 2 Megawatt hydro-electric project, which could generate 8,000,000 kilowatt-hours per years (enough for 1000 homes). This clean power could eliminate 15,000,000 pounds of carbon dioxide per year (global climate change emissions) and 177,000 pounds of sulfur-dioxide per year (acid rain emissions). Soft Energy Associates is moving ahead with the development of this site. On July 26, 2001, we applied with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission for a Preliminary Permit for this site. A copy of that application is attached to these comments. Obtaining a Preliminary Permit is the first necessary step in development of a site. Soft Energy Associates intends to move as quickly as possible on development of this site. We urge the Corps of Engineers not to destroy any of the valuable structures at Lock and Dam 5. We estimate that a 2 Megawatt hydro-electric development can be constructed at a lower cost than the Corps would spend to destroy this site. We stand ready and willing to work with the Corps of Engineers or any new owner on development of the site. If no governmental purchaser can be located, we would consider purchasing the site at a reasonable cost, as long as the access to the property is included in the sale.

The final attractive site for hydro-electric development is Green River Lock and Dam 3. This site is not nearly as attractive as the other two sites due to the lower head and smaller lock chamber. The site would only allow a 1.2 Megawatt hydro-electric project. Though smaller, this site would still generate 4,000,000 kilowatt-hours per years (enough for 500 homes). This clean power could eliminate 7,500,000 pounds of carbon dioxide per year (global climate change emissions) and 88,500 pounds of sulfur-dioxide per year (acid rain emissions). The site does have some attractive features though. The site has a good road that runs up right next to the lock chamber. In addition, a strong three-phase distribution runs along the Rochester side of the river allowing for easy interconnection. While this would be a smaller project, it is still very attractive. Soft Energy Associates believes that this site can be economically developed for hydro-electric generation. Like at Dam 5, the Corps proposes to leave the dam but destroy the site by filling the lock chamber with gravel and removing buildings on the site. The Corps proposes to waste almost \$5 million to destroy this resource. For about one third this cost, the site can be made safe by using the lock chamber for a hydro-electric project. Instead of filling the lock chamber with gravel, we instead propose to fill the locks with hydro-electric generating equipment and make the site safe for local fishermen. The buildings on site would be very

valuable for housing hydro-electric control equipment and should not be removed. Soft Energy Associates is moving ahead with the development of this site. On July 26, 2001, we applied with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission for a Preliminary Permit for this site. A copy of that application is attached to these comments. Obtaining a Preliminary Permit is the first necessary step in development of a site. Soft Energy Associates intends to move as quickly as possible on development of this site. We urge the Corps of Engineers not to destroy any of the valuable structures at Lock and Dam 3. We stand ready and willing to work with the Corps of Engineers, or any new owner, on development of the site. If no governmental purchaser can be located, we would consider purchasing the site at a reasonable cost.

In summary, we believe the best option is "Alternative 1", the no action plan. The Corps can and should continue to own and maintain these sites. If the Corps does dispose of these properties, "Alternative 2", disposal without modification, should be used for Green River 3, Green River 5 and Barren River 1. Alternative 2 for these three sites would save taxpayers about \$10 million, or about 80% of the proposed disposal cost. In addition, Alternative 2 would preserve these valuable resources for development to produce clean renewable power. Soft Energy Associates is moving ahead with developing the two Green River sites, and will work on the Barren River site if the Corps drops its plan to destroy this resource. We stand ready to work with the Corps or any new owners to develop these sites. If no governmental owner can be found, we are willing to consider the purchase of these sites. We urge the Corps to work with us or any other interested hydro-electric developer to take advantage of these valuable resources instead of wasting taxpayer money to destroy them.



**Bowling Green
Area
Convention & Visitors Bureau**

July 3, 2001

Ms. Jane Ruhl
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
P. O. Box 59
Louisville, KY 40201-0059

Dear Ms. Ruhl,

Please accept this letter as one who opposes the Corps of Engineers' plan to destroy the locks on Green and Barren River in our area.

Here in Bowling Green we have a somewhat aggressive plan to develop our riverfront area, to make it eye appealing and add to the quality of life of our residents. As you might expect, if our locals like it, so probably will visitors.

It would be a sad day if, after millions of dollars are spent on this effort, this is only a small stream, or, heaven forbid, only a mudhole to view from the river bank above.

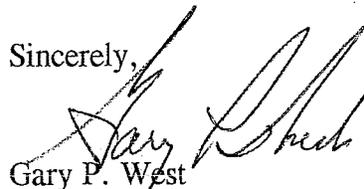
According to people who know more about these kinds of things than I do, this is not only a possibility but a probability.

I would like for the Corp to build up, not tear down. These locks have been neglected far too long and impact far too many people. The Green and Barren Rivers deserve to be utilized by not just a few, but as many people as possible.

Let people canoe the river. Let people fish the river. Let people float the river. And yes, let people just look at the river.

Please make sure there's still a river.

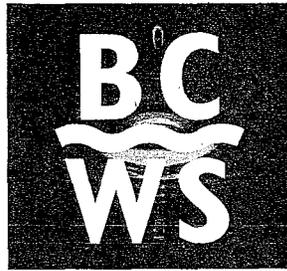
Sincerely,



Gary P. West
Executive Director

cc: Sen. Mitch McConnell
Rep. Ron Lewis
Daily News, Mr. Pipes Gaines

BUTLER COUNTY WATER SYSTEM INC.



July 10, 2001

MS JANE RUHL
U S ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS
ATTN: CELRL-PA
P O BOX 59
LOUISVILLE KY 40201-0059

Dear Ms. Ruhl:

The Butler County Water System, Inc. (BCWS) requests the Corps of Engineers to reconsider their proposal to dispose of Lock and Dam 3 on Green River at Rochester, Kentucky.

Enclosed is a copy of a letter to Herbert S. Harback, Commissioner and District Engineer at the Corps of Engineers dated October 21, 1993 and a copy of a Resolution of the BCWS Board of Directors dated October 19, 1993. The position of BCWS has not changed. We are still withdrawing water from the river pool created as a result of Lock and Dam 3. The BCWS now serves 4,300 homes, farms, schools, commercial, and industrial business in Butler County.

The County Government and BCWS do not have the means and ability to maintain a Dam as the Corps of Engineers has proposed. The maintenance of the Dam is extremely important to the existing and future water supply for Butler County. The loss of the pool of water which our water system utilizes to treat and distribute to Butler County homes and other water users would create a very serious health hazard, loss of many jobs and would be a complete disaster for the entire County.

The Corps of Engineers has the knowledge and ability to properly maintain the Dam and should continue to do so.

If we can provide you with any additional information or assistance, please let us know.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Joe Liles', is written over the typed name.

Joe Liles
General Manager

Enclosures

c: Honorable Mitch McConnell
Honorable Jim Bunning
Honorable Ed Whitfield
Honorable Ron Lewis
Honorable Hugh Evans

QUALITY ON TAP

523 US HWY 31-W BYPASS
PO BOX 10180
BOWLING GREEN, KY 42102-4780
TEL 270.842.0052 FAX 270.842.8360

104 S. TYLER STREET / SUITE B
PO BOX 1488
MORGANTOWN, KY 42261
TEL 270.526.4656 FAX 270.526.5397

Butler County Water System, Inc.

WARREN RECC BUILDING / 951 FAIRVIEW AVE. / P. O. BOX 1118

PHONE 502-842-0052

FAX 502-781-3299

BOWLING GREEN, KENTUCKY 42102-1118

October 21, 1993

MR HERBERT S HARBACK
COMMISSIONER AND
DISTRICT ENGINEER
U S ARMY ENGINEERING DISTRICT
CORPS OF ENGINEERS
PO BOX 59
LOUISVILLE KY 40201-0059

Dear Mr. Harback:

Butler County Water System, Inc. (System) has a permit (No. 199101743) to withdraw water from a raw water intake pipe on the left bank of Green River at mile 142.7 near Morgantown, KY. We have become concerned about the deteriorating condition of the Rochester Dam and the high probability that if the deterioration continues, the dam could be washed out thereby losing the pool of water which our System utilizes to treat and distribute to the 2,564 residents and industries of Butler County. The loss of the System's water supply would create a very serious health hazard for the residents and the loss of many jobs.

Enclosed is a copy of the Resolution of Butler County Water System, Inc. requesting the Department of Army, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to take whatever action necessary to protect, preserve, and assure an adequate raw water supply is maintained and available from Green River above the Rochester Dam at the water intake site of our System.

It is our understanding the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is presently conducting a study concerning the Rochester Dam. In reaching a final decision and recommendation, we request the engineers consider the importance of water and our System's ability to obtain water from Green River for the residents of Butler County.

If we can provide you with any additional information or be of any assistance, please do not hesitate to let us know.

Sincerely,



Joe Liles
Manager

JL:rsj
Enclosure

C: The Honorable Wendell Ford, United States Senator
The Honorable Mitch McConnell, United States Senator
The Honorable Tom Barlow, United States House of Representatives
The Honorable William Natcher, United States House of Representatives
The Honorable David Martin, County Judge Executive - Butler County
Mr. Jack Eversole, Barren River Area District Development



LOCATION IN KENTUCKY

WARREN COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT

925 Lovers Lane

Phone: 846-4506

BOWLING GREEN, KENTUCKY 42103-7140

SUPERVISORS

- Garnett Owens, Chairman
- Brent Travelsted, Vice-Chairman
- L.E. Smith, Secretary-Treasurer
- Noel Hill, Member
- Orville W. "Pete" Dotson, III, Member
- Donald Elkin, Member
- Phil Simon, Member
- Beverly Buchanan, Program Specialist
- Gary Vincent, Resource Technician

August 15, 2001

Ms. Jane Ruhl
 Army Corp of Engineers
 P.O. Box 59
 Louisville, KY 40201

Dear Ms. Ruhl:

The purpose of this correspondence is to express our opposition to the removal of five locks and two dams on the Green and Barren Rivers in south-central Kentucky. The Green River borders the northern portion of Warren County and Barren River dissects the County. Barren River provides drinking water for approximately 100,000 stakeholders. The dams prevents large acreage of farmland near these river basins from flooding and also serves as a reservoir for our drinking water supply.

To remove these locks and dams would be an expensive undertaking. We would prefer using these resources for needed repairs. The Conservation District has been hard pressed to find any advantages for taking such drastic actions.

As a special district that is governed by Kentucky State Statute, we urge the Corps to reconsider this proposal. Thanks in advance for your consideration of this matter.

Sincerely,
 Warren County Conservation District Supervisors

Garnett Owens
 Garnett Owens, Chairman

Donald Elkin
 Donald Elkin, Member

Noel D. Hill
 Noel D. Hill, Vice-Chairman

Darrell M. Cohron
 Darrell Cohron, Member

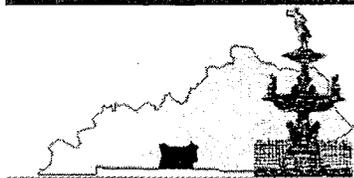
L.E. Smith
 L.E. Smith, Secretary-Treasurer

James P. Simon
 James Philip Simon, Member

Orville W. Dotson III
 Orville Dotson, III, Member

cc: Honorable Ron Lewis
 Honorable Mitch McConnell
 Honorable Jim Bunning
 Rick McCue, General Mgr. W.B.K.O. TV





Daily ^{Park City} News

813 College St.

P.O. Box 90012

Bowling Green, KY 42102-9012

July 19, 2001

Army Corps of Engineers
ATTN Jane Ruhl
P O Box 591
Louisville KY 40201-0059

Dear Mrs. Ruhl:

Please count me among those who are strongly opposed to the Corps of Engineers' plans for the locks and dams on Green and Barren River.

In particular, I oppose the destruction of lock and dam 6 in Brownsville and lock and dam 1 at Greencastle. The negative implications of the resulting lower water levels on recreation, water supply, and ferries in this region are troubling. I am also opposed to any plan that does not include maintaining the dams at Rochester and Glenmore.

The possibility of lower water levels at Bowling Green's planned river walk which recently received both federal and state grants is also a matter of great concern.

You may be interested in knowing that the newspaper with which I am associated reported recently that water levels at one of the Edmonson County ferries had become sufficiently low that it could no longer ferry trucks.

Please find enclosed the lead editorial from our newspaper's June 30 edition, which makes quite clear our views on this matter.

It certainly does frustrate me, Mrs. Ruhl, when I consider that many years of neglect of these structures by the Corps may be one of the underlying reasons that your agency is now promoting their destruction.

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Army Corps of Engineers

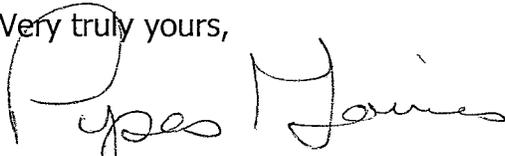
ATTN Jane Ruhl

July 19, 2001

Page 2

The dams and the water levels they maintain are important to this region. The Corps should maintain them, not destroy them.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Pipes Gaines". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned to the right of the typed name.

Pipes Gaines
Publisher

PG/kr

Enclosure

City of Rochester

Rochester, Ky. 42273

Office of Mayor

934-2000

August 20, 2001

U.S Army Corps of Engineers
Louisville District
ATTN: CELRL-PM-PF (RUHL)
P.O. Box 59
Louisville KY 40201-0059

Dear Sirs:

With much concern, we are writing to question your recommended alternatives to the maintenance of the locks and dams on the Green and Barren Rivers. Your proposals appear to place a low priority on the maintenance of an adequate and stable water supply for the citizens of our area.

We feel there should be a federal interest in maintaining an adequate and stable water supply for the people. Until this domestic supply can be assured, we feel no action should be presented for Congressional authorization.

In the interim, the Corps should continue to perform the maintenance of these locks and dams, as is their duty.

In earlier stakeholders meetings, there was a clear expression that navigation should not be the sole concern of the Corps on the Green and Barren Rivers. The obligation to a domestic water supply was a recurring theme.

Respectfully, we request your reconsideration of the alternatives in your disposition study.

*approved 8-20-01
Rochester city council
Horace Hammer, Mayor*

copy Congressman + Senators

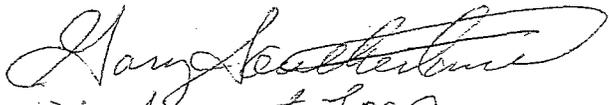
8-9-81

JANE C. RUTL,
DEPT. OF THE ARMY, U.S.
ARMY ENGINEER DIST.
LOUISVILLE CORP OF ENGINEERS
P.O. BOX 59, LOUISVILLE, KY.
40201-0059

DEAR MS. RUTL:

I WILL STATE TWO POINTS:

- 1) BEFORE THE RIVER IS RETURNED BACK TO THE PEOPLE, IT SHOULD BE IN THE SAME CONDITION AS IT WAS WHEN THE CORP OF ENGINEERS PROPERLY MAINTAINED IT. EITHER WAY IT WILL REFLECT HOW GOOD OF STEWARDS THE CORP. IS FOR THE PEOPLE. PLEASE DECIDE ^{BY} LOOKING TO THE FUTURE + NOT ^{TO} THE PAST.
- 2) NEXT, IF AFTER GOING THROUGH THE DISPOSAL PROCESS, IT GETS TO THE LAST STEP WHERE INDIVIDUALS OR GROUPS (ENVIRONMENTAL) CAN ASSUME OWNERSHIP. WHAT'S TO KEEP THEM FROM REMOVING THE DAMS ANYWAY TO RETURN THE RIVER TO THE PRE-LOCK & DAM HISTORY?

THANKS,

126 Sunset Loop
Morristown, N.J. 42261

July 24, 2001

To: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Louisville District
P.O. Box 59
Louisville, KY 40201-9889
Attn. CELRL-PM-PF (RUHL)

From: Doris A. Tichenor
1086 Annis Ferry Road
Morgantown, KY 42261

Doris A. Tichenor

Carroll B. Tichenor

Carroll B. Tichenor

RE: Corps of Engineers Proposal Regarding Dams #3, 4, 5 and 6
on Green River

My husband and I own a farm on Green River at Mile Markers 134-135. This property has been owned by my family since 1904. We have been farming the river bottomland and closely monitoring the river since 1976.

Over the past 23 years we have observed greatly increased bank erosion and slippage on this stretch of the river, resulting in an increasingly wider, shallower pool with many 'stick-ups' due to large and small trees slipping into the river with large chunks of land. These conditions have worsened since the Rochester locks were closed and Dam #3 was placed in caretaker status in 1981. Because the locks are no longer opened and Corps of Engineers dredging of the channel has ceased, the normal flow of the river is permanently obstructed. Silt from upstream, together with soil and debris from bank slippage, is rapidly filling the river channel. If the Rochester dam remains, it seems reasonable to predict that the channel will eventually fill with silt to the level of the top of the dam. The six water intakes along Butler and Ohio County sections of the river will then be buried in mud and silt. Farms along the banks will continue to lose land and the flood plain will become wider and shallower.

Based on these observations, we think it would be better if Dams 3, 4, and 5 as well as Dam 6 were removed and the natural flow of the river were restored. However, it is clear that a storm of local opposition would be raised if such an action were even suggested, let alone became a real possibility. There is a local nostalgic memory of how the river used to be when the locks were in operation and the Corps was doing regular dredging. Even though most people realize these times are past and won't be returning, the perception remains that 'if only' the Corps would restore the locks and dams the problems would cease to exist.

We understand and agree with the position of Butler County citizens and officials that a dependable present and future water supply is of primary concern. We use the water, too, and we would not support any action or project that would further jeopardize the quantity or quality of our County's water supply. But the water supply is already in jeopardy and we recognize that the present situation needs to be addressed before a serious water crisis develops.

It seems to us that a comprehensive study needs to be made to more clearly identify the problems of the river and the dams (including water supply!) and to look at some possible alternatives for addressing these problems. Millions of dollars were spent in the past in an effort to justify a high dam at Mining City. Thankfully the effort failed and this disastrous project seems to have passed into well-deserved oblivion. The expenditure of some additional Federal dollars on an unbiased study of current problems and alternatives would be a good investment in the future economy and long term well-being of this region.

Following are some questions that might be included in the design of such a study:

What historic data exists concerning the minimum and maximum flow of water in this stretch of Green River? (This data should be available from the U.S. Geological Survey.) What are the present and anticipated quantities of water being taken from the river through the existing intakes? Or, what is the present usage of water by municipalities and rural districts in this region? How does flow compare with use? Is the existing pool behind Rochester dam actually necessary to meet water supply needs or is the dam part of the problem? How rapidly is the channel silting up? (Compare present depths with past depths.) What are the causes of the serious bank erosion now occurring along this stretch of the river? How would this problem be affected by removal of the dams?

Another consideration that could be examined in the study is the existence of three large reservoirs -- Barren, Green, and Nolin -- on the Green River and its upstream tributaries, holding vast amounts of water. If Dams 3, 4 and 5 were removed, could an agreement be reached with the Corps to release sufficient water from these reservoirs, on a timely basis, to meet the water supply requirements of Butler and adjoining counties? Has a similar arrangement been worked out anywhere else? Are there other municipalities along other rivers in Kentucky or elsewhere whose citizens have been confronted with the issue of obsolete dams and what to do with them? How are these municipalities approaching the problem and what solutions have been found?

These may or may not be the right questions. In any case, we are sure there are reasonable questions that could be asked. We are simply suggesting that both the Corps proposal and the chorus of objections to it are short-sighted and limited in scope.

In addition, I would like to comment on a few specific aspects of the Corps proposal:

1. I strongly support the removal of the Brownsville Lock and Dam #6, regardless of what is done with the others. Drafts of this proposal have been under consideration for several years, and, unlike some of the other parts of the Corps proposal, have been thoroughly studied. The removal has been a goal of the Green River Bioreserve Strategic Plan since its inception, and with other measures being taken, will restore natural hydrology and biotic communities to the upper Green River and base level caves in Mammoth Cave National Park.

Comments, continued:

2. I do not support the part of the proposal that would transfer ownership of the dams to other Federal, State or local agencies or offer them for sale to private purchasers. I don't see any other agencies that have the expertise or the mandate to manage waterways for the public benefit and protection. And I think private ownership, even if proved legal, would be potentially disastrous. The interests of the public would be highly unlikely to be protected by a private owner, if these interests in any way conflicted with the owner's economic interests.

3. With regard to the other parts of the proposal, I recommend that further action be delayed until a more adequate study is made of the alternatives and potential consequences. I urge that the Corps ask Congress to authorize and fund such a study. Though I am not familiar with the details, I understand that a Section 729 Basin Study has been authorized for the Upper Green River Basin. Is it possible that additional funding could be authorized so this study could be expanded to include this section of the Lower Green River?

I appreciate this opportunity to offer my views and will appreciate your consideration of these suggestions and recommendations.

July 31, 2001

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Louisville District
P.O. Box 59
Louisville, KY 40201-9889
Attn: CELRL-PM-PS (Ruhl)

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers:

I am a life long resident of Rochester, Kentucky. My family farms in the river bottoms above Lock and Dam No. 3. I am writing to solicit your support to maintain the dam at Rochester. I understand that the chances for a resurgence of commercial navigation are slim, however, we depend on the Green River for our water supply. If the dam were to fail, it would endanger our water supply. Not to mention the loss of waterfowl habitat and recreational fishing on the river.

I believe that the U.S. Corps of Engineers is the only agency that has the expertise to maintain the dam as it should be. The Corp has suggested that the lock and dam be turned over to Butler County or some other entity. County governments simply do not have the expertise or resources to maintain this type of structure. Therefore, I strongly oppose the transfer of responsibility from the U. S. Corps of Engineers to any other entity.

I urge the Corp to please reconsider any measure that would transfer responsibility from the U.S. Army Corp of Engineers to any other entity. I also would ask the Corp to maintain Green River and its lock and dam systems in a proper manner.

Thank you,

Ann D. Wells
10018 Prouse Rd.
Rochester, Ky 42273

8-4-01

To Corps of Engineers.

You should remove
Jane Ruhl and send her back
to where she came from, Or
she may end up tarred & feathered
and on a rail.

She has made a lot of
crimines here is this section
on Ky. due to here ideas to
removed our dams and locks on
The Barren and Green rivers.

She is messing with our
Drinking Water Supply. To my
way of thinking she is as dumb
as a box of Rocks.

If the Corps had been
doing their Job our dams and
locks on the Green & Barren rivers
they would n't be in the shape they
are today.

Public relations between

The Corps are very strained
This could lead to very
serious problems arising from
this idea.

Also the control of
levels in our lakes are
deaserious to our drink water
problems. Don't you realize the
way our rain fall has diminished
that lowering the dams levels
to far reduces our drinking
water supply. Do you not
look at the far reaching weather
reports. For instance this year
our water supply is in very
serious problems. due to too much
water being released. There is
no flow of water out of
Barron river dam. To put move-
ment on the river I have lived
here since 1973 and this is
the first year that only a
trickle of water is going

Over the rock dam here in
Bowling Green that is our
water supply. that is because
The Corps is too lazy to do
any thing. They are doing it
the Easy way. Drop it down
in the fall and closed it up in
The spring. That way the Corps
don't have to work too hard.

Mr. J. M. Sites
1336 High St
Bowling Green Ky 42101
270-782-2725

JULY 20, 2001

DEAR MS. RUHL:

I LIVE NEAR MORGANTOWN, KY. AND(AS ARE MANY OF THE CITIZENS HERE) I'M VERY CONCERNED ABOUT THE U.S. CORPS OF ENG. PLANNED CHANGES TO THE LOCKS AND DAMS ALONG THE GREEN AND BARREN RIVERS.

MANY PREFER THAT THE RIVERS BE CLEANED OUT AND THE LOCKS AND DAMS CONTINUE TO BE MAINTAINED BY THE CORPS OF ENG. IT IS CRITICAL THAT AS DEEP A POOL OF WATER(AS IS FEASIBLE BE MAINTAINED TO KEEP A CLEAN WATER SUPPLY TO THE MANY TOWNS AND COMMUNITIES THAT DEPEND ON THESE RIVERS. IF THE RIVER LEVEL IS LOWERED AND THE WATER UTILITY INTAKES WOULD HAVE TO BE LOWERED THIS WOULD ALLOW THE HEAVY METALS AND OTHER POLLUTANTS INTO THE DRINKING WATER. IT IS BECOMING MORE WIDELY KNOWN THAT BOTTOM FEEDING FISH CONTAIN MUCH HIGHER LEVELS OF LEAD, MERCURY, ETC. THEREFORE UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES CAN I UNDERSTAND HOW IT COULD BE OF BENEFIT TO ANYONE TO REMOVE ANY PART OF ANY OF THE LOCKS AND DAMS UNLESS THEY ARE REBUILT. THIS IS CRITICAL TO INDUSTRY, AGRICULTURE, THE UTILITIES, AND EVERY HOUSEHOLD AS WELL AS THE POSSIBILITY OF FUTURE RIVER TRAFFIC.

THANK YOU FOR CONSIDERING THIS VERY SERIOUS MATTER.

BENJAMIN BLUNT

Benjamin Blunt

2945 ROCHESTER RD.

MORGANTOWN KY. 42261

RIVERVIEW FARMS

Larry & Beverly Graham
847 OLD RICHARDSVILLE RD.
BOWLING GREEN, KENTUCKY 42101
Phone (502) 842-3730

July 20 2001

Jane Ruhl
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
P.O. Box 59
Louisville, Ky. 40201-0059

Dear Ms Ruhl,

This letter is intended to present constructive criticism and opposition to the plan to breach dam #1 on Barren River at Greencastle and offer a very simple low cost solution to the problem. Simply fill the lock chamber and allow the dam to stay "as is".

As background, I am 72 years old. My farm is bordered front and rear by Barren River below the Bowling Green Water intake. One boundary, nearest my residence, is about 1/2 mile upstream from the City Sewer Discharge and the rear boundary is about 2 miles downstream from that point. I have lived here all my life and have spent many days on the river. Before the Corps abandoned upkeep of the channel there was considerable barge and houseboat traffic on the rear boundary. (The "head of navigation" was at the Boatlanding which is just upstream and in sight of the sewer discharge). The Corps ceased channel maintenance in the late '50s or early '60s and the river reverted to its present state. There was a period during which Bowling Green discharged virtually raw sewage into the river and fish populations were virtually nil below the sewer plant. In all fairness, the current discharge seems to be relatively clean most of the time and fish have returned. I hope the above will clarify that I know whereof I speak.

Advantages of Corps Plan claimed by Corps

1. Protect endangered species in Mammoth Cave.
2. Cost saving - Economy-Maintenance.
3. Safety. Lock Chambers present hazards.
4. Create "cance streams".

Rebuttal

1. I have no first hand knowledge of the Green River as it relates to Mammoth Cave, however, it would seem probable that any life form affected by the water levels caused by the Green River dams would have long either adapted or become extinct given the current water level which has existed for the past 100 years. Breaching the Dam at Greencastle on Barren River would have no effect on upper Green River, however it will result in major destruction of fresh water mussels and other aquatic life forms as the water level recedes. This occurred on a large scale when the dam at Woodbury failed. I personally observed literally acres of dead mussels in Green River shortly after the dam broke. I believe several mussel species in the upper Barren near Bowling Green are currently listed on either the "threatened species" or possibly "endangered" species list. Additionally, lowering the water level would destroy the habitat for a healthy balanced population

(2)

of several species of fish.

2. Essentially no maintenance is occurring or has occurred at Dam #1 on Barren for many years. A simple solution might be to simply fill the lock chamber with rock or quarry rubble and stabilize if needed with a mixture of cement and similar material near the surface. This would leave only the exterior lock wall which is no more hazardous than numerous bluffs naturally occurring along the river.

3. See #2 above.

4. I own a canoe and a fishing boat and use both occasionally on Barren River. At the present time, water depth is 12-18 inches within ½ mile upstream from Bowling Green Boatlanding. If the dam were breached this would revert to a gravel bar with minimal (if any) flow of water across it. That of course, would be only one of many gravel bars which would require portage of a canoe. I don't believe too many canoe enthusiasts would opt for hiking along carrying a canoe for extended distances. Breaching the dam would destroy many miles of canoe friendly river. It would create none.

Following are a few concerns which have not been publicized by the media.

1. Water quality. Bowling Green sewage effluent is discharged into Barren River. At present there is a reasonably deep reservoir at that point which allows the effluent to diffuse into the river with no apparent ill effect. That has not always been the case and there is no assurance that the sewer treatment plant will be able to maintain its current effectiveness when normal population growth overtakes capacity. Additionally, the construction of the proposed Tri Modal Industrial Park which currently is claiming the attention of the City Commission, Fiscal Court, and other parties will exacerbate the waste water problem. One doesn't need a "consultant" to realize that the (claimed) 7500 additional jobs will generate a vast amount of sewage and waste water, most of which will eventually end up in Barren River due to both surface and underground drainage. I do not look forward to having an open sewer running past two boundaries of my farm.

Incidentally, on July 17th I was on the river in my boat. There was no discernable current or flow of water between the sewage plant discharge and a gravel bar about ¾ mile upstream where I encountered a gravel bar about 14" deep and had to turn back downstream. There was a little flow below the waste water discharge. Essentially, the section of river between the B.G. Water intake and the Sewer Discharge is virtually devoid of current as evidenced by algae and floating stationary "scum". In other words, at the current level (controlled by the corps at Barren River Lake), the City of Bowling Green apparently removes about as much water at their pumping station as they return to the river from the waste water plant several miles downstream. This fact was further confirmed to me by a State Water Quality employee who I encountered taking a water sample from the Old Richardsville Road Bridge on July 19th. Despite the fact that the area had received about 1 inch of rain the day before, he confirmed that there was some "flow" of water just below the intake plant, there was no discernable flow at the downstream station above the treatment plant and that the river at this point was essentially stagnant. (His word-not mine).

2. Unrestricted movement of domestic/wild animals. (and people) across gravel bars. Wandering cattle, coyotes etc will present a challenge to farm operations along the river if this historical

(3)

natural barrier is removed. We currently have our cattle fenced away from the river for a number of reasons, however that is not the practice of some farms across the river. It is one task to fence my cattle in, however it is much harder to fence other wandering cattle out. There is a large population of Coyotes across the river from my property on essentially abandoned farmland. At present the river discourages them from crossing. They will have unrestricted access to a food source when they can simply trot across a gravel bar to feed on our baby calves.

3. Historic levels as espoused by the Corps is a misnomer. The dam on Barren river is not the first dam at that location. There was a grist mill at that location in the 1800's. Much of the old stonework is still visible across the river from the present lock chamber. Although the current dam raised the water level to about 12 feet minimum, the old dam (which pre-existed the Corp of Engineers) created a sufficient pool to accommodate packet boats and "excursion" boats from that location to the Bowling Green Boatlanding and most of the freight coming to the city came by river to the Boatlanding. Thus, there is no validity to the claim that breaching the dam would return the river to its original condition. In order to do that, you would need to also breach the Barren River reservoir dam. We would then return to periodic floods but also have sufficient water flow in dry seasons to prevent many problems caused by the "controlled" flow now possible due to that dam.

4. Subsidence- Again, you do not need a consulting engineer to realize that when you remove 8-10 feet of water from depth, you also remove the pressure exerted upon the stream bank and thus cause large trees, farmland and adjacent soil and stone to simply fall into the void and "disappear" except for the debris which will, in many cases clog the river and impede the natural flow of water. This was very evident in the area of Green and lower Barren river below Dam 1 when the Dam at Woodbury washed out.

5. Property disputes- Most deed descriptions for land along the river describe property boundaries as "low water mark". What happens when there is no low water mark? How far does my property extend? Who controls the gravel bars? Who is liable for the various trespasser activities that could occur in this no mans land?

Finally, I am not an attorney, however I strongly feel that if the dam at Lock #1 on Barren River is breached, that action will constitute an "Illegal Taking" of private property by Government based upon many of the concerns outlined above and on others as well. The Corps of Engineers should not expect taxpayers to rely upon their promises or their credibility given the fact that they abrogated their responsibility when they refused to consider repair of the failed dam at Woodbury and, instead spent more taxpayer money conducting various "studies" which were all prejudiced to support their wish to abandon Barren and Green Rivers completely than would have been required to make effective repairs to maintain water levels. The over used term of "Cost Effective" comes to mind.

Please don't compound the problem by this ill conceived venture to destroy Barren River as we have known it for several generations.

Very Truly Yours

L.H. Graham
L.H. Graham

P O Box 519
Morgantown, KY 42261
July 31, 2001

Jane C. Ruhl, Dept of the Army,
U. S. Army Engineer Dist.
Louisville Corp of Engineers
P. O. Box 59
Louisville, KY 40201-0059

Dear Ms. Ruhl:

As residents of Morgantown and owners of a farm on Green River, we are opposed to the Corp of Engineers proposal to remove what is left of the locks and dams on Green River.

It is our opinion that the locks and dams should be repaired and maintained by the Corp of Engineers in order to assure an adequate water supply for Morgantown and Butler County.

Other counties along Green River have similar problems.

We appreciate any help you can give along this line.

Sincerely,


Troy L. Tuck


Wilma S. Tuck

Bluegrass Structures

491 Rich Pond Rd.
PO Box 20352
Bowling Green KY 42104
270.843.1719

AUG 6, 01

JANE RUHL
U S ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS
LOUISVILLE, KY

SUBJECT, LOCK/DAMS ON GREEN AND BARREN RIVER(HANDS OFF) THE CORPS
DONE SOME VERY GOOD THINGS, HOWEVER THEY HAVE A REPUTATION FOR SOME REAL
SCREW UPS THIS IS NOT FOR THE CORPS TO MAKE THE FINAL CALL, WE IN
THE AREA MUST HAVE FINAL SAY.

THANKS



FRED DOWELL

P.O. Box 840
Bowling Green, Kentucky, 42101
August 6, 2001

M/S Jane C. Ruhl
U. S. Corps of Engineers
P. O. Box 59
Louisville, Kentucky, 40201

TO WHOM, IT MAY CONCERN:

This letter to the Corps of Engineers is written with great concern as to what you are doing to the locks and dams on the Green and Barren Rivers that cannot be undone.

First you should heed to the cry of the people in our area. The future of our State and our Country are at risk, and the fact you are spending the hard earned money of our tax payers. You have made numerous studies with lots of tax dollars. Have you thought about human consumption of scarce water in our area. We have had drought conditions for several years and our water table is so low. What will happen when you finish blowing out the dams, and we get a small trickle of water down stream? What we have ends right down to the end of the Mississippi River below New Orleans.

I am a Fourth Generation of a river family that has made their living by river transportation. We have employed lots of people, moved many commodities by river, and transported aviation gasoline during World War II. We know what the river has done, and we have loved every minute of it. It has kept young people in our valley, aided industry, irrigation for farmers, and watered our farm animals.

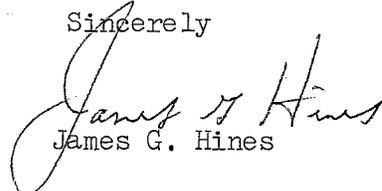
The river scenery is beautiful. There is canoeing, pleasure boats and fishing to be enjoyed. We gave the old boatlanding here in Bowling for such pleasures.

Hartford, Kentucky, has a little dam on Rough River to conserve its water supply. Various other little towns near by have their small streams and creeks dammed for the same purpose. Here in Bowling Green we have a few big rocks dumped in Barren River above the State Street Bridge by a local contractor to back us up a little water supply. Do you intend to remove these little dams also? We need a clean and ample water supply in our nation and not the removable of our present dams.

How many of you making this study live in our area? Would this entice you to come our way? Would you want a small trickle of slimy, germly water for your childrens daily supply?

As I wrote the Daily News, fill the lock pits with soil. Plant them with wild flowers and trees to bring back our endangered bees, butterflies, and birds. It is our utmost hope you will re-evaluate your survey and get us in the right direction to conserve our water supply.

Sincerely


James G. Hines

July 26, 2001

Jane C. Ruhl
Department of the Army
U.S. Army Engineer's
Louisville Corp. of Engineers
P O Box 59
Louisville KY 40201-0059

Dear Ms. Ruhl:

I am a citizen of Butler County, where the Corp of Engineers is about to destroy our water supply. I think that in your position with the Corp of Engineers you would take pride in your job and help the people when they need it. We need the Green River and the Locks and Dams in order to have a water supply. If the Corp of Engineers fail to maintain the Green River, we the people of Butler County will suffer, our children will suffer, as well as other counties. While you and others will be sitting behind a desk not affective by your decision to not keep up the Green River and the Locks and Dams. We are pleading for your support, water supply for Butler County and other surrounding counties. The Corp of Engineers needs to think long and hard about their decision that will affect thousand's of families.

Sincerely,



Nyla H. Morgan
Citizen of Morgantown, KY

August 3, 2001

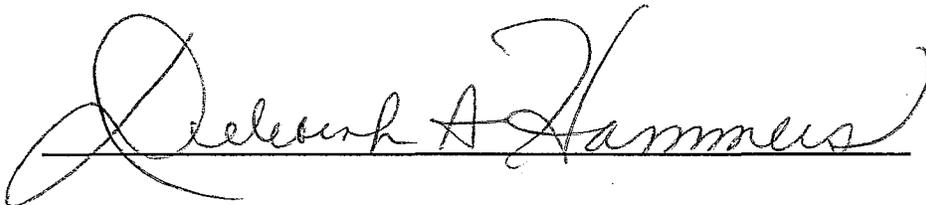
Jane C. Ruhl
Department of the Army
U.S. Army Engineer Dist., Louisville Corp of Engineers
P.O. Box 59
Louisville, KY 40201-0059

Dear Ms. Ruhl:

With regard to Green River Locks and Dam, number 3, 4, 5 and 6, located in Butler and Edmonson County and Barren River Lock and Dam No. 1 in Warren County, I believe the United States Army Corp of Engineers should remain in control and maintain or improve the present structures rather than remove or destroy them.

Sincerely,

Concerned Citizen

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Deborah A. Hammer", is written over a horizontal line.

Ruhl, Jane C LRL02**From:** Hotmail [frankh_ky@hotmail.com]**Sent:** Tuesday, July 10, 2001 7:14 PM

Ruhl, Jane C

Subject: Proposal to remove Lock & Dams on Green**To Whom IT May Concern:**

As a result of the decision to remove the locks on Green River, I would like to express my opinion. I am a resident of Edmonson County and live on Stockholm Road, commonly known as the Mammoth Cave Ferry Road. This area has for decades been called the Forks Of The Green River. If you check a map of Edmonson County and locate the junction of Hwy 1827 and Stockholm Road you will see that I live approximately 4 miles from the Mammoth Cave Ferry on the North side of the park.

I work in Oakland and take the Mammoth Cave Ferry daily. It is 25 miles one way driving through Mammoth Cave Park. When the ferry is closed, I must drive around the park through Brownsville. This adds an additional 20 miles to my trip. Also, my post office is in Mammoth Cave Park. Crossing the ferry, I can be there in 10 minutes, that is if the ferry is open. When the ferry closes I must drive around through Brownsville. This takes 45 minutes and I pass three other post offices! A trip to Cave City, Park City, Glasgow, Bowling Green, etc can take an additional 20-45 minutes if the ferry is closed.

This past summer the park superintendent closed the ferry for almost two months for low water. I visited the ferry during this period of closing to check on the water level. There was no valid reason for it being closed. I have seen the ferry run on numerous occasions when the water was much lower. The current park superintendent has closed park roads that have been open since the park was established. He has banned commercial traffic through the park. He has lowered speed limits to 35 mph and 45 mph when by law they can be no lower than 45 mph. I have even been told that he has privately stated that he intends on closing the Mammoth Cave and Houchens Ferry roads and THERE IS NOT ENOUGH MONEY IN EDMONSON COUNTY TO STOP HIM.

My point is that the citizens of Edmonson County can not trust the Park Service to protect our rights! They will do what they please, when they please because they are not elected officials. When Edmonson County turned over the rights of county roads Mammoth Cave Park, the courts required the park to keep the roads open, even if a bridge had to be built. Now they say it is too expensive!

If the water level stays to low it just gives the park superintendent an excuse to close the roads! And he will ignore the courts instructions that was given 60 years ago when Edmonson County tried to help the Park Service. No one outside of Edmonson County seems to care.

I have a handicapped son that occasionally needs ambulance service to the Medical Center in Bowling Green. Twenty minutes to the emergency room can make the difference in LIFE and DEATH! What if it were your son?

Frank Hayes
125 Stockholm Rd
Mammoth Cave, KY 42259
Phone (270)286-8229

08/09/2001

Ruhl, Jane C LRL02

From: CHRISTYAHUNT@aol.com

Sent: Tuesday, June 26, 2001 11:10 PM

Ruhl, Jane C

Subject: CHANGES TO THE GREEN

THINK THAT FILLING UP THE DAMS WILL LOWER THE WATER LEVEL OF THE RIVER SIGNIFICANTLY, AND THAT WILL NOT BE GOOD FOR THE RESIDENTS OF BUTLER AND SURROUNDING COUNTIES. IT MEANS THAT RESIDENTS WILL HAVE TO FIND ALTERNATE ROUTE OF TRAVEL, WITH THE THREAT OF CLOSING THE FERRY. MANY PEOPLE USE THE FERRY AS A MEANS OF TRAVELING TO AND FROM WORK, OR JUST TO GET AROUND WHEREEVER THEY MAY BE GOING.

A

CONCERNED RESIDENT,

MICHAEL S. HUNT

08/09/2001

Ruhl, Jane C LRL02

From: bobbya [bskkalford@msn.com]**Sent:** Thursday, July 19, 2001 11:43

Ruhl, Jane C

Subject: Green River Locks and Dams

was at the Butler County meeting in June. Many people chose to stand and speak after listening to the Corps proposals, but I did not hear one person speak in favor of the Corps proposals. Was anyone listening then or is anyone listening now. People in this area want the Corps to do the neglected duty and take care of the locks and dams, not fill up the locks and sell off the property to some other entity. This is just not right. The people in this area feel cheated and let down by their government and by the Corps. But I suppose because these people are relatively small in numbers and do not have a tremendous amount of political influence, their desires will be overlooked and you will do what you want and intend to do.

realize that the meeting in Butler County was just a formality and that it was necessary. It kind of gave the people a way to say what they thought yet knowing all along the government agency would do as it willed. After all the government wants even people without power to believe we live in a "free" country still.

have no special interest in this one way or another. I represent no business or group other than myself and my family. I have a masters degree in geography and education from Western Kentucky University, and I am merely a social studies teacher who often tries to make his students believe that their government has their interests at heart. What a joke in a case like this.

Bobby Alford
240 Caneyville Road
Roundhill, KY 42275

08/10/2001

Ruhl, Jane C LRL02

From: Burd, Alan (GEA, 089245)**Sent:** Wednesday, June 27, 2001 8:24 AM

'jane.c.ruhl@lrl02.usace.army.mil'

Subject: URGENT

Jane, myself and a vast number of my friends (ages 33-45) completely and adamantly oppose the demolition of the locks on Green river. Green river is a valuable natural resource that is greatly appreciated frequently used by many of the local people. Besides canoeing and swimming other various items of recreation would be greatly effected if the locks were removed. There are many young people from the Louisville area that frequent the Mammoth Cave area solely for taking a canoe ride along the beautiful Green river. Reducing the flow of the river would endanger much more than the ferry traffic, but also many other valuable assets that the river brings forth. Please consider this in making the necessary decisions that will greatly affect this world renowned river either for the good or the bad.

gGE Appliances

ALAN BURD

Technical Engineer (Co-op)

AP5-1N-105

Louisville Ky. 40225

Phone: (502) 452-3010

Pager: (502) 344-7538

ALAN.BURD@appl.ge.com

Ruhl, Jane C LRL02

From: drfinn2k1@aol.com[SMTP:drfinn2k1@aol.com]
Sent: Thursday, August 02, 2001 2:27 PM
To: jane.c.ruhl@lr02.usace.army.mil
Subject: Dams

I am typing in regards to the proposal to alter the lock and dam systems of Green and Barren Rivers. I am a resident of Bowling Green and an outdoor sportsman who frequents both the rivers on a regular bases. The rivers have been flowing under the current system long before you or I have been alive. During this time the ecosystem has grown and evolved around both rivers and has suited the public and wildlife well. I do not see any positives in blowing up dams, spending tax payers money and EXPERIMENTING with something that needs no adjustments! I enjoy the fact that i can put my boat in Green River and be in 40 ft of water for miles and if i want to go to sandbars and swift water i can just put my boat in on the other side of the dam. It's like having 2 different rivers 1 mile apart....you just can't beat that. Why destroy what nature has built around for so many years....why turn a stretch of river that is 40 feet deep into one that is 5 ft deep and essentially unusabl!

! e by motor boat. What I am getting at is I call this river home and so does my community! We don't want a change...you would not like it if i changed something in your community that you did not want and had no effect on me one way or another just because it seemed like a neat project to dump 3 million dollars on!
Please consider who it will effect the most and let them be the ones who thinks this is a good idea or not!
Thank you for your time! IF IT AIN'T BROKE THEN DON'T TRY TO FIX IT!
Danny Finn

Public Involvement - 2014



REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF:

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
U.S. ARMY ENGINEER DISTRICT, LOUISVILLE
CORPS OF ENGINEERS
P.O. BOX 59
LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY 40201-0059

CELRL-PM-P-F

February 13, 2014

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

Enclosed please find a copy of the draft feasibility report and draft Environmental Assessment (EA) for the Green River Locks and Dams 3, 4, 5, and 6 and Barren River Lock and Dam 1 Disposition Study. The purpose of this report is to evaluate the feasibility of, and make recommendations regarding the possible deauthorization and disposal of the existing navigation facilities. The facilities are located on the Green and Barren Rivers between Brownsville, Kentucky and Rochester, Kentucky on the Green River, and at Greencastle, Kentucky on the Barren River. These structures are no longer used for the authorized Federal purpose of commercial navigation. The facilities and the pools are no longer maintained by the Corps of Engineers; however, the Corps still has ownership of the properties and inspects the facilities periodically. A study was done in the early 1990's to determine if it would be feasible to restore navigation to the upper reaches of the Green River. This study found that there would be insufficient benefits from commercial navigation operations to support restoration of navigation. The Corps of Engineers currently maintains the properties in a caretaker status. There are two other navigation facilities on the Green River. Lock and Dam 1 near Spottsville, Kentucky and Lock and Dam 2 at Calhoun, Kentucky are still used for commercial navigation. This study does not include these two locks and dams.

Contingent upon a favorable finding regarding deauthorization of the facilities, the sites could then be disposed of using the provisions regarding surplus government property administered by the General Services Administration (GSA). Disposing of these facilities supports Presidential Memorandum dated June 10, 2010, entitled "Disposing of Unneeded Federal Real Estate". A Draft EA of the proposed action and possible alternatives has been prepared. This draft EA is being circulated for public review and comment as well as review by State and Federal resource agencies and stakeholders. Comments that are received will be considered in the decision to sign a Finding of No Significant Impact or to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's comments on this project are hereby requested in accordance with the Fish and Wildlife Coordination act of 1958.

Based on the available information, it has been determined that no threatened or endangered species, the critical habitat thereof, or any proposed species to be listed will be adversely affected by the proposed action. In accordance with the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended, should any species be identified in the area during implementation, then consultation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service will be initiated by the proponent action or their assigned representative.

The project area was reviewed for prehistoric and historic cultural resources. The five locks and dams structures are eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places. Transfer from Federal ownership is considered an adverse effect. Further consultation with the KY-SHPO and other interested parties would be undertaken to determine appropriate mitigation measures for inclusion in a Memorandum of Agreement to address project effects. Development of a Memorandum of Agreement would be completed prior to implementation of the project. Should it become known that specific prehistoric or historic sites or historic structures will be affected by the proposed action; the Louisville District Corps of Engineers would perform the necessary investigations and/or data recovery activities pursuant to Public Law 89-665, the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966.

Any person with an interest with regard to this proposed project may provide comments. Comments received by 5:00 pm EDT on March 17, 2014 will become part of the record and be given due consideration in making a final decision with regard to this action.

Please address all comments or inquiries to the above address, ATTN: Mr. Nathan A. Moulder, CELRL-PM-P-F, e-mail at Nathan.A.Moulder@usace.army.mil, or telephone at (502) 315-6776.

Sharon M. Bond
Chief, Planning Branch
Louisville District

Mailing List

Green and Barren Disposition Study – Public Notice/EA Letter – February 11, 2014

Lee Andrews
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
330 W. Broadway
Room 265
Frankfort, KY 40601

Kentucky Department of Fish & Wildlife Resources
#1 Sportsman's lane
Frankfort, KY 40601

Kentucky Department of Parks
500 Mero Street
Frankfort, KY 40601

Mark Dennen
Acting Executive Director and State Historic Preservation Officer
Kentucky Heritage Council / State Historic Preservation Office
300 Washington Street
Frankfort, KY 40601

Kentucky State Clearinghouse
Office of the Governor
Department for Local Government
Attn: Ms Lee Nalley
1024 Capital Center Dr., Suite 340
Frankfort, KY 40601

Lincoln Trail Area Development District
177 Graham Avenue
Bowling Green, KY 42101

Green River Area Development District
300 GRADD Way
Owensboro, KY 42301

Pennyrile Area Development District
300 Hammond Dr
Hopkinsville, KY 42240

Kentucky Emergency Management Association
David Sunn, Interim Executive Vice-President
PO Box 235
Calhoun, KY 42327

Bowling Green Area Chamber of Commerce
710 College St.
Bowling Green, KY 42101

Morgantown-Butler Chamber of Commerce
112 South Main Street
PO Box 408
Morgantown, KY 42261

Ohio County Chamber of Commerce
1350 Clay Street
Hartford, KY 42347

Greater Muhlenberg Chamber of Commerce
214 North 1st Street
PO Box 671
Central City, KY 42230

Edmonson County Chamber of Commerce
121 Washington St
PO Box 336
Brownsville, KY 42210

N.E. Reed
Edmonson County Judge/Exec
PO Box 353
Brownsville, KY 42210

Rick Newman
Muhlenberg County Judge/Exec
P. O. Box 137
Greenville, KY 42345

David Johnston
Ohio County Judge/Exec
130 E Washington St Suite 209
Hartford, KY 42347

David Fields
Butler County Judge/Exec
P.O. Box 626
Morgantown, KY 42261

Mike Buchanon
Warren County Judge/Exec
429 East 10th Ave, Suite 201
Bowling Green, KY 42101

Warren County Public Library
1225 State Street
Bowling Green, KY 42101

Butler County Public Library
116 W. Ohio St
P.O. Box 247
Morgantown, KY 42261

Ohio County Public Library
413 Main St.
Hartford, KY 42347

Central City Public Library

108 East Broad St
Central City, KY

Edmonson County Public Library
280 Ferguson St
Brownsville, KY 42210

Ohio County Times News
314 Main Street
PO Box 226 Hartford, KY 42347

Daily News
813 College Street
PO Box 90012
Bowling Green, KY 42101

Leader-News
PO Box 471
Central City, KY 42330

KY Department for Environmental Protection
300 Fair Oaks Ln
Frankfort, KY 40601

Regional Administrator
US EPA, Region 4
Sam Nunn Atlanta Federal Center
61 Forsyth Street, SW
Atlanta, GA 30303

Senator Rand Paul
600 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Pl,
Rm 1072B
Louisville, KY 40202

Senator Mitch McConnell
601 W. Broadway
Room 630
Louisville, KY 40202

Governor Steve Beshear
700 Capitol Avenue, Suite 100
Frankfort, Kentucky 40601

KY Department for Natural Resources
2 Hudson Hollow
Frankfort, KY 40601

KY Division of Conservation
375 Versailles Road
Frankfort, KY 40601

Congressman Ed Whitfield
Hopkinsville Office
1403 S. Main Street
Hopkinsville, KY 42240

Congressman Brett Guthrie
Warren County Regional Office
1001 Center Street, Suite 300
Bowling Green, KY 42101

STEVEN L. BESHEAR
GOVERNOR



LEONARD K. PETERS
SECRETARY

ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT CABINET
DEPARTMENT FOR ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
DIVISION OF WATER
200 FAIR OAKS LANE, 4TH FLOOR
FRANKFORT, KENTUCKY 40601
www.kentucky.gov

March 13, 2014

Department of the Army
U.S. Army Engineer District, Louisville
Attention: Nathan A. Moulder, CELRL-PM-P-F
P.O. Box 59
Louisville, Kentucky 40201-0059

Re: Kentucky 401 Water Quality Certification Comments
Green River Locks and Dams 3, 4, 5 and 6 and Barren River
Lock and Dam 1 Disposition Feasibility Study
AI No: 120684; Activity ID: APE20140001
Green River Milepoint 108.5, Milepoint 149.0, Milepoint
168.1, and Milepoint 181.7 & Barren River Milepoint 15.0
Butler, Edmonson, Ohio, Muhlenberg & Warren Counties,
Kentucky

Dear Mr. Moulder:

The Kentucky Division of Water, 401 Water Quality Certification Section has reviewed the draft Feasibility Report and draft Environmental Assessment for the Green River Locks and Dams 3, 4, 5 and 6 and Barren River Lock and Dam 1 Disposition Feasibility Study. We would like to provide the following comments as requested in the letter dated February 13, 2014:

- 1) Surveys conducted within the lock and dam sites and their associated pools have resulted in findings of several federally listed mussel species within the potential impact area of the project, including the following:
 - *Palaemonias ganteri* (Kentucky Cave shrimp) (Endangered)
 - *Lampsilis abrupta* (Pink Mucket) (Endangered)
 - *Obovaria retusa* (Ring Pink) (Endangered)
 - *Pleurobema plenum* (Rough Pigtoe) (Endangered)
 - *Plethobasus cyphus* (Sheepnose) (Endangered)
 - *Cyprogenia stegaria* (Fanshell) (Endangered)
 - *Cumberlandia monodonta* (Spectaclecase) (Endangered)

- 2) According to 401 KAR 10:031, Section 8(1)(a), the following Green River and Barren Rivers segments have been designated as an Outstanding State Resource Water (OSRW), because of the presence of a federally listed species:

Waterbody Name	County	Boundary	Designations	Federally Listed Threatened or Endangered Species
Barren River	Warren, Butler	Lock and Dam #1 (River Mile 15.1) to Green River	Outstanding State Resource Water	<i>Cyprogenia stegaria</i> , <i>Pleurobema plenum</i>
Green River	Butler, Warren	River Mile 149.7 (1 Mile Below Lock and Dam #4) to Lock and Dam #5	Outstanding State Resource Water	<i>Pleurobema plenum</i> , <i>Plethobasus cyphus</i>
Green River	Ohio, Butler	1 mile upstream and downstream of River Mile 108.5	Outstanding State Resource Water	<i>Lampsilis abrupta</i> , <i>Pleurobema plenum</i>

- 3) These designations may not be all inclusive. Other federally listed species may also inhabit the waters upstream and downstream of the aforementioned Locks and Dams. Therefore, it is possible that these segments are eligible for automatic OSRW inclusion due to the fact that these waters have the potential to support federally recognized endangered and/or threatened species of aquatic organisms pursuant to the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended, 16 U.S.C. 1531-1544. As an example, Green River Lock and Dam 6 is located downstream from the boundaries of Mammoth Cave National Park, which is listed as an Outstanding State Resource Water from the western to the eastern boundaries of the park. Therefore, it is possible that federally listed species may occur within these segments, and surveys may need to be conducted.
- 4) Prior to beginning the removal of these facilities, a thorough examination of possible contamination of the accumulated sediments should be conducted for toxic metals, PCBs, etc. If contaminated sediments are detected that pose an ecological risk, removal of the sediments and disposing of the material to an approved upland/landward disposal site or approved landfill would be required.
- 5) Removal of the listed lock and dam structures should be completed in a controlled, gradual manner to prevent downstream flushing of large amounts of sediment laden waters. In addition, geomorphological studies should be conducted to determine the potential effects of head-cuts and destabilization of aquatic habitats. Operations and activities should also be conducted during low-flow conditions in the river.
- 6) The proposed alternative of fan fencing barricade installation and signage with presently unspecified parties to acquire property ownership and maintenance responsibility is not a viable alternative to the responsible disposition of these Federal properties.
- 7) Modification, stabilization and/or the removal of the structures would likely result in the highest water quality and habitat benefits by restoring segments of the rivers to pre-navigation conditions, and should therefore be the recommended alternative. The Division of Water

recognizes that there are risks associated with dam removal projects; however we believe the long term benefits of restoration will outweigh the risks.

- 8) Lewis Environmental Consulting, LLC of Murray, Kentucky was contracted by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' Louisville District to perform mussel surveys of the Green River in Pool 2 downstream of Dam #3, in Pool 3 between Dam #3 and Dam #4, and in Pool 4 between Dam #4 and Dam #5. The survey report concluded that "Overall, the long term benefits to the Green River in the event of the loss of Dam #3 would likely out-weigh any short term negative impacts to the established mussel populations in Pool 3 and downstream of Dam #3 in Pool 2. The return of Pool 3 to its natural condition and allowing the re-establishment of normal river flow patterns would recreate the conditions necessary for establishing normal ecosystems and communities within Pool 3 as they have been re-established in Pool 4 and in the lower Barren River."

- 9) We recognize that there are several significant issues that will need to be addressed before activities and operations proceed with this study, and we look forward to receiving more updated surveys, detailed plans and specifications regarding recommended alternatives and more site specific biological and environmental assessments for our review and comment. Pre-removal assessments of potential ecological impacts of dam removal and appropriate mitigation efforts should be included in the dam removal process to reduce short-term negative ecological effects of this restoration action.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the draft Feasibility Report and draft Environmental Assessment for the Green River Locks and Dams 3, 4, 5 and 6 and Barren River Lock and Dam 1 Disposition Feasibility Study. We would be happy to provide future pre-application guidance regarding dredge and fill permitting and authorization. If you have any questions regarding the comments provided, please contact Chloe Brantley of my staff, at Chloe.Brantley@ky.gov or (502) 564-3410 Extension 4863.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Adam Jackson", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Adam Jackson, Supervisor
Water Quality Certification Section
Kentucky Division of Water

AJ: CB

cc: Nathan A. Moulder, USACE: Louisville District (via email: Nathan.A.Moulder@usace.army.mil)
Leroy Koch, USFWS: Kentucky Ecological Services Field Office (via email: leroy_koch@fws.gov)
Joseph Zimmerman, KDFWR: Frankfort (via email: Joseph.Zimmerman@ky.gov)



**TOURISM, ARTS AND HERITAGE CABINET
KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT OF FISH & WILDLIFE RESOURCES**

Steven L. Beshear
Governor

#1 Sportsman's Lane
Frankfort, Kentucky 40601
Phone (502) 564-3400
1-800-858-1549
Fax (502) 564-0506
fw.ky.gov

Bob Stewart
Secretary

March 21, 2014

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Louisville District
Attn: Nathan A. Moulder, CELRL-OP-S
P.O. Box 59
Louisville, KY 40201-0059

RE: Environmental Review for the Green River Locks and Dams 3,4,5,6 and Barren River Lock and Dam 1 Draft Feasibility Report and Draft Environmental Assessment, Kentucky

Dear Mr. Moulder:

The Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources (KDFWR) has reviewed the draft feasibility study and draft Environmental Assessment for the Green River Locks and Dams 3,4,5,6 and Barren River Lock and Dam 1 Disposition Study. The projects are located on the Green River and Barren River in central Kentucky and are no longer federally purposed for commercial navigation. The structural integrity of the projects varies from relatively stable to poor condition. The structures at Green River Locks and Dams 3 and 5 and Barren River Lock and Dam 1 are in relatively good condition with straight alignments, few cracks, no settlement, and lack of seepage. Green River Lock and Dam 4 failed and was naturally breached in 1965. The structure at Green River Lock and Dam 6 is in poor condition showing signs of seepage around the lock wall, dam wall interfaces, weir cracks, and various sink holes.

Several alternatives were identified and evaluated for each of the projects. All structures were recommended to be deauthorized since they no longer serve the authorized purpose. The alternatives considered include no action (Alternative 1), federal disposal without altering the structures (Alternative 2), demolish the dam and fill the lock (Alternative 3), and modify the lock only (Alternative 4). Due to the relatively good condition of the structures and future need for water supply, Alternative 2 was selected for Green River Locks and Dams 3,4,5, and Barren River Lock and Dam 1. Due to the poor condition of the structure, resource benefits, and recreational benefits, Alternative 3 was selected for Green River Lock and Dam 6, which also includes modifications to Green River Ferry and Houchin Ferry. The repairs and modifications to the structures would be completed to allow for deauthorization. All construction work would be completely federally funded. If property disposal is unsuccessful, then the modified structures would continue to be in caretaker status.



KDFWR agrees with the alternative selected for Green River Lock and Dam 6, which includes the federally funded demolition of the structure and modification of the ferries within the existing pool. This would increase river connectivity and restore natural variability in flows throughout the pool. Aquatic habitats would be diversified by restoring various facet slopes to the Green River. KDFWR recommends evaluating the effects of Asian carp movement with the proposed alternative. The spread of the invasive species could jeopardize the recreational aspects and biodiversity of the Green River.

KDFWR recommends including additional information on the methods to be utilized for the alternative selected for Green River Lock and Dam 6 and the associated effects on the aquatic resources within Green River. This information includes, but is not limited to, plans for the accumulated sediment upstream of the dam, sediment contamination studies, demolition methods, physical channel effects from the pool elevation changes, and construction season.

KDFWR has management responsibility for the fisheries and mussel resources within the proposed project areas. The areas located directly beneath the projects are popular fishing destinations due to the turbulent flow and increase in oxygen levels. This makes these areas very popular fishing destinations. In contrast, the aquatic resources within the pooled portions of the referenced projects are less diverse and robust than the free flowing sections of river. Therefore, KDFWR would be in support of Alternative 3 for the remaining projects listed within the draft feasibility study due to the overall aquatic resource and recreational benefits. This alternative would reconnect the fragmented river system and increase aquatic habitat diversity throughout. However, we understand the full suite of issues that must be considered with dam removal. Adequate public water supply, private irrigation, and costs were the main concerns for not selecting Alternative 3. To alleviate public safety concerns and maintain the existing pools, Alternative 2 was selected for the Green River Locks and Dams 3, 4, 5 and Barren River Lock and Dam 1. This alternative also includes the federal disposition of the projects. Based on the report, several communities have shown interest in taking ownership of the projects. KDFWR has several concerns with the uncertainties in ownership of locks and dams on the Green River. Without knowing an entity's purpose for obtaining an existing structure and their future plans for the structure, KDFWR cannot support Alternative 2. Clarification on how an entity intends to manage a structure would allow KDFWR to make an informed decision whether the action would benefit or hinder the aquatic and recreation resources. In addition, it is unlikely that any entity would have adequate funding to repair, maintain, or demolish a structure. Therefore, KDFWR recommends identifying additional alternatives for the remaining structures that include a more definite owner and the planned use for the structures and the associated pool. If other alternatives cannot be identified and Alternative 3 is not feasible, then KDFWR supports Alternative 1, which includes no alterations to the structures and federal ownership would be maintained at Green River Locks and Dams 3, 4, 5 and Barren River Lock and Dam 1.

KDFWR recommends evaluating the effects of Asian carp movement with all of the proposed alternatives. Asian carp have been found throughout the Green River system including Green River Lake tailwaters. Regarding the proposed project areas, Asian carp are most prevalent in Green River Pool 3. Asian carp have been collected in Green River Pool 4, but in fewer numbers as compared to lower pools. However, it is assumed that the fish persist throughout the entire system due to a recent Green River Lake tailwater record. Sporadic occurrences have been noted in Green River Pool 4. KDFWR recommends evaluating the effects of a defragmented river, reduced pool elevation, and restoration of natural flows on the Asian carp and potential spread of the invasive species.



The disposition feasibility study list one boat ramp for Green River Pool 3, three boat ramps for Green River Pool 4, three boat ramps for Green River Pool 5, and one boat ramp for Barren River Pool 1. KDFWR has records of several other boat ramps located within the proposed project area. KDFWR recommends including these additional boat ramps and any potential effects in the disposition study. Below is a list of all boat ramps located within the proposed project area.

Green River Pool 3

Rochester Dam, Mud River Ramp, Reeds Ferry, HighView Hill Ramp, Cromwell Ramp, Morgantown Ramp

Green River Pool 4

Woodbury Ramp, Riverside Ramp, Greencastle Ramp (Barren), Honakers Ferry Ramp

Green River Pool 5

Bear Creek Ramp, Lock Dam #5 Ramp, Alexander Creek Ramp, Brownsville City Park Ramp

Green River Pool 6

Houchins Ferry, Nolin River Lake Tailwater, Mammoth Cave Ferry, Munfordville Stovall Park, HH Wilson Park Ramp

Barren River Pool 1

Lonnie White Boat Ramp, Boat Landing Road Ramp, Beachbend Campground Ramp, Potter Combs Ramp, Claypool Ramp

KDFWR appreciates the opportunity to review and comment on the draft feasibility study and draft Environmental Assessment for the Green River Locks and Dams 3,4,5,6 and Barren River Lock and Dam 1 Disposition Study. If you have any questions or require additional information, please call me at (502) 564-7109 Extension 4473.

Sincerely,



Joseph Zimmerman, Environmental Biologist

Cc: Environmental Section File



STEVEN L. BESHEAR
GOVERNOR

**TOURISM, ARTS AND HERITAGE CABINET
KENTUCKY HERITAGE COUNCIL**

BOB STEWART
SECRETARY

THE STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE
300 WASHINGTON STREET
FRANKFORT, KENTUCKY 40601
PHONE (502) 564-7005
FAX (502) 564-5820
www.heritage.ky.gov

CRAIG A. POTTS
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AND
STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER

March 26, 2014

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Louisville District
ATTN: Jan Marie Hemberger
PO Box 59
Louisville, KY 40201-0059

Re: Green and Barren River locks and dams disposition study

Dear Ms. Hemberger,

Our office has recently received the above referenced report and supporting documentation. The Corps is considering the feasibility of disposing of a number of lock and dam facilities. Preferred alternatives reflected in the study include a range of activities, from minor work on a number of facilities before removing them from federal ownership to demolition of Green River Lock and Dam 6.

In general, we continue to concur with the original findings presented in this report as they relate to eligibility for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. We continue to agree that work proposed (including removing the facilities from federal ownership), will result in an adverse effect to historic properties. In accordance with 36 CFR Part 800, we also agree that consultation on a Memorandum of Agreement or Programmatic Agreement is the appropriate course of action to resolve adverse effects and ensure compliance with the National Historic Preservation Act.

Based on our review of the current study and recent discussions with your office, we recommend these additional items to consider as consultation moves forward:

When originally assessed for National Register eligibility, only the locks and dams were found eligible. In more than a decade since the original Corps studies were done, consultation on similar facilities on the Green River initiated by FERC and its license applicants have found on-shore buildings like extant lock tenders' houses to be contributing structures in a functionally related complex. Therefore, it would be advisable to update information on any extant buildings and structures at the locks and dams included in this Corps undertaking. Our office is willing to work with the Corps and consulting parties to assess the current condition and potential National Register eligibility of these resources at such time as the Memorandum of Agreement is being developed for the undertaking. We do not anticipate a need for further formal studies, but current photo documentation of the resources would be required.

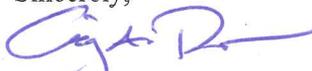
Work proposed for Lock and Dam 6 likewise needs additional discussion, as the broadest range of possible effects may not have been considered in earlier studies. Specifically, nothing substantial is known about the existence of archaeological sites pre-pool, and we have concerns that sites may become exposed when water levels drop and the river returns to natural levels. We also have concerns that effects from dropping water levels in Mammoth Cave have not been thoroughly discussed. To address these issues, we recommend development of an inadvertent discovery plan outlining appropriate level of effort and measures for identifying and treating such sites after the undertaking has taken place. This would be written and incorporated into the Memorandum of Agreement. Because of his specific expertise on this area's resources, we recommend Dr. George Crothers, Director of the Office of State Archaeology, as a consulting party to participate in the Section 106 process moving forward. Other appropriate consulting parties may be identified when consultation resumes.

Finally, we would want consultation during development of the Memorandum of Agreement to include discussion about deed restrictions and/or other provisions to preserve the integrity of any historic properties which transfer out of federal ownership. If disposition of the properties is referred to GSA for sale with deed restrictions, we would still expect additional consultation with our office to ensure proper compliance with Section 106. It would be our position that if these properties are transferred or moved out of federal ownership, a Memorandum of Agreement would be needed regardless of the manner in which this happens.

The Louisville District Office has proposed Section 106 consultation and development of a Memorandum of Agreement be renewed after the approval of the Green and Barren Disposition Study and, if received, the appropriate authorization from Congress to deauthorize the lock and dam facilities. It is our understanding timing for the consultation would also be dependent on funding to undertake Section 106 consultation, design work for proposed activities, and/or disposal of the properties. The Section 106 consultation and execution of the agreement document would be completed prior to the commencement of any construction or demolition activities. As part of the Section 106 consultation process the Corps would notify the ACHP of the undertaking and any work which affects National Register eligible properties. We have no opposition to this approach. However, we strongly encourage the Corps to plan for an adequate period of time to complete the Section 106 process, allowing for meaningful consultation with our office and other consulting parties in development of the Memorandum of Agreement.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. We look forward to working with you further. If you have any questions regarding these comments, please contact Jill Howe or Kary Stackelbeck of my staff at 502-564-7005, ext. 121 or 115, respectively.

Sincerely,



Craig A. Potts
Executive Director and
State Historic Preservation Officer

Cc: George Crothers
CP:jh



United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
Mammoth Cave National Park
P.O. Box 7
Mammoth Cave, Kentucky 42259-0007

IN REPLY REFER TO:

L7617

March 21, 2014

Colonel Luke T. Leonard
Commanding Officer
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Louisville District
P.O. Box 59
Louisville, Kentucky 40201-0059

Dear Colonel Leonard:

Mammoth Cave National Park staff has reviewed the US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) draft "Green River Locks and Dams 3, 4, 5 and 6 and Barren River Lock and Dam 1 Disposition Feasibility Study, Kentucky and Environmental Assessment". The following comments are limited to the Lock and Dam No. 6 (LD6) and Lock and Dam No. 5 (LD5) sections of the study because the proposed action will directly affect Mammoth Cave National Park natural, cultural, and recreational resources as well as the daily operation of the park.

The National Park Service (NPS) continues to support the removal of LD6 as it has since 1951 when LD6 was decommissioned by the USACE. Mammoth Cave National Park (52,830 acres) is the primary land manager affected by decisions related to LD6 with more than 90 percent of the LD6 impoundment located within the park.

Mammoth Cave National Park was established in 1941 to protect the cave and surface resources of the area. It was designated by the United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organization as a World Heritage Site in 1981. In 1990, the park became the core area of an International Biosphere Reserve which extends into Barren, Butler, Edmonson, Hart, Metcalfe, and Warren counties in Kentucky. The Green River is designated as a Kentucky Wild River and Outstanding Resource Water.

The continued presence of LD6 is the single greatest unresolved ecosystem management issue at Mammoth Cave National Park. The current situation has tremendous direct adverse effects on resources and resource values within the park as defined in the NPS Organic Act of 1916 (16 USC 1); the NPS General Authorities Act of 1970, including amendments in 1978 (16 USC 1a-

1); and the 2006 NPS Management Policies available at www.nps.gov/policy/mp/policies.pdf (Section 1.4).

Overall, elimination of the LD6 impoundment would benefit park resources:

Ecological benefits

The suitable habitat would be increased for a number of federally threatened and endangered species, particularly mussels and a large number of state list species.

Mammoth Cave National Park contains an internationally important, if not unique, ecosystem that is impaired by the LD6 impoundment which extends underground into Mammoth Cave itself, altering habitat, producing sedimentation, and impairing geological processes. Elimination of the impoundment would provide for restoration of the ecosystem and improve its long-term sustainability. Removal of the impoundment would also result in benefits for research and understanding of the longest and most renowned cave system in the world.

The USACE study and environmental assessment states the removal of LD6 will add an additional 17 miles of natural, free-flowing stream to the Green River and seven miles to the Nolin River, when the impoundment is reduced. Park staff have noted a discrepancy on this point with the USACE study; it appears the removal of LD6 will add approximately six to eight miles of free-flowing river, because the LD5 impoundment extends upriver into the park to mile marker 192 on the Green River (approximately Boardcut Island), and up Nolin to near the tailwaters of the Nolin Dam. Although this zone of the Green and Nolin rivers will be lowered from a pool elevation of 421 to 412 feet, it should not be considered free-flowing because of the impoundment of LD5.

In order to fully restore 24 miles of free-flowing sections of the Green and Nolin rivers, the NPS strongly encourages the USACE to consider modifications to LD5 to reduce its impoundment area to approximately mile marker 182 on the Green River. The NPS requests USACE have discussions with the Edmonson County Water District concerning needed modifications to their water intake system if the LD5 modifications are implemented.

Recreational benefits

The NPS believes recreational opportunities will increase on both the Nolin and Green rivers with the removal of LD6 and the modification of LD5. In the last decade, the free-flowing section of the Green River inside the park (above the LD6 impoundment) has experienced a large increase in canoe and kayak use. The limiting factor for expanded use of the Green and Nolin rivers for additional recreational opportunities is the impoundment of LD6. If LD6 is removed and LD5 modified to reduce the extent of the impoundment area, an additional 24 miles of river would be available for recreational use by the public.

The NPS Rivers, Trails and Conservation Assistance Program is currently working with the Barren River Area Development District as the lead partner on a Blueway Water Trail planning process for the Green River. The proposed Green River Blueway Water Trail is envisioned to include more than 300 miles of the river corridor, from the dam in Taylor County to the Ohio

River. The water trail planning process will include a wide array of Federal, State and local stakeholders. There are sixteen counties and ten cities along the river that will be included in the water trail planning. The Blueway process will plan for portages around any standing dams. However, the removal of LD6 will greatly enhance the paddling opportunities by providing a more appealing and safer boating experience on the river.

The NPS requests and recommends further investigation and consultation regarding the following issues:

The continued operation of the Green River Ferry is essential for park visitors, operations, and emergency services. The Green River Ferry is also an important transportation corridor for local communities. Since the original USACE dam disposition study in 2004, Mammoth Cave National Park has completed an environmental assessment that specifically addresses continued operation of the Green River Ferry during periods of low river levels. Specific park plans for improvements at the Green River Ferry can be found at www.nps.gov/macapa/parkmgmt/upload/GreenRiverCrossing_FONSI_Final_11-23-2011.pdf. Improvement plans to the Green River Ferry location, tentatively proposed for fiscal year 2018, remain subject to funding authorization. It is essential that improvements to the Green River Ferry location be completed before the removal of LD6 to insure continuity of ferry operation and essential services in the park. The NPS recommends that any dredging activity proposed by the USACE at the Green River Ferry be removed from consideration due to the adverse effects on threatened and endangered mussel species. The NPS also requests further discussion and consultation with the USACE regarding the Green River Ferry and proposed alterations at the Houchin Ferry to serve the interests of the park, park visitors, and local communities. The NPS strongly supports the conclusions and recommendations of the June 1999, US Fish and Wildlife Service's "Coordination Act Report for the Green and Barren Rivers Disposition Study" found in Appendix G of the USACE study. The NPS requests further consultation with the USACE and the US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) prior to the implementation of any actions associated with this proposed project.

The NPS requests the USACE preparation of a Biological Assessment regarding the threatened and endangered Kentucky cave shrimp (*Palaemonias ganteri*) endemic to the Mammoth Cave region. The Kentucky cave shrimp has not been assessed in more than 30 years and the NPS requests additional study to minimize impacts to the species from the proposed project.

The NPS strongly supports the USACE preparing a Biological Assessment in consultation with the USFWS regarding potential impacts to threatened and endangered mussels, applying measures to minimize impacts to these species. We also support the proposed mussel investigation in the proposed project area in consultation with the USFWS.

The NPS strongly recommends the USACE develop a Memorandum of Agreement with the Kentucky State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO). The NPS requests the USACE have further consultation with the Kentucky SHPO concerning potential exposure of historic structures and/or objects in the existing impoundment area of LD6 within the park. There are multiple historic ferry landing sites and other infrastructure that have not been evaluated because they are submerged in the impoundment of LD6. There is also the potential to expose historic

infrastructure and cultural artifacts that have been submerged inside park cave passageways for more than 100 years; they will need to be evaluated after the impoundment has been mitigated.

The USACE maintains a Green River gaging station at LD6, providing stage, discharge, temperature, and precipitation data. Future use and operation of the gaging station are not addressed in the USACE study. Stage, discharge, and water temperature information will be critical for restoration of the Green and Nolin rivers as they return to their natural, free-flowing conditions. The NPS proposes consultation with the USACE and the USGS to discuss operation or relocation of the existing LD6 Green River gaging station.

The NPS provides the following updated information regarding the status of park resources:

On July 26, 2013, the USFWS designated a 95-mile section of the Green River in Edmonson, Hart, and Green counties of Kentucky as critical habitat for the threatened and endangered Diamond Darter (*Crystallaria cincotta*). The lower extent of the Diamond Darter critical habitat on the Green River is located at the upper reach of the impoundment of LD6.

In Appendix D pages 21-22 Section 3.6 Air Quality section the USACE notes limited air quality information for the project area. Mammoth Cave National Park is designated a Class I area under the Clean Air Act, as amended in 1977, and 1990, and is the only Class I area in the Commonwealth of Kentucky. The Class I status provides the park with the most stringent protection from air quality impairment. The park has an extensive air quality monitoring program measuring: hourly concentrations of ozone; sulfur dioxide; carbon monoxide; nitric oxide; and total oxides of nitrogen; one in three day speciated fine particulate matter less than 2.5 microns measurements; one in three day coarse particulate matter less than 10 microns measurements; weekly composite mercury concentration and deposition measurements; weekly speciated composite acid concentration and deposition measurements; weekly speciated composite dry fine particle deposition measurements; 15-minute visibility measurements by particle scattering coefficient and 15-minute near-real time high resolution images of the Green River and Green River valley; and hourly meteorology. Data collected from the park air quality station undergoes extensive quality assurance and quality control procedures including routine performance audits by the Commonwealth of Kentucky and the US Environmental Protection Agency.

Bald eagles are present in the park, contrary to statements in Appendix E: Environmental Baseline Survey, page G6-13, “Wintering populations of federally threatened bald eagles (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*) have been observed, and nesting pairs have been confirmed in areas to the west. Such nesting pairs will probably inhabit the project area in the future as the species continues to expand its range”. The park has been monitoring a nesting pair of bald eagles at a location between the project area and Green River Ferry for the past three years.

In Appendix D page 49 the USACE report states, “Latent seed banks would be exposed as the water level drops after dam removal. Native plants, including sycamore, cottonwood, water maple, box elder, and willow trees, would soon begin to grow on the newly exposed riverbanks, likely increasing wetland habitat.” The NPS notes there is a high potential for invasive species to initially propagate the exposed stream banks following the removal of LD6.

In Appendix D page 9 the USACE states “Several canoe liveries operate in this area, as well as a concessionaire tour boat operator.” The Miss Green River II concessionaire tour boat operation discontinued service in approximately 2007. The tour boat has been removed from the river and the dock infrastructure has been removed from the landscape. The NPS does not plan to resume the tour boat concession operation in the park.

The NPS requests discussion with the USACE regarding the potential of transfer of property:

The NPS is interested in obtaining Parcel A consisting of 18 acres on the lock side of LD6. The NPS requests further discussions with the USACE concerning the property and associated infrastructure, including the adjoining lock chamber. The NPS also recommends the USACE demolish the lock chamber prior to the transfer of Parcel A to the NPS.

The NPS is interested in obtaining Parcel B consisting of 0.83 acres on the left bank of the Green River, along with its right of egress to the NPS. Portions of Parcel B and C consisting of 6.22 acres were previously transferred to the NPS on September 2, 1988. In addition, during the demolition of LD6, the NPS requests the USACE consider the removal of the abutment and associated infrastructure on the left bank of the Green River adjacent to the 0.83 acre tract. The NPS noted in Appendix E page G6-9 the existence of a two-inch diameter pipe resembling a fill pipe discovered on the 0.83 acre tract during a field investigation. The NPS requests mitigation of the pipe and potential underground storage tank during demolition of LD6. Further consultation with the USACE is requested prior to any proposed transfer of property for discussion of existing infrastructure associated with the property and right of egress.

If you have questions concerning these comments, please contact Bobby Carson, Chief, Science and Resources Management Division, at 270-758-2136 or by email at bob_carson@nps.gov.

Sincerely,



Sarah Craighead
Superintendent

City of Brownsville

P. O. Box 238
Brownsville, KY 42210-0238



March 17, 2014

Nathan A. Moulder, CELLRL-PM-P-F
United State Army Corps of Engineers
P.O. Box 59
Louisville, Kentucky 40201-0059

Dear Mr. Moulder:

I am writing in regard to Green River Locks and Dams 3, 4, 5, and 6 and Barren River Lock and Dam 1. As Mayor of Brownsville, the plan for the Green River Locks and Dams 5 and 6 is of concern to me.

In regard to Green River Lock and Dam 5, I commend the Corps on the recommendation of Alternative 2 to dispose without altering structures. As noted in the report, Lock and Dam 5 creates the pool of water on which Edmonson County Water District's intakes are located. These intakes supply water to Edmonson County and several surrounding counties and are very important for that reason. As you noted in the report, removal of this dam could create a number of issues with those water intakes. The City of Brownsville purchases their water from the Edmonson County Water District.

Regarding Green River Lock and Dam 6, you have recommended Alternative 3, which is removal of the dam, filling the lock, and stabilizing it. However, I do not personally support this alternative and would urge you to look into Alternative No. 4.

The largest concern of the local community is ferry service within the national park. Your report also notes that if your recommended plan were accepted, an additional \$771,884.00 would have to be expended to keep Houchins ferry operational and an additional \$211,995.00 would have to be expended to keep Green River ferry operational. Having personally been an Emergency Medical Technician with the local ambulance service, previously in my life, and helped provide medical services to residents of this area, many people would have longer commutes to the closest hospital without ferry service. These ferries are extremely important for transportation in northern Edmonson County.

Too, when Mammoth Cave National Park was established, transportation through those routes was guaranteed to Edmonson County and its citizens. I understand that the National Park service supports the efforts to remove this Dam due to the effects on the biodiversity of the river, however, the effect on the

City of Brownsville

P. O. Box 238
Brownsville, KY 42210-0238



citizens of Northern Edmonson County from a transportation perspective should strongly be taken in account. Locals also worry about sediment currently trapped by the lock and dam being released under your recommended alternative. The fear is this could cause problems with the water intakes in Edmonson County.

I appreciate your time and attention to this matter and would first and foremost ask that you consider leaving both Locks and Dams 5 and 6. I would also encourage you to make the needed modification at Lock 6 to stabilize the facility. Thank you for your understanding and assistance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jerry Meredith". The signature is fluid and cursive, written over a faint, larger version of the same signature.

Jerry L. Meredith
Mayor of Brownsville, Kentucky

Edmonson County Tourism Commission
P.O. Box 628
Brownsville, KY 42210

March 17, 2014

Nathan A. Moulder, CELLRL-PM-P-F
United State Army Corps of Engineers
P.O. Box 59
Louisville, Kentucky 40201-0059

Dear Mr. Moulder:

I am writing in regard to Green River Locks and Dams 3, 4, 5, and 6 and Barren River Lock and Dam 1. Being Tourism Director for Edmonson County, the plan for Green River Locks and Dams 5 and 6 is of concern to me.

In regard to Green River Lock and Dam 5, I commend the Corps on the recommendation of Alternative 2 to dispose without altering structures. As noted in the report, Lock and Dam 5 creates the pool of water on which Edmonson County Water District's intakes are located. These intakes supply water to Edmonson County and several surrounding counties and are very important for that reason. As you noted in the report, removal of this dam could create a number of issues with those water intakes..

Regarding Green River Lock and Dam 6, you have recommended Alternative 3, which is removal of the dam, filling the lock, and stabilizing it. However, I do not personally support this alternative and would urge you to look into Alternative No. 4. The largest concern of the local community is ferry service within the national park. Your report also notes that if your recommended plan were accepted, an additional \$771,884.00 would have to be expended to keep Houchins ferry operational and an additional \$211,995.00 would have to be expended to keep Green River ferry operational. These ferries are extremely important for transportation in northern Edmonson County.

While there is the hope that the removal of the locks could bring more different types of water recreation to the area the loss of the ferries could also mean the risk of losing tourist that use the ferry to travel from Mammoth Cave National Park to Nolin Lake State Park. How unique the ferries are is also a tourists point of interests too.

Too, when Mammoth Cave National Park was established, transportation through those routes was guaranteed to Edmonson County and its citizens. I understand that the National Park service supports the efforts to remove this Dam due to the effects on the biodiversity of the river, however, the effect on the citizens of Northern Edmonson County from a transportation perspective should strongly be taken in account. Locals also worry about sediment currently trapped by the lock and dam being released under your recommended alternative. The fear is this could cause problems with the water intakes in Edmonson County.

I appreciate your time and attention to this matter and would first and foremost ask that you consider leaving both Locks and Dams 5 and 6. I would also encourage you to make the needed modification at Lock 6 to stabilize the facility. Thank you for your understanding and assistance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rhonda Clemmons". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Rhonda Clemmons

Tourism Director for Edmonson County

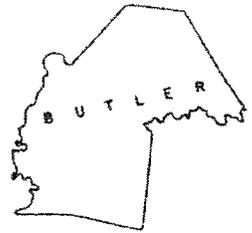
DAVID FIELDS

BUTLER COUNTY JUDGE EXECUTIVE

P.O. Box 626

MORGANTOWN, KY 42261

(270) 526-3433



March 21, 2014

Nathan Moulder
Project Manager
US Army Corp of Engineers
PO Box 59
Louisville, KY 40201-0059

Dear Nathan:

I am writing in support of the letter from the Rochester Dam Regional Water Commission, dated March 13, 2014. This Commission is made up of members from our region and from different entities.

In the past the RDRWC has met with the Army Corp of Engineers on the Rochester Dam Project and presented their concerns as well as their recommendations.

We fully support the efforts of this commission and its goals.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "David Fields". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name and title.

David Fields
Judge Executive

Commonwealth of Kentucky

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Michael Lee Meredith

P.O. Box 292
Brownsville, KY 42210
270-597-6049
State Message Line:
800-372-7181



State Capitol
Room 413, Capitol Annex
Frankfort, Kentucky 40601
(502) 564-8100 Ext. 719
Fax: (502) 564-5538
michael.meredith@lrc.ky.gov

19th Legislative District

March 17, 2014

Nathan A. Moulder, CELLRL-PM-P-F
United State Army Corps of Engineers
P.O. Box 59
Louisville, Kentucky 40201-0059

Dear Mr. Moulder:

I am writing in regard to Green River Locks and Dams 3, 4, 5, and 6 and Barren River Lock and Dam 1. As State Representative of Edmonson County, the plan for Green River Locks and Dams 5 and 6 is particularly of interest.

In regard to Green River Lock and Dam 5, I commend the Corps on the recommendation of Alternative 2 to dispose without altering structures. As noted in the report, Lock and Dam 5 creates the pool of water on which Edmonson County Water District's intakes are located. These intakes supply water to Edmonson County and several surrounding counties and are very important for that reason. As you noted in the report, removal of this dam could create a number of issues with those water intakes.

Regarding Green River Lock and Dam 6, you have recommended Alternative 3, which is removal of the dam, filling the lock, and stabilizing it. However, I do not personally support this alternative and would urge you to look into Alternative No. 4. As noted in your report, the Dam has some stability issues and according to your cost estimates on construction to stabilize the Dam under Alternative 4, it would cost \$3,308,300; whereas demolition of the dam under Alternative 3 would be \$7,921,810.00.

The largest concern of the local community is ferry service within the national park. Your report also notes that if your recommended plan were accepted, an additional \$771,884.00 would have to be expended to keep Houchins ferry operational and an additional \$211,995.00 would have to be expended to keep Green River ferry operational. These ferries are extremely important for transportation in northern Edmonson County. Also, when Mammoth Cave National Park was established, transportation through those routes was guaranteed to Edmonson County and its citizens. I understand that the National Park Service supports the efforts to remove this Dam due to the effects on the biodiversity of the river, however, the effect on the citizens of Northern Edmonson County from a transportation perspective should strongly be taken in account. Locals also worry about sediment currently trapped by the lock and

Mr. Nathan Moulder

Page 2

March 17, 20145

dam being released under your recommended alternative. The fear is this could cause problems with the water intakes in Edmonson County.

I appreciate your time and attention to this matter and would first and foremost ask that you consider leaving both Locks and Dams 5 and 6. I would also encourage you to make the needed modification at Lock 6 to stabilize the facility. Thank you for your understanding and assistance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'MLM', written in a cursive style.

Michael Lee Meredith
State Representative

MLM:bjs



March 17, 2014

Mr. Nathan A. Moulder, CELRL-PM-P-F
Louisville District, US Army Corps of Engineers
Via email Nathan.A.Moulder@usace.army.mil

Dear Mr. Moulder:

Thank you for the opportunity to submit comments on the Green River Locks and Dams 3, 4, 5 and 6 and Barren River Lock and Dam 1 Disposition Feasibility Study, Kentucky, dated February 2014. (<http://www.lrl.usace.army.mil/Portals/64/docs/CWProjects/Green%20and%20Barren%20dispo/Main%20Report.pdf>). American Rivers is pleased to submit the following comments on this document:

1. American Rivers supports the disposition of obsolete infrastructure, and congratulates the Louisville District on undertaking this study.
2. The Louisville District recognizes and has promoted to local water purveyors that the District is under no obligation to maintain the dams to provide water supply, since it was never an authorized purpose for the dams. However, the District has not provided sufficient review of “river-friendly” water intakes in the evaluation of alternatives. Consideration of such water supply options could aid in the overall acceptability of the District’s study to local water purveyors.
3. The Alternatives evaluated in this study do not sufficiently consider the need for Aquatic Organism Passage and canoe/kayak access at dams that will be disposed but not physically removed. Iconic resident riverine and ESA species would measurably benefit from habitat connectivity, a critical ecological need that is not addressed in the study. In addition, safety considerations evaluated in the study do not consider portage for paddling. Alternatives for the disposition of dams should address AOP and paddling access, ideally through the physical removal of dams, or alternatively through the addition of nature-like fish passage and boat portage.
4. The study does not adequately address the shift in recreational opportunities that would be available if the dams evaluated in the study were removed. The opportunity for water trail creation in this area of the country could result in significant eco-tourism and recreational benefits, provided that sufficient lengths of barrier-free river are available and accessible for paddling.

Please add me to the distribution list for responses to comments and future revisions of this study.

Sincerely,

Lisa Hollingsworth-Segedy, AICP
Associate Director for River Restoration
American Rivers



Butler County
Water System

March 17, 2014

Mr. Nathan Moulder
Project Manager
US Army Corps of Engineers
PO Box 59
Louisville, KY 40201-0059

**Re: Green River Locks & Dams 3, 4, 5, 6; Barren River Lock & Dam 1
Disposition Feasibility Study Comments**

Dear Mr. Moulder:

The Butler County Water System, Inc., (Butler Water) appreciates this opportunity to comment on the updated Green River Locks and Dams 3,4,5,6; Barren River Lock and Dam 1 Disposition Feasibility Study. As you are aware, the pool of Green River Lock and Dam No. 3 provides our only water source for providing healthy, safe drinking water to citizens we serve in Butler, Muhlenberg, Ohio, and Grayson Counties.

Butler Water is concerned with the lowering of the pool level associated with the gradual degradation of the lock and dam. As a founding member of the Rochester Dam Regional Water Commission (RDRWC), Butler Water fully supports the mission of the RDRWC to preserve the integrity of Lock and Dam No. 3 and to prevent further degradation of the pool level that is our vital source of water for the region. We therefore request that disposition of Green River Lock and Dam No. 3 be expedited with the RDRWC receiving all necessary rights and authority to stabilize and maintain the lock and dam to insure an adequate water supply for over 46,000 people in our region.

Thank you again for your efforts on this important project. If you have any questions regarding our concerns or have updates to the Disposition Feasibility Study, please contact me directly at (270)495-3491.

Sincerely,

John M. Dix, P.E.
General Manager

*Delivering quality
& commitment
in every drop!*

523 US HWY 31-W Bypass • P.O. Box 10180 • Bowling Green, KY 42102-4780 • 270-842-0052 • butlerwater.com
104 S. Tyler Street • Suite B • P.O. Box 1488 • Morgantown, KY 42261 • 270-526-4656

EQUAL OPPORTUNITY PROVIDER AND EMPLOYER

VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL

March 17, 2014

ATTN: Mr. Nathan Moulder, CELRL-PM-P-F
Nathan.A.Moulder@usace.army.mil
Louisville District, Army Corps of Engineers
P.O. Box 59
Louisville, KY 40201-0059

RE: Green and Barren River Lock & Dam Disposition Feasibility Study

Dear Mr. Moulder,

Please accept the following comments on behalf of the Kentucky Waterways Alliance, Inc. ("KWA", "the Alliance") regarding the Green River Locks and Dams 3, 4, 5; 6; Barren River Lock and Dam 1 Disposition Feasibility Study.

KWA is a statewide nonprofit organization dedicated to protecting and restoring the waters of the Commonwealth. KWA represents over 900 members and affiliate organizations united to insure high quality water resources in Kentucky for diverse recreational activities such as swimming, boating, and fishing as well as reliable drinking water supplies and biological habitat.

KWA's comments are on behalf of our members and citizens of the Commonwealth who value our waterways for their recreational and ecological value and for their value as a public water source. As such, our comments are focus on alternatives and strategies that provide the best outcomes for both the waterways and the communities that depend upon them.

The Green River is widely recognized as one of the more biologically diverse aquatic communities in the country. It contains over 150 fish species and over 70 mussels. Many of the riffles in the undammed portion of the Green contain excellent mussel counts. The undammed portion also serves as an extremely valuable destination for river recreation enthusiasts. But the dammed portion has restricted fish and mussel species from moving freely up and down the Green to naturally repopulate. The removal of these unnatural impediments would allow additional habitat for threatened and endangered species in the Green River. These species evolved in a riverine system and not a "lake".

In addition, a number of communities along approximately 200 miles of the Green have expressed interest in furthering the eco-tourism opportunities for the Green by pushing for designation as a Blueways trail. The continued existence of these dams restricts not only fish and mussel species from moving freely up and down the river, but also prevents such recreational and eco-tourism opportunities from being fully realized. Additionally, the continued existence of these dams represents a safety hazard for river recreation enthusiasts. There have been multiple instances of canoers and/or kayakers getting caught in the current above dams and who have been unable to prevent going over a dam and into the tailwaters, which can be very dangerous.

As we understand it, the Corps considered four alternatives for each lock and dam in the study. These alternatives ranged from no action to disposal of the properties through partial or full breaching and removal of the dams to safety and access measures. Generally, KWA would prefer Alternative 3, or the breaching and removal of all dams and filling of lock chambers in the study, but we understand the factors involved may not allow for the Corps to take such action. KWA also is disappointed that additional alternatives were not considered, such as ones that would allow for fish and mussel passage, or modified alternatives that would allow for drinking water access and partial dam removal. As such, we have the following suggestions for each lock and dam considered.

Green River Lock and Dam 3

KWA understands that this facility has been closed since 1981, and has not been repaired since 1966. There are five water intakes that utilize the pool from this Lock and Dam, and the study suggested “these intakes would not function if the dam were removed.” The study also suggested that replacement of these intakes with wells is not a viable option. The study recommends alternatives 2 and 4, which would allow the lock and dam to remain, while ensuring stability and preventing access through construction of barricades. Local officials have even taken steps to acquire the property, on the basis of the water supply concerns.

KWA understands the issue of water supply. Communities have a right to access clean water sources, and KWA strongly supports the ability of these communities to maintain the Green River as their water source. However, there have been examples of lock and dam removals that included retrofitting of the water intakes to meet low or shallow-water conditions. Many communities upstream use the freely flowing Green River as a water supply. There is plenty of water in the Green for all of these communities. Furthermore, eventually, the lock and dams on the Green will fail, and will need to be removed. Communities and industry will suddenly be forced to confront their intake issue. Instead of this likely scenario playing out, **KWA suggests the Corps facilitate discussions with local entities about shallow-water intake retrofits now, and fully implement alternative 3.** We believe that investing in these retrofits will fit within the long-term needs of these communities, and will also allow for the Green to be moved ever closer to a free-flowing waterway.

Green River Lock and Dam 4

KWA understands that the dam at this site failed previously, and therefore dam removal is not necessary because the remaining parts do not affect pool level. The Corps prefers alternative 2, which would prevent access through construction of barricades, and would also allow for “historical interpretation.” **KWA is amenable to this alternative, as long as the facilities are safe and the remaining dam structure does not restrict recreational opportunities on the Green River and does not hinder aquatic and ecologic functions.**

Green River Lock and Dam 5

KWA understands the dam at this site is currently stable and good condition, because it is more modern than several of the others. Additionally, this pool contains three water intakes, and replacement of these intakes with wells is not a viable option. The Corps prefers alternative 2,

which would prevent access through construction of barricades. The Corps hopes to transfer ownership to local control.

Again, KWA understands the issue of water supply. Communities have a right to access clean water sources, and KWA strongly supports the ability of these communities to maintain the Green River as their water source. However, there have been examples of lock and dam removal projects that included retrofitting of the water intakes to meet low or shallow-water conditions. Furthermore, eventually, the lock and dams on the Green will fail, and will need to be removed. Communities and industry will suddenly be forced to confront their water intake issue. Instead of this likely scenario playing out, **KWA suggests the Corps facilitate discussions with local entities about shallow-water intake retrofits now and move to implement alternative 3.** We believe that investing in these retrofits will fit within the long-term needs of these communities, and will also allow for the Green to be moved ever closer to a free-flowing waterway. Finally, we believe the Corps would recommend alternative 3 for this site, if not for the water intakes, and that is a significant rationale why we believe the Corps should proceed here with alternative 3.

Green River Lock and Dam 6

KWA understands that the dam at this site is currently in poor condition, including seepage in several locations. The Corps suggests failure is likely, if nothing is done to stabilize or remove the dam. In addition, the pool for this site has affected the natural hydrology of Mammoth Cave for nearly 100 years, and dam removal would facilitate a return to more natural conditions for Mammoth Cave system. However, this lock and dam is complicated by the existence of the ferries in this pool. The Corps has recommended alternative 3 in order to sufficiently address the safety concerns of the dam, and even though they understand the concerns for the ferries continued operation. The National Park Service also supports this alternative. As the Corp notes in the study, the NPS suggested that “the suitable habitat for a number of federal threatened and endangered species and a large number of state list species would be increased...Elimination of the pool would provide for restoration of the ecosystem and improve its long-term sustainability.

KWA fully supports the Corps preference for alternative 3 on this site. Removal of the dam, given its hazardous condition, would increase safety on this stretch of the Green, particularly for recreational canoers and kayakers. This alternative would also allow for increased aquatic habitat and restoration opportunities for the Green. KWA would also be supportive of efforts to allow the ferry to continue operations, provided that they can sufficiently avoid impacts to sensitive aquatic species with the regular dredging operations that would be required.

Barren River Lock and Dam 1

KWA understands that Corps prefers a modified alternative 3 for this site. This would involve a partial breach of the dam that would allow passage of recreational canoe and kayak traffic, and reduce overall safety risks associated with the facility. However, the Corps appears to only recommend this option due to two limitations. First, the City of Bowling Green expressed concern about the loss of this pool and the desire to potentially use this as a future public water supply. Second, the Bowling Green Municipal Utilities suggested that the loss of the pool would adversely affect their ability to meet permit limits.

Multiple times in the study document, the Corps noted it is not their responsibility to ensure public drinking water access. KWA asserts that the Corps has no responsibility to provide Bowling Green with a *future* option of utilizing the pool for this dam as a public water supply. KWA also asserts that the Corps has no responsibility to ensure the municipal treatment center can sufficiently treat and discharge its wastewater at levels that meet permit limits. Even more significant is that these two statements by city and the municipal utility are somewhat contradictory. Using this pool of water as a public water supply, while also admitting that the water treatment facility discharges levels of pollutants into that pool that are just barely allowing them to meet permit limits, seem highly conflicting. If the water is not clean enough to be used as a public water supply, then it seems the water treatment center needs to upgrade their treatment train.

KWA suggests that the Corps should implement the full alternative 3 for this facility. Doing so would allow for increase recreational opportunities and would allow for increased aquatic habitat and ecologic restoration opportunities for the Barren River.

In summary, KWA suggests in order of importance, Green River L&D 6, 5, and 3, as well as Barren River L&D 1, should utilize alternative 3, and that alternative 2 is acceptable for Green River L&D 4. The aquatic, ecologic, and recreation value that would be provided by the removal of these dams is substantially more important than the continued expense to maintain these facilities for the public water supply intakes. Further, the dams will, at some point, fail or require substantial investment to be maintained, and therefore represent an ongoing safety hazard. KWA suggests that a decision focused on both the long-term sustainability of the Green River and the long-term sustainability of the communities and industry that depend upon the Green River would certainly result in the implementation of alternative 3, at all sites except the already-breached L&D 4. The Corps should facilitate discussions with existing water intake operators regarding retrofit options that would facilitate the removal of the dams. KWA recommends contacting American Rivers, who has worked across the country advocating for and facilitating dam removal and restoration of rivers. In addition, KWA recommends contacting Laura Wildman (lwildman@princetonhydro.com) of Princeton Hydro, who has expertise in river friendly water intakes.

KWA thanks the Corps for putting the time and effort in to study the disposition of these locks and dams, and appreciates the opportunity to comment on behalf of our members and the general public. Please, contact me with any questions.

Respectfully,



Tim Joice
Water Policy Director

Mr. Nathan A. Moulder
Community Planner
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Louisville District
600 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Place
Louisville, KY 40202

March 12, 2014

RE: Response to February 2014 Disposition Feasibility Study

Dear Mr. Moulder,

The Nature Conservancy has carefully reviewed the ***Green River Locks and Dams 3, 4, 5 and 6 and Barren River Lock and Dam 1 Disposition Feasibility Study*** that was completed in February 2014. Thank you for providing us with an opportunity to provide our comments. We have organized our comments on a structure by structure basis:

Green River Lock and Dam 3

With regard to the proposed disposition for Green River Lock and Dam 3, The Nature Conservancy believes further analysis must be completed before a disposition recommendation is given. We would be inclined to recommend disposition alternative 3 (removal or breaching), as we believe the USACE would also be inclined to do for this structure, were it not for concerns about existing municipal water intakes in the pool above Lock and Dam 3. The Study indicates that "removal of the dam is not recommended" because "local communities have come to depend on the pool impounded by the dam for their water supply."

There are more innovative solutions to this quandary available which should be given full consideration. These solutions may satisfy and properly balance both the conservation interests of restoring more free-flowing river miles along with the municipal water supply interests. Innovative designs for (shallow water) municipal water supply intake structures already exist. To provide some context and material for consideration, the links below provide some introductory information concerning innovative intake designs, as well as innovative methods to replace certain ecosystem services that may be affected by the loss of a low head dam:

[Replacing Dam Functions When Removing a Dam](http://scholarworks.umass.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1070&context=fishpassage_conference)

http://scholarworks.umass.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1070&context=fishpassage_conference

[Conceptual Design For Shallow Water Intake \(Potomac River\)](http://www.loudounwater.org/uploadedFiles/TM9_Conceptual_Design_Development.pdf)

http://www.loudounwater.org/uploadedFiles/TM9_Conceptual_Design_Development.pdf

We believe that (eventual) removal of Green River Lock and Dam 3 need not be perceived as a negative outcome for the local communities, including those communities being supplied with water from the Lock and Dam 3 pool. Were this structure to be removed or significantly breached, the eco-tourism and outdoor adventure potential for the Green River in this region would be greatly enhanced. Canoes,

kayakers, fishermen, and other outdoor enthusiasts would be able to enjoy this stretch of river as never before. A current effort to create a 300 miles long recreational “blueway” for the Green River would be supported by removal or breaching of this structure and local communities could benefit from no longer having a large, hazardous structure in the river at this location that recreational river users would have to portage around. Further, if further analysis determines that alterations to existing water intakes and/or other design modifications to replace pool functions are indeed viable, those solutions may end up being better long term options for the local communities as opposed to taking on ownership of a large, aging lock and dam that may need extensive repair work in the very near future, and ongoing ownership and maintenance costs for the expected life of that structure, in addition to the significant liability exposure that is necessarily a part of owning and maintaining such a structure.

In short, The Nature Conservancy believes that further investigation and analysis into the technologies that are available to replace dam functions is required before a disposition for this structure is recommended.

Green River Lock and Dam 4

The Nature Conservancy agrees with the disposition for this structure as recommended within the Study.

Green River Lock and Dam 5

With regard to the proposed disposition for Green River Lock and Dam 5, The Nature Conservancy believes further analysis must be completed before a disposition recommendation is given. We would be inclined to recommend disposition alternative 3 (removal or breaching), as we believe the USACE would also be inclined to do for this structure, were it not for concerns about existing municipal water intakes in the pool above Lock and Dam 5. The Study indicates that “removal of the dam is not recommended” because “local communities have come to depend on the pool impounded by the dam for their water supply.”

We believe that a more innovative solution to this quandary may be available, a solution that may satisfy and properly balance both the conservation interests of restoring more free-flowing river miles along with the municipal water supply interests. Innovative designs for (shallow water) municipal water supply intake structures already exist. To provide some context and material for consideration, the links below provide some introductory information concerning innovative intake designs, as well as innovative methods to replace certain ecosystem services that may be affected by the loss of a low head dam:

[Replacing Dam Functions When Removing a Dam](http://scholarworks.umass.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1070&context=fishpassage_conference)

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[Conceptual Design For Shallow Water Intake \(Potomac River\)](http://www.loudounwater.org/uploadedFiles/TM9_Conceptual_Design_Development.pdf)

http://www.loudounwater.org/uploadedFiles/TM9_Conceptual_Design_Development.pdf

We believe that (eventual) removal of Green River Lock and Dam 5 need not be perceived as a negative outcome for the local communities, including those communities being supplied with water from the Lock and Dam 5 pool. Were this structure to be removed or significantly breached, the eco-tourism and outdoor adventure potential for the Green River in this region would be greatly enhanced. Canoers, kayakers, fishermen, and other outdoor enthusiasts would be able to enjoy this stretch of river as never

before. A current effort to create a 300 miles long recreational “blueway” for the Green River would be supported by removal or breaching of this structure and local communities could benefit from no longer having a large, hazardous structure in the river at this location that recreational river users would have to portage around. Further, if further analysis determines that alterations to existing water intakes and/or other design modifications to replace pool functions are indeed viable, those solutions may end up being better long term options for the local communities as opposed to taking on ownership of a large, aging lock and dam that may need extensive repair work in the very near future, and ongoing ownership and maintenance costs for the expected life of that structure, in addition to the significant liability exposure that is necessarily a part of owning and maintaining such a structure.

In short, The Nature Conservancy believes that further investigation and analysis into the technologies that are available to replace dam functions is required before a disposition for this structure is recommended.

Green River Lock and Dam 6

With regard to the proposed disposition for Green River Lock and Dam 6, The Nature Conservancy fully agrees with the recommendations outlined in the report calling for a federally-funded removal of the dam, in association with the modifications that would be required to keep the two river ferry locations in an operational condition. We believe this is a critically important step forward in returning the Green River to a more natural condition which will be more conducive to the recovery of a number of a listed aquatic species, including several species of freshwater mussels. The exceptionally unique ecosystems within Mammoth Cave National Park would also benefit from the removal of Green River Lock and Dam 6, as has already been noted by the Mammoth Cave staff and management.

Barren River Lock and Dam 1

With regard to the proposed disposition for Barren River Lock and Dam 1, The Nature Conservancy disagrees with the recommended disposition. We believe disposition alternative 3 is more appropriate, which would include removal or breaching the dam in association with other measures to ensure the structural integrity and safety of the lock. The Study indicates that the Corp’s first inclination for this site’s disposition would have been a variation of Alternative 3, which would have included constructing a 135’ wide breach in the dam which would provide for safe recreational canoe and kayak traffic through the breach area. As noted by the Study, this structure does **not** provide a pool that is utilized for municipal water usage, and the Study states that “the public water supply would not be threatened by lowering the pool.” For the reasons outlined above, we would fully support this alternative 3 dam breach disposition.

However, the Study goes on to say that the Warren County Judge Executive informed the USACE that “while the City of Bowling Green does not have a water intake in the pool formed by the dam at Barren River Lock and Dam No. 1, Bowling Green and Warren County regard the pool as a potential source of water.” It is our contention that this is not an acceptable reason to expect that the Barren River Lock and Dam 1 be kept in place for perpetuity. As has already been stated on page 18 of the Study:

The locks and dams were built for the sole purpose of facilitating navigation, and providing water for water supply is not an authorized purpose of these projects.

We understand where this may be more of a concern in areas where communities have already been reliant for years, even decades, on the pool created by such a structure. But in this case the need is being presented as a future need...which in our view means that now is the time to explore other water

supply and conservation options other than increasing water supply reliance on an aging, potentially dangerous structure that was never intended to fulfill water supply needs in the first place.

The Nature Conservancy believes that the City of Bowling Green and Warren County should consider a suite of water-conservation practices and policies that may reduce the overall water demands of the community. Many other communities around the country located in regions where water supply has always been an issue have formidable public-outreach campaigns to inform and educate the populace about common-sense water conservation measures.

As part of our own process to craft our response to this Study, we visited the Bowling Green Municipal Utility (BGMU) website to look at the water conservation information that BGMU might already be making available to their customers. To our surprise, we found virtually no information whatsoever regarding water conservation practices for consumers. The only such material was found on the “BGMU Kids” website where a handful of simple tips such as “Don’t leave water running; be sure to turn it off when you are finished” and “Keep a pitcher of water in the refrigerator” are presented to what one would presume to be an audience of children. We also called BGMU on February 28 and asked if there were any water conservation brochures or flyers which were available for the public to pick up so they could learn more about water conservation. The operator did not know the answer to this question, and referred us to “Kathy” in Marketing. We left a voice message for Kathy asking for the same information and to-date, have not received a return call. We also sent an email to Tim Slattery with the City of Bowling Green and Doug Kimbler with BGMU asking what kind of water conservation outreach/education program they have in place. Mr. Slattery responded by saying that *“The City has had a public outreach program for 10.5 years, but we have never really focused on conservation, our aim was to get people to do things to improve water quality (pick up after your pet, don’t dump oil, grease paint...) But conservation is something I will include in future publications.”* Mr. Kimbler responded by saying that *“BGMU includes water conservation as part of our outreach to the public. This includes information provided on tours and presented to various public groups including schools. Our Customer Service group has brochures available, I don’t have any available electronically.”*

There are many communities and water utilities in water-strapped locations around the country that put significant resources into their water conservation outreach and education programs. We believe that BGMU and local governments should increase their efforts in this regard to help encourage active, voluntary water conservation within the community. Each gallon of water thus conserved represents a gallon of water that does not have to be drawn from the finite waters of the Barren River.

Another conservation approach (other than outreach) that we wish to address is the use of an inclining water rate schedule to encourage water conservation, and to discourage excessive water consumption. We have attached a copy of a document produced by the Southwest Florida Water Management District (SWFMD) that addresses how a water utility can reduce per capita water use and maintain revenues by using a an Inclining Block Rate fee structure. Essentially, this method of billing for water sets a lower price for the first “set” amount of water that a customer will use. As the water usage of the customer increases, the rate for that water goes higher as certain volume thresholds are exceeded. So for example a customer might pay \$4 for their first thousand gallons of water...but then pay \$5 each for the second, third, and fourth thousand gallons of water...then \$6 each for the fifth and sixth thousand gallons of water, etc. SWFMD conducted a study that shows that “water use decreases with increases in water price” and that “the decreases are predictable and statistically valid.” *Bear in mind these*

conservation benefits come from the use of an inclining rate structure, where the cost paid for water increases with usage.

We evaluated the current water billing rate structure for BGMU. To our surprise, we discovered that BGMU actually uses a declining rate structure, where a customer pays a decreasing amount per gallon of water as the water usage of the customer increases! This is the most recent rate schedule we could obtain for BGMU water rates:

During the period July 1, 2012 through June 30, 2013, the basic rates shall be:

	Water Rate		Sewer Rate	
	Inside City	Outside City	Inside City	Outside City
Customer Charge:	\$3.20	\$4.48	\$3.02	\$4.23
Volume charge (per ccf/month):				
First 20 ccf	\$2.54	\$3.56	\$3.17	\$4.44
Next 230 ccf	\$2.36	\$3.30	\$3.17	\$4.44
Over 250 ccf	\$2.03	\$2.84	\$3.17	\$4.44

"ccf" means hundred cubic feet, or 748 gallons

The declining rate schedule above runs contrary to the inclining rate schedules that have been extensively studied and adopted by water utility operations in other locales where scarcity of water is even more of a concern than in south central Kentucky. We asked about their current rate structure, Mr. Kimbler with BGMU stated *"We do use a declining rate schedule at this time. In the past, this structure had several levels, or tiers. This has been compacted at this time to three tiers. This may change in the future."*

Another quote from this Feasibility Study indicates that the USACE "also had contact with Bowling Green Municipal Utilities during the 2004 Study" and that "their concern is that the loss of the pool would adversely affect the city's ability to meet pollution control requirements." We believe that situation may have changed for the better since 2004, perhaps due to the award-winning advancements that have been made with regard to the BGMU wastewater operations. At a Green River Summit meeting on February 21, 2014, Mike Hensley (TNC's Green River Project Director) had an informal conversation with the aforementioned Mr. Kimbler about the presence of Barren River Lock and Dam 1, and what it might mean for the utility if that structure were no longer there. Mr. Kimbler stated to Mr. Hensley that if the dam were no longer there, the fact that the currently-existing pool would be replaced with swifter, free-flowing current would actually be a benefit to the current BGMU waste-water operations.

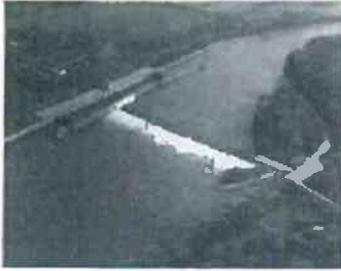
To conclude our comments regarding disposition of Barren River Lock and Dam 1, The Nature Conservancy believes there are significant steps that the City of Bowling Green, Warren County, and BGMU could take to encourage and reward water conservation in both the residential and commercial water consumer populations; we would be happy to work with BGMU and others in this regard. We would want to see such steps actively pursued by the local authorities before any effort might be undertaken to put a second water intake into the pool created by Barren River Lock and Dam 1. We believe the proper disposition for Barren River Lock and Dam 1 is the Alternative 3 variant which calls for a 135' breach to be constructed. Significant environmental benefits would be enjoyed as a result of opening up many miles of the Barren River to an original, free-flowing condition. In addition, recreational canoe and kayak enthusiasts would be able to enjoy this scenic stretch of river as never before.

In summary...we thank you for all of the hard work the USACE has put into this important Disposition Study, and for providing us with the opportunity to provide input. We also want to thank all of the communities and individuals who also shared generously of their own time and expertise to provide input for this Study...whether we happen to agree or disagree with sometimes differing perspectives! The Green River basin is home to an incredibly diverse group of stakeholders, and The Nature Conservancy will always be willing and ready to continue these discussions to share ideas, address concerns, and develop the best path forward.

Sincerely,

Michael S. Hensley
Green River Project Director
The Nature Conservancy
255 Sims Cemetery Road
Canmer, KY 42722

Attachment: Southwest Florida Water Management District Brochure



*Rochester Dam
Regional Water Commission
P.O. Box 207
124 E. Washington Street
Hartford, Ky 42347*

March 13, 2014

Mr. Nathan Moulder
Project Manager
US Army Corps of Engineers
PO Box 59
Louisville, KY 40201-0059

Dear Mr. Moulder:

The Rochester Dam Regional Water Commission (RDRWC) has reviewed the Green River Locks and Dams 3,4,5,6; Barren River Lock and Dam 1 Disposition Feasibility Study. As we expressed previously to Ms. Veronica Hiriems of your organization and as acknowledged in the study, the RDRWC is interested in leasing or acquiring rights to the Green River Lock and Dam No. 3.

The mission of the RDRWC is to ensure an adequate and dependable supply of water for the region which derives its water supply from Pool 3 of the Green River. This pool is the only water source for over 46,000 people and supports over 18,000 jobs in Butler, Muhlenberg, and Ohio counties. Due to the critical importance of providing safe, healthy drinking water to the region, the RDRWC requests that the US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) include the following as a part of the Disposition Feasibility Study:

1. Eliminate any alternative that would allow continued degradation or elimination of the dam or that would impede the ability to sustain Pool 3 at the original design pool elevation. The loss or lowering of Pool 3 would have significant and severe economic consequences to the region.
2. Expedite the repairs to the Lock to ensure human safety and prevention from failure. The RDRWC requests that we be included in the review and approval of all proposed repairs and safety measures to the Lock.
3. The RDRWC is concerned with the long-term stability of the Lock and Dam No. 3, and we request that the disposition process be accelerated by the best methods available.

Mr. Nathan Moulder
Page Two of Two
March 13, 2014

Thank you again for your efforts on this important project. We look forward to working with USACE to protect the Green River Lock and Dam No. 3 and to best serve the interests and welfare of the citizens in our region. If you have any questions regarding our concerns or have updates to the Disposition Feasibility Study, please contact John Dix at (270)842-0052.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Linda Keown".

Linda Keown, Chair
Rochester Dam Regional Water Commission

CC: Senator Mitch McConnell
Senator Rand Paul
Representative Brett Guthrie
Representative Ed Whitfield
Muhlenberg County Judge/Executive Rick Newman
Ohio County Judge/Executive David Johnston
Butler County Judge/Executive David Fields

From: [WDB / Square Deal](#)
To: [Moulder, Nathan A LRL](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Green River Lock and Dam #6
Date: Monday, March 17, 2014 1:26:29 PM

My wife and I live in Barren County, Kentucky just outside Park City. We have enjoyed the recreational benefits of Mammoth Cave National Park and the stretch of the Green River within the Park for many years. Removal of Lock and Dam #6 would be beneficial to MCNP users from a recreational perspective. But, far more importantly, removal of the lock and dam would start the process of reversing the effects the dam has had on the Mammoth Cave ecosystem. Mammoth Cave is a natural wonder and we need to be doing all that we can to preserve it in its natural state.

William D. Bucher

25921 Louisville Road

Park City, KY 42160

From: [Moulder, Nathan A LRL](#)
To: [Moulder, Nathan A LRL](#)
Subject: FW: [EXTERNAL] Louisville District Contact Form: removal of dams along green and barren rivers (UNCLASSIFIED)
Date: Tuesday, March 18, 2014 12:12:56 PM

Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Caveats: NONE

-----Original Message-----

From: noreply@dma.mil [<mailto:noreply@dma.mil>]
Sent: Monday, March 10, 2014 1:32 PM
To: LRL-Pagemaster-OP LRL; troyandjulia@bellsouth.net
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Louisville District Contact Form: removal of dams along green and barren rivers

This message was sent from the Louisville District website.

Message From: Troy Tabor
Email: troyandjulia@bellsouth.net
Response requested: Yes

Message:

I am opposed to the removal of dams along the Green and Barren Rivers in Kentucky. Aquatic life below the dams have adjusted to the dams and removing the dams may upset the current aquatic life systems that are currently in place. I have caught and released darters with cast nets down below the dams and believe them to be healthy in their current environment. The dams create some great fishing spots along the rivers and their removal would take away some of my most productive fishing locations. I talk to fishermen quite frequently along the rivers and no one that I have spoken to is in favor of removing the dams.

Although some kayaking companies may benefit on a very small scale, the local economy as a whole would not be improved enough to offset the costs of removing the dams.

I understand that the Corps has no regard for fishing in the Commonwealth's rivers or waterways, but the Corps should take into account aquatic life and environmental factors and how the removal of the dams could cause upset conditions along the waterways. If these dams are left in place, decades from now, they will most likely still be in place. Please concentrate your efforts and federal expenditures toward something more useful than tearing out dams.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment,

Troy Tabor

Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Caveats: NONE

Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Caveats: NONE

From: [Thomas Smith \(ConAgra Foods\)](#)
To: [Moulder, Nathan A LRL](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Green River Dam removal
Date: Monday, March 17, 2014 9:12:54 AM
Attachments: [image003.png](#)
[image004.jpg](#)

Mr. Moulder:

I am in favor of the removal. The best reasons are the return to free flowing status, for paddling and the biodiversity boost of moving water.

Thank you for this consideration.

Tom Smith

40242

cf-love-2clr-rgb-v.jpg

Tom Smith

One Quality Place

Buckner, KY 40010

502 222 2728
thomas.smith2@conagrafoods.com

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From: [Thomas Dotson, TDTools](#)
To: [Moulder, Nathan A LRL](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Comments for Disposition and Feasibility Study
Date: Monday, March 17, 2014 6:02:05 PM

Nathan,

I have a comment that I would like to have included for the Green River Locks and Dams 3, 4, 5 and 6 and Barren River Lock and Dam 1 Disposition Feasibility Study.

“We are currently conducting feasibility studies for the production of hydropower for lock and dam facilities on the Green and Barren River. We would like to know the impact of the study on our potential projects, specifically the following items:

1. How is a FERC preliminary permit impacted by the disposition report. For example, Green River #5 lock and dam facility currently has a preliminary permit from FERC, how will this permit impact decision making for the site?
2. Would a permit holder be given consideration for access to the facilities if they are suitable for power generation?

We would appreciate the opportunity to discuss with the appropriate personnel.

Regards,

Ben Smith and Thomas Dotson

Directors

Green Head Power”

Please let me know if this is sufficient for a comment.

Regards,

Thomas

Thomas Dotson

TD Tools

11850 Nashville Rd.

P.O. Box 130

Woodburn, KY 42170

270-368-0002 (office)

270-784-6922 (cell)

866-312-8430(fax)

tdotson@sandjetperf.com

www.sandjetperf.com

From: [Steve Murray](#)
To: [Moulder, Nathan A LRL](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Re: Green & Barren River Locks (Kentucky)
Date: Monday, March 10, 2014 9:48:29 PM

*Overstated, not understated.

On Mon, Mar 10, 2014 at 6:47 PM, Steve Murray <akastevemurray2@gmail.com> wrote:

I'm happy to see the disposition of these locks be brought up. The biosphere of the Green River is incredibly unique, and has seen enough damage over the past few centuries. I fully support and applaud any effort to renew this waterway by returning it to natural flow patterns over a large stretch of river.

While my interest as a caver plays a part in my support, the return of natural flow patterns to this river is far more important in terms of preserving the biosphere of a World Heritage Site. The importance of removing these locks and dam can't be understated.

From: [Scott Newsome](#)
To: [Moulder, Nathan A LRL](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] dam 6
Date: Monday, March 17, 2014 4:44:25 PM

Nathan Moulder,

I support the removal of Dam 6 near Mammoth Cave National Park and restoring that pool of river to its natural free flowing beauty. I have paddled the Green river now for almost 50 years and would like to see it as it should be before I die. Thanks for all your work.

Scott Newsome

From: [Labashosky, Carol J LRL](#)
To: [Babey, Amy S LRL](#)
Cc: [Moulder, Nathan A LRL](#); [Turner, William M \(Michael\) LRL](#)
Subject: FW: Public comment forward on Green River Dispo Study from Ops (UNCLASSIFIED)
Date: Monday, March 17, 2014 9:32:36 AM

Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Caveats: NONE

Ay,

Can you make sure Nate includes this public comment for his Green River Study? I realize he is out of office.

Carol Labashosky
Public Affairs Specialist
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Louisville District
(502) 315-6769

[facebook.com/louisvilleusace](https://www.facebook.com/louisvilleusace)

-----Original Message-----

From: Labashosky, Carol J LRL
Sent: Monday, March 17, 2014 9:31 AM
To: Moulder, Nathan A LRL
Subject: FW: Public comment forward on Green River Dispo Study (UNCLASSIFIED)

Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Caveats: NONE

Nate,

Did Mike Turner forward this public comment at the bottom of the email to you for the report from Ricky Parnell? Mike Turner was on distribution.

Just making sure it gets to you...

Thanks,

Carol Labashosky
Public Affairs Specialist
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Louisville District
(502) 315-6769

[facebook.com/louisvilleusace](https://www.facebook.com/louisvilleusace)

Message From: Ricky Parnell
Email: parnellricky92@yahoo.com
Response requested: No

Message:

My concern is taking out lock 6 at Brownsville , would that make the river to shallow to travel by boat with a motor ? I have went fishing in Green River for about 40 yrs. I usually used the ramp at Green River Ferry. And in the summer months when the river is at summer pool its hard to travel up and down with a motor boat. There are some location where the river is getting wider and the water is getting shallow.

Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Caveats: NONE

Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Caveats: NONE

Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Caveats: NONE

From: [Pat Vogelsberg](#)
To: [Moulder, Nathan A LRL](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Green River Dams
Date: Monday, March 17, 2014 4:30:40 PM

I would like to go on record as opposing any dam removals on Green River. I think that the impact on the local residents far outweighs the benefits of removing the dams. As a landowner near Rochester, I would expect compensation for any property value reduction that would occur as a result of their removal. I hope some consideration has also been given to the negative impact on recreation that would also occur as a result of lowering the water levels in these pools.

In closing let me say that it is a shame that maintenance on these dams was ignored for so long and that they were allowed to rot away. A small amount of attention regularly would have been much cheaper than the numbers we are talking about today.

Sent from my iPad

From: AWhittle@aol.com
To: Moulder, Nathan A LRL
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Fwd: Green river lock anddam disposition
Date: Thursday, March 13, 2014 3:33:27 PM

From: AWhittle@aol.com
To: Nathan.A.Molder@usce.army.mil
Sent: 3/13/2014 3:15:00 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time
Subj: Fwd: Green river lock anddam disposition

From: AWhittle@aol.com
To: NathanA.Moulder@usace.army.mil
Sent: 3/13/2014 10:29:17 A.M. Eastern Daylight Time
Subj: Green river lock anddam disposition

comments on draft report.

1.will any plan cause increased erosion on Nolin River that will impact the old barge building facility remains?

2.Any safety issues for canoes on Green River while discharging from Nolin Lake, if dam 6 is removed.

3.is there a commercial mussel fishery impact any where on Green River?

4.The issue on closing ferries. During the acquisition of property for the mammoth cave park the people of Edmonson County were assured that the transportation system would remain open and maintained by NPS.

Then in the 1940's or early 1950's NPS tried to close the mammoth cave ferry for safety reasons. the ferry was located over the hill below the " old cave entrance". the federal judge ruled that the ferries are part of the transportation system and must remain in operation. NPS then moved the ferry down stream to a safer location. This is now in more tranquil waters and the approaches are much safer.the ferry is now called green river ferry in your report.

A cursory look at operating the ferries with dam 6 removed indicate that no safe plan has been derived.Some say that NPS should "take over" maintenance of dam 6 to insure the that dam remains viable for operating the ferries in a safe manner.

Division

Noah M. Whittle
retired , Chief Engineering

Louisville District

From: [Wilson, Neil M](#)
To: [Moulder, Nathan A LRL](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Green River Lock and Dam #6
Date: Thursday, March 13, 2014 12:06:33 PM

Nathan,

I am writing to voice my support for the decommissioning of the locks and dams along Green River, but particularly my support for eliminating lock and dam #6. I strongly support Alternative 3 which would include eliminating the dam and stabilizing the lock. I have been down the road that leads back to the area adjacent the lock and dam, and I can say that it is most certainly an eyesore at best, and a potential liability at worst. It is clearly a dumping ground for unscrupulous locals and a "hangout" at nights and on the weekends. Garbage is strewn about the entire area and there are a number of "user-made" trails that venture off towards the lock and dam and the river bank. I see no reason for the USACE to maintain "caretaker" status of this property.

Additionally, I support Alternative 3 for the recreational opportunities that would be improved. Although the damn creates a pool for a significant distance upstream into the national park that allows many people access by motorboat for fishing, I would much rather see the river level returned to its natural baseline flow. For me personally, this would create a much better paddling and smallmouth bass fishing experience coming through the national park and approaching the confluence of the Nolin River. With the recent increase in "adventure tourism", I feel like a more lively river section from Green River Ferry past Brownsville would increase interest in paddling and offer a more "authentic" outdoor experience. My family owns some property just upstream of lock and dam #6 with about 1100' of river frontage, and I can say that most of the year the river in this area is a disgusting, trash filled, muddy pool that frequently floods over our lower floodplain forest. I would love to see the dam removed and the river level drop to a more "natural" level.

I also believe there would be tremendous benefits for aquatic life from implementing Alternative 3 by restoring a more natural pool and riffle system. Given the overall amount of biodiversity and the sensitive species that occur in this stretch of river, I can find no reason to avoid returning the river to a more natural flow pattern. Additionally, lock and dam #6 is probably the most deteriorated of all of the dams in this study, and would be the best candidate for removal rather than stabilization and repair. I firmly believe that Alternative 3 offers the most long-term benefit for all the stakeholders involved as well as the most benefit from a wildlife and ecosystem services perspective. I hope that you will take my opinions into consideration when making the final decisions for these dispositions. Thank you very much for your time and I look forward to hearing the outcomes of this feasibility study.

Sincerely,

Neil M Wilson

Neil Wilson
Research Analyst
Department of Horticulture
University of Kentucky
Horticulture Research Farm
4321 Emmert Farm Lane
Lexington, KY 40514
859.272.5513
cell: 502.500.9898
email: neil.wilson@uky.edu

From: kurzendoer@aol.com
To: Moulder, Nathan A LRL
Cc: patandaj@bellsouth.net; jeff.carlisle@dauenhauerplumbing.com; signsincdk@aol.com
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Green River Lock and Dam Proposal
Date: Monday, March 17, 2014 11:58:12 AM

Nathan -

I just wanted to comment briefly on the Corps Plan for Green Rive Lock and Dam proposal for 3, 4, 5 & 6 and Barren River Dam 1.

Just so you know my background, I own with 2 other partners some recreational hunting property near Dam 3 in Rochester. We use it to deer, turkey and duck hunt. In particular we rely on the regular flooding of Green River to fill our potholes for duck hunting. In addition, we use all the pools produced by Dam 3 in particular but also the Brownsville Dam for summer fishing.

1) I am particularly interested in Dam 3 as it enhances our property. But here are my notes:

- * Dam 3 is used for the municipal water supply for Morgantown and Rochester and should be maintained for these communities. I get water from this system.
- * Dam 3 is used for recreational boating and fishing. Dam 3 is an needed to continued current use by these folks
- * Dam 3 could be turned over to the Rochester Dam Region Water Commission. I am pretty sure that repairs to the dam are necessary and federal funding should be found to help support repair to the dam, at the same time that the lock is filled.

2) Dam 6 at Brownsville -

- * I understand the concern around Dam 6, but believe it offers a significant benefit to the fishing community. I know several fishing enthusiasts who rely on this pool for muskie smallmouth and crappie fishing. I hate to see this habitat destroyed.

3) Other dams - I think the surrounding populations of recreational users - mostly boaters and fishermen would suffer from the loss of any of the dams. Additionally believe there would be costs to local governments and the stare of KY to build bridges and roadways to connect roads currently serviced for ferries

4) As for the argument of the blue river trails and opening up the river for canoes and kayakers - I would say this is hogwash. In my past 13 years of owning property, I have yet to have seen a single recreational canoeist on our stretch of the river. They just are not there.

Thanks
Marty Kurzendoerfer
31008 Morning Park CT
Louisville, KY 40220
502-499-0250

From: KEYG8@aol.com
To: [Moulder, Nathan A LRL](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Green river dams demolition project
Date: Tuesday, March 11, 2014 9:22:32 PM

Hello my name is Martin G. Key I live @ 30 tyne ave bowling green ky. 42101 I have lived here in bg ky all of my life except for the time I was in the united states army combat engineers. I think it would be a grave mistake to loose those dams if you will go to the riverside ky. area and see what the loss was when we lost the woodbury dam. I was a baby when I started giong down there with my late father fishing camping and having a great time in nature seeing people that was doing the same as me , but now ever since the woodbury dam broke it devastated that part of green river I bet if you checked that part of the river you wont find the same amount of aquatic life you find in the deeper more calmer waters. also when the water level goes down ,the banks and the trees fall in the river the errosion sets in lots of farm land is lost in the river . Also in the summer / fall seasons this part of the river goes almost dry it is almost impossible to navagate the river in a fishing boat in any season .think a lot more people rely on green river than one group of people I hate to see this mistake happen .I think the engineers that had the dams built had the rivers best intrest in mind. if the corps dont want to take care of the dams why dont they turn them over to the electric producers so they can put turbines in them and make free electricy without coal power no smoke stacks

Thank you very much for your time
Martin G. Key
keyg8@aol.com

From: [mark](#)
To: [Moulder, Nathan A LRL](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Green River Dams Removal Proposal
Date: Wednesday, March 12, 2014 11:48:14 PM

I would like to submit a brief comment regarding the recently publicized proposal to remove dams in Green and Barren Rivers. I spend many days each years canoeing, primarily on Barren River and its tributaries, fishing mostly for smallmouth bass. I have also canoe fished the pool above Lock 6 on Green river. I have several boats and canoes, including a bass boat that I could fish in the # 6 pool, and have fished out of this boat several times in the Greencastle pool. But for me canoe fishing is more enjoyable and for years I have wished these two dams were gone and the river returned to the shallow free-flowing gravel and riffle stream like lower Barren is now.

The "do nothing" alternative does not appeal to me, but the barrier then disposition alternative especially does not; the fishing public likes and uses these areas a lot despite the inherent risks. Barriers are ugly, vandalized, collect debris and eventually prove to be ineffective, people feel they have a right to fish these areas and will find a way to do so. I am in favor of removing all of the dams, hoping for more smallmouth habitat, but I don't think it will ever happen; the Rochester pool being the primary water source for Ohio and Butler counties, as well as Perdue chicken processing plant in Cromwell .Likewise for the Greencastle pool, Bowling Green/Warren County will likely claim future growth will necessitate the pool as a public water source although getting an intake to the pool would be a considerable undertaking.

At the very least, I personally would like to see the # 1 Dam at Greencastle removed, followed by the # 6 Lock and Dam, with small boat ramps or access points left after the de-construction work has been completed.

In an age where natural habitat is rapidly vanishing, it would be good to see some restored. Thank you taking time to read and consider my comments, Mark Ross 974 Rochester Rd. Beaver Dam Kentucky 42320

From: [Marie Spencer](#)
To: [Moulder, Nathan A LRL](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Green River Lock & Dam number 6
Date: Monday, March 17, 2014 2:24:03 PM

I strongly support the removal of Green River Lock & Dam #6. Clearly, the L&D system was important when river traffic was a major transportation mode, but it is generally outmoded today. Letting the river reclaim its natural terrain will benefit us, in terms of animal life, green space and water quality. I believe any potential loss of ferry revenue will be compensated by greater use of the area and the ecological benefits of a healthier river. Thanks for listening to my comments.

Cordially yours, Marie O. Spencer (Louisville 40222)

From: [Laura Darnell](#)
To: [Moulder, Nathan A LRL](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Public Comments - Green River Locks and Dams 3, 4, 5; 6; Barren River Lock and Dam 1
Date: Monday, March 17, 2014 4:11:59 PM

Hello,

I would like to express my support for the proposed dam removal or dam de-activation along the Green River. The Green River in this area is an outstanding biological resource and supports numerous rare and endangered species, particularly mussels. Mussels have been having sustained population declines over several decades, and I feel that without some interventions to restore natural river flows, several endangered species are likely to become extinct.

I feel that restoring natural flow patterns to the river would be a worthwhile use of public dollars and would provide a good return on investment from biodiversity recovery. This is a unique opportunity to have a powerful impact on habitat quality, especially since the dams no longer serve their original purpose and now present safety hazards.

Thank you,

Laura Darnell

Louisville, KY 40217

From: [Judy Carney](#)
To: [Moulder, Nathan A LRL](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Dam 6
Date: Monday, March 17, 2014 4:00:34 PM

I support removing Dam 6 and restoring Mammoth Cave and it's environs to a more natural state. Hopefully the ferry issue can be resolved. Would a bridge be out of the question?

Thank you,

Judy Carney

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Davis, John, B](#)
To: [Moulder, Nathan A LRL](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Dam removal (sorry couldn't resist)
Date: Wednesday, March 12, 2014 8:00:28 PM

Mr Moulder,

I wanted to leave a comment in favor of the removal of the lock and dam system on Green River. I believe whatever we could do to return the river to its natural state would be better for the environment and, in the long run, better for the citizens of the commonwealth. I'm sure you have 10 different papers on your desk about how free flowing rivers benefit species biodiversity, fisheries etc. so I'll stop there. It's also exciting from a recreation stand point. I try to get out in the kayak when I can, and the possibility of kayaking into Brownsville excites me. A short trip from Houchins ferry or a longer trip down the Nolin just to start. I am also a caver, Cave Research Foundation member, employee (cave guide) at Mammoth Cave NP, and member of the Hart of Ky NSS grotto. The idea of what might be uncovered and what we might learn from the "dam" removal is just amazing. In addition all the reasons I listed above are reasons this is good for tourism and recreation and in turn the economy of one of the poorest counties in Kentucky. Thank you for your time.

John Davis

From: [Jim Wilson](#)
To: [Moulder, Nathan A LRL](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Future of Green River Lock and Dam #6
Date: Friday, March 14, 2014 10:56:19 AM

Dear Mr.Moulder,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the feasibility study affecting the future of Green River Lock and Dam #6 in particular.

As a Brownsville property owner directly affected by the results, I strongly support Alternative 3. It makes no sense to leave the property in a slowly deteriorating state, or to spend taxpayer money on repairs.

Alternative 3 would help the local economy around the Brownsville area. I firmly believe it would help Mammoth Cave National Park in a number of ways, and provide long-term stewardship of the property, also assisting the local economy once more.

Alternative 3 offers a real solution with beneficial lasting effects for all involved.

Thank You,

Jim Wilson

From: [Gregg Hovious](#)
To: [Moulder, Nathan A LRL](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Dams
Date: Monday, March 17, 2014 6:56:13 AM

My comment is that the US government shouldn't spend a taxpayer penny to do anything with these worthless dams and should completely butt out of anything to do with Green River and Barren River.

Gregg Hovious
502-588-2010

From: [Gary Hazel, President of 4NSICS2 SECURITY CONSULTANTS INC.](#)
To: [Moulder, Nathan A LRL](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Disposition Study
Date: Thursday, March 13, 2014 3:04:14 PM

MR. Nathan A. Moulder,

I am writing this email in response to the Green and Barren rivers disposition study for public inquiry ending on 3-17-14.

Although I have expressed my own personal feelings too you on the telephone I would like to have this letter in place too confirm that I am in support of the U.S. ARMY CORP of Engineers decision to place the real estate surrounding the Barren river lock and dam #1 located in Warren County Kentucky; into a public purchase market.

Moreover, I would like to be the first person in line to purchase the real estate included in the zones that may be for sale after all other entitled State or local entities have precluded themselves from interest.

Concluding, I have invested childhood memories of the dam and river more than anyone else as I grew up there in the cabins that my father helped to build.

Respectively, GARY HAZEL..

From: [Emmanuel Fields](#)
To: [Moulder, Nathan A LRL](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Dam
Date: Monday, March 17, 2014 5:00:03 PM

I support dam being removed thank you

Sent from my Galaxy S® III

From: [David Trowbridge](#)
To: [Moulder, Nathan A LRL](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Lock and Dam No. 6
Date: Monday, March 17, 2014 4:31:48 PM

I support removing Lock and Dam No. 6 on the Green River.

David Trowbridge
Quest Outdoors
2013 Cobalt Dr.
Louisville, KY 40299
502-267-1855
dave@questoutdoors.com

From: [David Hegland](#)
To: [Moulder, Nathan A LRL](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Green River Dams
Date: Tuesday, March 18, 2014 8:22:11 AM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)
[image003.png](#)
[image004.png](#)

US Army Corps of Engineers

PO Box 59

Attn: Nathan A. Moulder

Louisville, KY 40201-0059

Dear Mr. Moulder

I've just read about the proposed work on the Green River. As a longtime fan of and cheerleader for Mammoth Cave National Park, I am glad to hear this work is planned. I think it is worth the cost and effort to remove the dams, fill the lock chambers AND lower the drinking water intakes. If there were a fund for public contributions directly to the project I would gladly donate.

Thank you for your time, and Godspeed!

:D dave

David Hegland
Senior Manager, SCM
Fieldglass, Inc.

630-399-1089

dhegland@fieldglass.com <<mailto:dhegland@fieldglass.com>>

www.fieldglass.com <<http://www.fieldglass.com/>>

icon_blog-02 <<http://blog.fieldglass.com/>> icon_blog-03
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<<https://www.facebook.com/fieldglassinc>> icon_blog-05 <<http://twitter.com/fieldglassinc>>

John Wayne Smith
P.O Box 82
Smiths Grove, Kentucky 42171

March 12, 2014

Mr. Nathan A. Moulder
US Army Corps of Engineers
ATTN: CELRL-PM-P-F
P.O. Box 59
Louisville, Kentucky 40201-0059

Mr. Moulder,

I am writing to express my strong concern for the current plans relating to the disposition or removal of Green River Lock and Dam 6 (GRLD6). I fully support the resolution of the Edmonson County Fiscal Court opposing this effort as identified.

Actions affecting the well-being of citizens, economic and budgetary impacts between agencies of the government require a broader assessment of any current change at GRLD6. Our government, through the National Park Service, made a commitment to the citizens of Edmonson County when 25% of the county was annexed for the national park. One commitment was a reimbursement to offset proceeds lost due to the loss of revenue creating properties. The payments have not kept pace with the lost revenues! Additionally, there is a legally binding requirement to maintain operational ferries on Green River to support transit of the Green River North and South. Removal of GRLD6 places both ferries at risk of closing due to low water levels created by this removal. The action of the US Army Corps of Engineers should not create a means through which the agreement of the National Park Service is obviated.

The removal of GRLD6 places the operation of the Edmonson County Water system at risk for long term silt and sediment entering the pumping and filtration systems. Natural sedimentation has occurred for the life of the dam upstream. Removal of the dam and allowing the stream to agitate this sedimentation will create constant turbidity at the system inflow station. Removal of the dam, with no sediment mitigation, will create constant abrasive wear on pumping equipment and increased strain of the pump station filtration system. While this may be an unintended consequence of the project; it is a very real and expensive proposition to the Water System and those served.

Permanent bridging at the two primary ferry sites would eliminate the need for Ferry operations. This alternative would relieve the National Park Service from any ferry considerations, meeting the need of the existing agreement with the citizens of Edmonson County. It has been indicated, based on the projected reduction in water levels upstream, that the US Army Corps of Engineers is willing to dredge the ferry sites to keep them open during low water times. When the county proposed an arched span bridge system for the site; it was advised that pier construction for supports would be detrimental to muscle species in the watershed. It is counterintuitive that the onetime minimal intrusion to construct bridge piers is less desirable than constant dredging of the river bed from bank to bank, and wide enough to maintain the required ferry pool between rain periods? A collaborative effort between the National Park Service and the US Army Corps of Engineers to design and construct this bridging seems a viable solution.

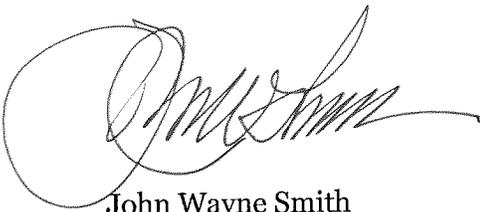
An additional responsibility of the US Army Corp of Engineers is maintenance of river flows to mitigate severe flooding downstream. Our systems of dams and lakes have eliminated most flash flooding situations entirely. I would propose that reinforcing GRLD6 with stone mass and a means to limit flow keeps all current processes in play and reinforces the structure of GRLD6.

Actions taken by the federal government, while well intentioned at one level, too often places undue requirements and unfunded mandates on the local population. If GRLD6 must be eliminated, then the federal government should accept responsibility to replace ferry operations with adequate bridging to support the traffic impacted and provide a solution to the Edmonson County water system to eliminate unintentional burdens.

I would not begin any property disposition actions until such time that all secondary and tertiary efforts are completely reviewed, as access over the new owner's property may be required.

I urge additional consideration of these expressed concerns as you proceed with this project.

Thank you for your consideration.



John Wayne Smith
Candidate
District 19, Kentucky House of Representatives
270-784-1088

Cc:

Congressman Brett Guthrie, 1001 Center Street, Suite 300, Bowling Green, KY 42101
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