

ST. TAMMANY PARISH COUNCIL

RESOLUTION

RESOLUTION COUNCIL SERIES NO. C-6790

COUNCIL SPONSOR: MR. SMITH

PROVIDED BY: COUNCIL OFFICE

RESOLUTION IN OPPOSITION TO THE PROPOSED MISSISSIPPI  
PROJECT KNOWN AS "THE ONE LAKE PLAN."

WHEREAS, the project approved by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in Jackson Mississippi to widen the Pearl River and create lakes over 4,900 acres would adversely affect down river communities; and

WHEREAS, the widening of the river would significantly reduce the rate of flow and the amount of water coming downstream in the Pearl River; and

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

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

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

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

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

WHEREAS, the One Lake project would erase 4,900 acres of wetlands that provide natural flood control and more than 3,400 acres of forest; and,

WHEREAS, critics of the plan say that there is no agreement among experts on how it will affect Jackson Mississippi residents and downstream communities; and,

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

WHEREAS, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is currently considering the environmental impact of the proposed project and is scheduled to announce whether it approves or not approves of the environmental statement in the next few months thereby determining whether the project proceeds.

THE PARISH OF ST. TAMMANY HEREBY RESOLVES to oppose the proposed One Lake project to widen the Pearl River at Jackson, Mississippi because of the detrimental effects it will have to down river local ecology and economic development.

THE PARISH OF ST. TAMMANY FURTHER RESOLVES to urge the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to reject the environmental impact statement regarding the One Lake Plan and deny any requests for permitting of said project.

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

Governor of Louisiana  
Governor of Mississippi  
Army Corps of Engineers - Vicksburg District  
U. S. Department of Wildlife and Fisheries  
Rankin - Hinds Pearl River Flood and Drainage Control District  
Federal Environmental Protection Agency  
Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality  
Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries  
Federal and State Legislators

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

MOVED FOR ADOPTION BY \_\_\_\_\_ SECONDED BY \_\_\_\_\_

YEAS:

NAYS:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT:

THIS RESOLUTION WAS DECLARED ADOPTED ON THE 13TH DAY OF JULY, 2023 AT A REGULAR MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL, A QUORUM OF THE MEMBERS BEING PRESENT AND VOTING.

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JAKE AIREY, COUNCIL CHAIRMAN

ATTEST:

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KATRINA BUCKLEY, COUNCIL CLERK