

City of Hinckley  
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April 11, 2018

Representative Jason Rarick  
431 State Office Bldg.  
100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd  
Saint Paul, MN 55155

Re: Grindstone River Dam

Dear Representative Jason Rarick,

The City of Hinckley would greatly appreciate your continued support in our efforts to work with the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR) to replace the dam on the Grindstone River within the Hinckley Aquatic Management Area (AMA). At their open house on September 26, 2017 the DNR said that a decision about the dam would be made over the winter. It now appears that the decision has been pushed back to sometime this summer.

At the open house, the City supported the installation of a rock ladder, or fish ladder. This would meet the stated goal of the DNR, which is to reintroduce eradicated fish species upriver. This solution would also meet the preferred outcome for the City, which is to keep the reservoir and the recreational opportunities it provides. Council has offered to partner with the DNR and the local fisheries office to improve the recreational area at the dam by clearing some of the over grown vegetation and installing picnic tables to increase the usability of the area.

The City of Hinckley would encourage the DNR to seek a solution that can work for all parties involved. The installation of a fish ladder that maintains the reservoir, while allowing for the free passage of fish along the river, would accomplish the goals of both the City and the DNR. This would also increase the recreational use of the AMA. The City looks forward to continued discussion regarding the future of the Grindstone River Dam and the Hinckley AMA.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Kyle Morell'. The signature is fluid and cursive.

Kyle Morell  
City Administrator/Clerk  
City of Hinckley