



March 28, 2023

Dear Secretary Tepper and Commissioner Rice:

On behalf of the businesses in Watertown and Newton located on both sides of the Charles River both up and downstream from the Watertown Dam, we are writing in support of controlled removal of the dam as both a means to restore the environment along the river and to protect infrastructure that could be in peril if there was to be a breach.

As climate change brings increases the risk of more extreme storms and flooding, we're concerned that water could overwhelm the Galen Street Bridge and shut down roads and businesses along the river -- including along Watertown Square, Charles River Road and Nonantum Road.

Conversely a feasibility study of removal of Watertown Dam found no change in flooding downstream of the dam post-removal and a six foot reduction upstream of the dam post removal.

We would be grateful to the Commonwealth and DCR for prioritizing further design, permitting, study and ultimately removal of the dam.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Greg Reibman'. The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letters of the first and last names being capitalized and prominent.

Greg Reibman  
President  
Charles River Regional Chamber

CC: Massachusetts Fish & Game Commissioner Ron Amidon  
Division of Marine Fisheries Commissioner Daniel McKiernan  
City of Watertown Council  
City of Watertown Conservation Commission  
CRWA Executive Director Emily Norton