



## Town of Buxton

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## Board of Selectmen

Francis E. Pulsoni, Chair  
David A. Field, Vice Chair  
Mark J. Blier  
Chad E. Poitras  
Thomas J. Peters

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August 24, 2022

We would like to thank you for visiting our town on August 2<sup>nd</sup> and providing the public with information regarding the decommissioning of the Bar Mills Dam. Since that time there has been a flood of public inquiry and comment about the decommissioning process and its projected results.

After consulting with the community, selectboard members in Hollis and Buxton feel that there has not been sufficient time and information to develop an official and appropriate response to your proposal. The present consensus is that a partial clearing of the Bar Mills Dam is unacceptable to both towns. In addition, more information needs to be given about the environmental condition of the old fiber mill sight and whether environmental impacts and cleanup are more feasible than Brookfield has disclosed. We also feel that there needs to be more disclosure about the costs of removal, and if saving money is the primary reason why Brookfield will not remove all of the dam structure. Additionally, we would like more information about Brookfield's planned use of its remaining site.

Ideally, we would like to see the whole dam removed, and the river returned to its natural state before the dam was constructed. We would also like to have better boating and recreational access, parking, tree planting to prevent erosion, and further landscaping to beautify the site. We hope to set up meetings with the representatives of the Towns of Hollis and Buxton and Brookfield, so that a more amicable solution may be developed. We will also be reaching out to federal and state agencies and elected representatives to see what can be done, and if any governmental help may be provided in the form of funding or expertise.

Sincerely,

  
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Thomas J. Peters, Selectman

  
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Mark J. Blier, Selectman

  
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Chad E. Poitras, Selectman

  
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Francis E. Pulsoni, Selectman

  
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David A. Field, Selectman