

Gene Mapes
108 N First Street
Leland, MI 49654

November 1, 2022

Leland Dam Authority
8527 E. Government Center Drive
Suttons Bay, MI 49682

Dear Dam Authority Members,

I attended the October 11, 2022 meeting and provided brief comments. Let me restate those comments here.

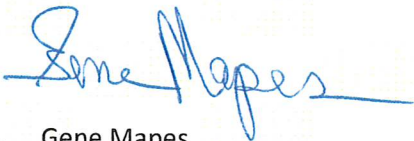
The 1st enclosure is a picture showing the water level on the M-22 bridge in Leland. It was taken by me on October 10th. The 2nd enclosure is also a picture showing the water level on the M-22 bridge taken on October 12th.

The 1978 court order sets the water level at the Leland dam (effectively the same as water at the M-22 bridge) at 589.21'. The court order further stipulates there shall be "a maximum fluctuation of plus 0 inches and minus 2 inches" from April 15 through November 15. In referring to both pictures, you can clearly see the tick mark for 289'. You can also see the water level is just below the 289' mark. To my eye the water is less than 2 inches below the 289' mark and thus on these two dates was in compliance with the 1978 court order. This leaves me wondering why all the fuss and why is there any need for change.

On a personal note, I am one of ten long term boat slip renters at the Leland Mercantile. These slips are located between the dam and the M-22 bridge. My boat is one of six having a tight clearance under the M-22 bridge. The 3rd enclosure is a picture taken on October 10th. You can see there is approximately a 7" gap between the top of my boat's windshield and the bottom of the bridge. I have seen this gap as small as 4" after hard rains and depending upon wind direction. Keeping the water level at the court ordered 589.21' should not present issues for the long term slip renters, but keeping the water any higher for extended (hard rain excepted) periods would become an issue.

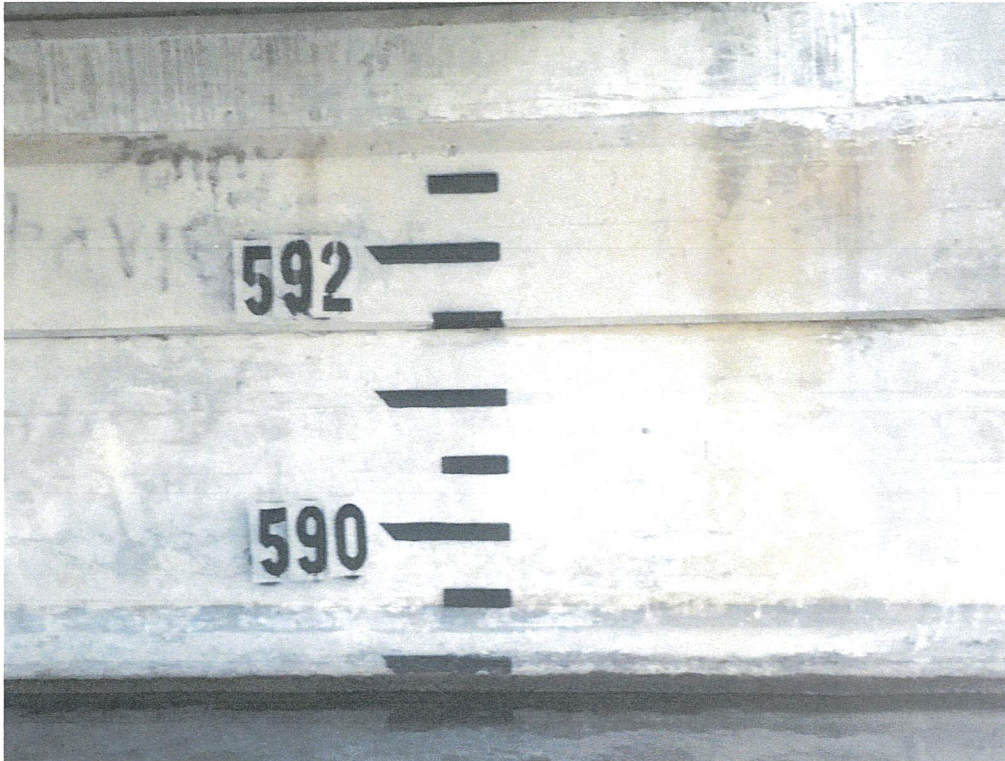
Thank you for your work in the community and thank you for reading this letter and entering it into the record.

Regards,



Gene Mapes
(513) 505-3548 cell phone

#1 - Water level at bridge 10/10/22



#2 Water Level at Bridge 10/12/22



#3 Clearance from top of boat windshield to bridge bottom 10/10/22

