

Public Input on the following General Electric Documents:

- 2024 Annual Visual Inspection Report - Columbia Mill Dam, dated November 1, 2024
- 2024 Annual Visual Inspection Report - Willow Mill Dam, dated November 1, 2024

November 2024 - January 2025

From: [REDACTED]
To: [R1Housatonic](#)
Subject: 2024 Annual Visual Report(s) Willow & Columbia Mill Dams
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Thank you, US EPA, for this opportunity to comment on the 2024 Annual Visual Reports on the Willow Mill Dam and Columbia Mill Dam.

Being the first two dams below Reaches 5a,b,c, and 6, these two dams are vulnerable to landslide debris and ice jams (such as the 2018 Emergency Declaration in Stockbridge).

Key to emergency response in both situations is access to the dams by emergency personnel and specialized heavy equipment.

At Willow Mill Dam, the bridge over the River has been closed to all traffic for safety reasons. Access is now limited to a narrow roadway below the unstable wooded north slope of Beartown Mountain.

At the Columbia Mill Dam, during July 2023 heavy flow, the left riverbank was submerged by 2 feet of moving water, and access appeared greatly limited.

Thank you for this opportunity to give input.

Denny Alsop
Stockbridge