Philip Blampied, Rumford, ME.

I am concerned about some of the impacts the company managing the hydro plant has had on the community. Two are particularly a nuisance. The company consistently runs a loud siren every time a certain amount of water is released from the dam. This is supposedly to warn anyone who might be at the water's edge just below the dam. The sirens run day and night, often for 10 minutes at a time. For instance, it is not uncommon for a siren to run at 100 decibels plus for 10 minutes at 3 am in the morning. People rarely if ever stand at the water's edge just below the dam and certainly not at 3 am. However, there is an extensive residential area just up the hill from the dam in which the full volume of the siren is audible. This is an unnecessary and disruptive practice and must stop. Another bad impact on the community was the company's closing of a well used and popular walking trail alongside the river on the undeveloped side of the Falls. It seems as if the slightest risk of liability is a greater concern to the company than disrupting and disadvantaging the community.

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