

Dear Mr. Alexander:

Thank you for your presentation before the Mississippi River Commission during the public meeting in Greenville, Mississippi, on April 9, 2003. In your statement you discussed immediate needs at Enid Lake, including improving campgrounds to accommodate larger camping vehicles, rehabilitating restroom and shower facilities, resurfacing roads, and providing needed repairs to shoreline erosion.

The Commission shares your concern for the condition of recreation facilities at Enid Lake and the need for repairs and modernization. The Commission also recognizes the important influence that Enid Lake has on the local economy and the need for additional funding to help sustain and improve the public recreational opportunities afforded by this project.

The Vicksburg District is very much aware of the repair and modernization needs at Enid Lake and has included those needs in its annual budget requests. For your information, the Conference Report for the Fiscal Year 2003 Omnibus Appropriation Act added \$1.58 million to the Enid Lake budget for additional maintenance. This additional funding will allow the initiation of a contract to resurface the main access road from Interstate 55 to Enid Dam and Wallace Creek, the replacement of deteriorated sewage treatment equipment at Persimmon Hill and a failing water well at Water Valley Landing, and the continuation of ongoing minor repairs to structural components of Enid Dam.

-2-

However, some of the needs that you identified will remain after this fiscal year and additional funding will be required in the future to complete all needed repairs and modernization.

The Commission also shares your interest in the Mississippi Department of Wildlife, Fisheries, and Parks development of a fish hatchery at Enid Dam. This planned facility will enhance the recreational opportunities at Enid Lake and provide a tremendous boost to the local economy. It will also benefit many other water bodies in the State of Mississippi that will receive fish stock reared at this facility.

Thank you again for your presentation and the Commission looks forward to hearing from you at our future public meetings.

Sincerely,

Don T. Riley
Brigadier General, U.S. Army
President Designee, Mississippi
River Commission