

Dear Mr. Gobble:

Thank you for your statement filed for the record of the Mississippi River Commission public meeting held on August 15, 2001, in Keokuk, Iowa.

We welcome hearing various viewpoints on the many attributes of the Mississippi River. The varied missions of the Corps of Engineers reflect the public interest as determined and authorized by Congress. The Civil Works mission of the Corps includes navigation, environmental restoration, flood protection, and recreation. Generally, our greatest challenge is the equitable balancing of these missions among the diverse interests of the citizens of the upper Mississippi Valley.

Your interest in Mississippi River Commission activities is appreciated. We look forward to hearing from you at our future public meetings.

Sincerely,

Edwin J. Arnold, Jr.
Brigadier General, U.S. Army
President Designee, Mississippi
River Commission