

Dear Mr. Hall:

Thank you for your statement before the Mississippi River Commission during the public meeting in Helena, Arkansas, on April 3, 2001. In your statement you expressed strong support for the cleanup of the L'Anguille River, including the removal of trash, debris, and silt and the installation of vegetative buffers along its banks.

The Commission agrees with you regarding the restoration of the L'Anguille River. Congress added \$100,000 for initiation of the reevaluation in Fiscal Year 2000, and \$712,000 was appropriated in Fiscal Year 2001 to continue the reevaluation. Unfortunately, a local sponsor has not been identified to cost share in the reevaluation. Since Fiscal Year 2001 funds cannot be spent without matching non-Federal funds, these funds have been made available for reprogramming to other projects. Funding for the reevaluation is not included in the President's Fiscal Year 2002 budget request. We trust the problems that currently prevent continued Corps involvement in the reevaluation of problems, needs, and opportunities in the L'Anguille River Basin can be resolved and appropriate solutions formulated and implemented in the future.

The Commission appreciates receiving your comments and will be pleased to hear from you at our future public meetings.

Sincerely,

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