

Dear Mr. Hargrove:

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 your support for the Grand Prairie Area Demonstration project as a co-sponsor of the project.

The Commission recognizes the need to fund activities to protect groundwater in the delta region of central and eastern Arkansas. However, as you are aware, the President's budget request for Fiscal Year 2002 does not include funding to continue design and construction of the Grand Prairie Area Demonstration project. In the Mississippi River and Tributaries project, the budget targets funds to high-priority flood damage reduction projects which are located on the main stem of the Mississippi River and in the Atchafalaya River Basin in Louisiana.

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