

Dear Mr. Howe:

Thank you for participating in the Mississippi River Commission public meeting held in Marquette, Iowa, on August 12, 2002. We enjoyed the opportunity once again to experience the upper Mississippi River and meet with the people of the Midwest.

We appreciated hearing your kind remarks concerning the work of the St. Paul District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. It is heartening to see the local support for the Environmental Management Program and its projects to restore ecological diversity to the river environment. The partnership of the public and many agencies will be the key to future accomplishments. We also appreciate your positive comments about the Corps' management of the river. We noted your statements about the importance of recreational boating, especially in pool 10, and the economic benefits to the region from recreational activities.

The Commission values your views and comments. We look forward to your continued participation as we work to address the many economic, environmental, and recreational issues of the upper Mississippi River.

Sincerely,

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