

Dear Mr. Hunter:

Thank you for your comments made before the Mississippi River Commission during the public meeting held in Memphis, Tennessee, on August 20, 2001. In your statement you discussed the New Madrid riverfront development project and the sediment deposition problem in the City of New Madrid harbor.

As you are aware, because of the relative low priority of the improvements proposed in the New Madrid Riverfront Master Plan when compared to other flood control and navigation work within the Mississippi River and Tributaries project, specific Congressional direction and funding would have to be provided for the Corps to construct the proposed work. In the event there is Congressional funding provided through the Fiscal Year 2002 Energy and Water Development appropriations process, a proposed project implementation plan would be submitted for Washington level approval. Upon approval of this implementation plan, the Memphis District could proceed with preparation of a Corps decision document that would serve as the basis for project construction.

In regard to the sediment deposition problem in the City of New Madrid, the Memphis District has completed dredging of the harbor and modification of the closure dike.

Thank you again for your presentation. The Commission appreciates receiving your views and will be pleased to hear from you at our future public meetings.

Sincerely,

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