

Dear Mr. Lannom:

Thank you for your presentation before the Mississippi River Commission during the public meeting in Caruthersville, Missouri, on April 2, 2001. In your statement you discussed formation of the Port Authority and expressed your support for the proposed Northwest Tennessee Regional Harbor at Cates Landing.

The Commission recognizes your efforts and those of other members of the coalition in the formation of the Northwest Tennessee Regional Port Authority. This action is certainly a significant step in the development of a harbor facility in the area.

During your presentation you introduced Mr. Tony Grande of the Tennessee Department of Economic Development who expressed Governor Don Sundquist's support of the proposed harbor at Cates Landing. The support of the State of Tennessee on this proposed harbor project is critical as the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers goes through the study process.

The Commission was impressed with the large local turnout in support of the proposed harbor at Cates Landing. As you are aware, the Memphis District is currently conducting engineering, economic, and environmental studies to determine the feasibility of this harbor. The feasibility report is scheduled to be completed in June 2001. The Memphis District will keep you and other members of the Port Authority updated on this important study.

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Thank you again for the impressive overview of the proposed project and industrial park. We appreciate receiving your views and will be pleased to hear from you at future public meetings.

Sincerely,

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