

Dear Mr. Madison:

Thank you for your presentation before the Mississippi River Commission during the public meeting in Tiptonville, Tennessee, on August 19, 2002. In your statement you discussed the need to fund annual maintenance of the Caruthersville Harbor and the impact to the area if dredging is not performed.

The Commission recognizes the need for the annual dredging of your harbor and other small harbors and will continue to inform our U.S. Army Corps of Engineers headquarters of the concerns expressed by you and others on this issue.

The Memphis District will continue to keep you informed on this matter. As you are aware, the President's budget request for Fiscal Year 2003 does not include funding for annual maintenance dredging at your harbor. House and Senate actions on the Fiscal Year 2003 appropriations have not been completed; however, to date, funding for maintenance dredging at the harbor is included in the House and Senate versions of the appropriations bill.

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

Sincerely,

Don T. Riley
Brigadier General, U.S. Army
President Designee, Mississippi
River Commission