

Dear Mr. Minsky:

Thank you for your presentation before the Mississippi River Commission during the public meeting held in Lake Providence, Louisiana, on August 21, 2002. In your statement you emphasized your commitment toward completion of the Mississippi River Levee Enlargement Program and steps toward keeping up with rights-of-way requirements to meet this commitment.

The Commission is pleased with the progress being made in raising and strengthening the levees in your levee district and appreciates your support in the completion of the Mississippi River Levees system. The Fifth Louisiana Levee Board has been working tirelessly to secure both Federal and state funds to keep the construction on schedule. We also are pleased with the level of support that is being received from the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development in securing rights-of-way.

As you indicated in your presentation, Mississippi River Levee Items 506-R, 503-R, 501-R, 489-R, and 483-R have been strengthened and enlarged by recent construction and have been turned over to the Levee Board. Items 487-R, 485-R, and 480-R are under construction and item 461-R was recently awarded. Item 457-R is scheduled for award in the near future. Design is proceeding on Items 453-R, 450-R, and 445-R. We recently

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completed surveys on Items 428-R, 424-R, and 422-R, and soil borings will be undertaken this fall. We completed surveys on soil borings for Items 357-R, 361-R, and 365-R near Vidalia, Louisiana, and design of these items will be initiated in the near future.

Thank you again for your statement. The Commission appreciates receiving your views 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