

Dear Mr. Berry:

Thank you for the statement filed for the record of the Mississippi River Commission public meeting held in Vicksburg, Mississippi, on April 4, 2001. In your statement you discussed water resource needs in several watersheds within your district's area.

The Vicksburg District will be working with the Yazoo-Mississippi Delta Joint Water Management District on the reconnaissance study for the Coldwater River Basin below Arkabutla Lake. Water quality, water management, drainage, and ecosystem needs will be evaluated to determine if feasibility studies are recommended.

The requests for Section 1135 studies of the Deer Creek Watershed and base flow problems on the Sunflower River have been received. It is uncertain whether funds will be available this fiscal year to initiate these studies. We are evaluating funding needs for these and other projects within the Mississippi Valley Division and will work with the Vicksburg District to begin this work at the earliest opportunity. We realize the importance of these stream systems to the Mississippi Delta and look forward to working with you as partners in resolving ecosystem needs under your jurisdiction.

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

Sincerely,

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