

Dear Mr. Pregracke:

Thank you for your attendance at the public meeting of the Mississippi River Commission on August 15, 2001, in Keokuk, Iowa.

We welcome hearing your comments and viewpoint about the Mississippi River. You are commended for your tremendous commitment to clean up the Mississippi and other rivers. Your initiative to educate and involve others through the Adopt-A-River-Mile Program is a significant accomplishment.

The Commission was impressed with your passion concerning siltation in the Mississippi River Basin. As you indicated, siltation is a regional problem and not just a Corps of Engineers or Natural Resources Conservation Service issue. We must all work together to resolve this issue.

As you noted, siltation impacts the river's habitat alteration, navigation, and recreational use. You suggested that siltation also impacts the river's flood-carrying capacity. However, the capacity of the levee flood protection on the Mississippi River is not measurably diminished by siltation.

Your interest in Mississippi River Commission activities is appreciated. We look forward to hearing from you at our future meetings.

Sincerely,

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