

Dear Mr. Roberson:

Thank you for your statement to the Mississippi River Commission at the public meeting in Cape Girardeau, Missouri, on April 7, 2003. In your statement you mentioned the proposed culvert replacement at Fritz Landing; riprap placement at Mooring, Tennessee; culvert replacement at Highway 22 in Tiptonville; the Cates Landing feasibility study; and the condition of the spillway at Reelfoot Lake.

A preliminary hydraulic and economic analysis was completed in April of this year to determine the impacts to the Mud Lake area assuming collapse of the Fritz Landing culvert. Three conditions were investigated in the study: (1) complete failure of the Fritz culvert, (2) repair/replacement of the Fritz culvert with a new 6-foot diameter reinforced concrete pipe, and (3) an additional culvert through Fritz levee assuming two new 6-foot diameter reinforced concrete pipes. The analysis is currently under review at our Memphis District. The District will inform you of the results of their review and the next action to be taken regarding the Fritz culvert.

In reference to the Mooring, Tennessee, levee rock cover item, the Commission agrees that this is a well-constructed project that will improve the levee maintenance capabilities of the Lake County Levee and Drainage District. Memphis District is scheduled to complete the rock cover job in August of this year.

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We are optimistic that the Harris Ditch culverts under Highway 22 will be completed this year. However, based on recent weather patterns, the schedule may be affected.

Regarding the Cates Landing Harbor, the Memphis District has recently requested additional funds to continue the feasibility study. A fact sheet with pertinent information regarding the proposed project has been sent up the chain of command for review and approval. The fact sheet will require concurrence by the office of the Assistant Secretary of the Army for Civil Works before additional funds will be released

to continue the study. Memphis District will keep you apprised of this matter.

As you are aware, the Reelfoot Lake project includes a new spillway and other features, which would significantly improve the condition of the lake. The project is authorized for construction; however, funding for new start construction has not been included in recent budget requests because emphasis has been placed on funding ongoing construction projects. In addition, the Commission also understands that the flooding issue with the Kentucky farmers regarding the proposed water level management plan has not been resolved. The Corps cannot begin construction on this project until new start construction funds are appropriated.

Thank you again for your presentation. 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