

Dear Mr. Skerrett:

Thank you for your presentation before the Mississippi River Commission during the public meeting in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, on March 7, 2002. We appreciate your comments and your formal statement submitted for the record expressing your concern and genuine interest about advancing the water management unit initiatives within the Atchafalaya Basin.

Funds requested for Fiscal Year 2003 for the Atchafalaya Basin Floodway will be used to initiate construction of the Buffalo Cove management unit scheduled for award in March 2003 and complete planning and design of the Flat Lake management unit. Additional funding in Fiscal Year 2003 could be used to advance the construction of the Buffalo Cove management unit and also to initiate construction of Flat Lake.

The Commission appreciates receiving the views of the Acadiana Area Waterways Committee and will be pleased to hear from you at our future public meetings.

Sincerely,

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