

Dear Mr. Stravers:

Thank you for participating in the Mississippi River Commission public meeting held in Marquette, Iowa, on August 12, 2002.

We appreciate your statements in favor of a balanced approach to managing the upper Mississippi River system. We recognize that it is an important resource to those who live along the river, as well as to those who use the waterway for commercial navigation and recreation. The challenge is to preserve the Mississippi River ecosystem, while at the same time meet the needs of transportation, recreation, and tourism in the region.

The Commission values your views and comments. We look forward to your continued participation as we work to address the many economic, environmental, and recreational issues of the upper Mississippi River.

Sincerely,

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