

Dear Mr. Vincent:

Thank you for your statement before the Mississippi River Commission during the public meeting in Memphis, Tennessee, on March 5, 2002. In your statement you discussed the need and importance of the Augusta to Clarendon levee on the White River in Arkansas.

The Commission supports your efforts to rehabilitate this essential part of the flood control system in Eastern Arkansas. As you stated, the levee is vital in protecting the lives and livelihoods of people not only living and working in the area but people traveling on the transportation arteries that are protected.

The Corps of Engineers understands the funding difficulties posed by changes in land ownership since the Federal participation in construction of the levee. However, additional authority and funding would be required for the Corps to participate in the rehabilitation effort.

The Commission appreciates receiving your comments 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