



DELBERT HOSEMANN
Secretary of State

August 14, 2019

Major General R. Mark Toy
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Mississippi River Commission
1400 Walnut Street
Vicksburg, MS 39180

Dear Major General Toy:

As we discussed, as the State Land Commission for Mississippi, we have expressed in our letter of July 11, 2019, the State's questions concerning the operation of the Bonnet Carré Spillway during this most recent devastating flood. We appreciate your forthcoming response to our correspondence.

In addition, we discussed in our meeting additional modeling which we believe would be beneficial in judging alternatives to the current operation of the Bonnet Carré Spillway and the Morganza Floodway.

Acknowledging you are not expressing a position on the authority of the Corps and the Mississippi River Commission to operate these spillways in the alternative to the current operation, the State requests the following:

1. Please prepare a hydrology model of the opening of the Morganza Floodway in amounts equal to 10%, 20%, 30%, 40% and 50% of the flow expelled by the Bonnet Carré Spillway using actual conditions during the 2019 calendar year and also during the previous four (4) years. Please include in the analysis any impacts on the Atchafalaya Basin and any reduction in flow or utilization of the Bonnet Carré Spillway which would occur from the opening of the Morganza Floodway.
2. Please ignore the effects of any hurricanes, which may occur in these years in reaching your conclusions on modeling.
3. Please analyze and prepare models with a range of flows in both high and low flows on the Red River.

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4. Please do not include any environmental studies needed at this point. We will request that study by separate correspondence. We are attempting to simply determine the impacts on the west side of the Mississippi River concerning the flooding of towns or citizens to ensure our Louisiana neighbors are not flooded by a discharge from the Morganza Floodway.

We understand the Governor of Louisiana has requested similar information, and we are happy to coordinate these studies. Louisiana on the east side of the Mississippi River faces similar adverse effects which occur in Lake Pontchartrain and the Louisiana marshes from Bonnet Carré Spillway discharge as does Mississippi. Our State experienced devastating effects this year over the severe salinity loss and the sediment gains to our fisherman, the aquaculture of the Mississippi Gulf concerning oysters, shrimp, crabs, and fin fish, and the closing of our beaches due to the blue green algae.

Our goal with this information is to establish the opportunity for the Corps of Engineers to operate these two spillways in unison and minimalize the damage to both sides of the Mississippi River.

Should you have any questions concerning our requests, please do not hesitate to contact me by telephone at 601-359-6342 or by email at Delbert.hosemann@sos.ms.gov.

Sincerely,



Delbert Hosemann
Secretary of State

CDH,JR/me

cc: Phil Bryant, Governor, State of Mississippi
Rear Admiral Shepard Smith, Mississippi River Commission
Brigadier General Paul E. Owen, Mississippi River Commission
Honorable Sam E. Angel, Mississippi River Commission
Honorable James A. Reeder, Mississippi River Commission
Honorable Norma Jean Mattei, Mississippi River Commission