September 30, 2005

Lt. General Carl A. Strock  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
441 G Street NW  
Washington, DC 20314

Dear General Strock:

The Select Committee is examining the preparation for and response to Hurricane Katrina. We are writing to request documents from the Army Corps of Engineers relating to this topic.

Specifically, we request:

1. Documents or communications, including internal communications, received, prepared, or sent before August 23, 2005, by officials of the Army Corps of Engineers relating to the threat posed by a hurricane striking New Orleans or the Gulf Coast, mitigation measures or projects, emergency preparations, or emergency responses;

2. Documents or communications, including internal communications, received, prepared, or sent between August 23 and August 29, 2005, by officials of the Army Corps of Engineers relating to the threat posed by Hurricane Katrina, mitigation measures or projects, emergency preparations, or emergency responses;

3. Documents or communications, including internal communications, received, prepared, or sent between August 29 and September 15, 2005, by officials of the Army Corps of Engineers relating to the impact of Hurricane Katrina, mitigation measures or projects, emergency preparations, or emergency responses.

4. Documents or communications, including internal communications, received, prepared, or sent by officials of the Army Corps of Engineers relating to the construction, maintenance, or capacity to withstand a hurricane or flooding of the 17th Street, London Canal, or Industrial Canal levees and storm walls.

In responding to this request, we ask that you give first priority to providing responsive documents or communications, including internal communications, received, prepared, or sent by officials in your office. We are not requesting at this time documents or communications between officials of the Army Corps of Engineers and individual members of the general public.
Thank you for your assistance with this request. We are aware of the many demands on your time as you cope with the impacts of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita. The Select Committee, however, has been given a short deadline for its work. For this reason, we ask that you respond to this letter within two weeks if possible.

Sincerely,

Tom Davis
Chairman

Charles Melancon
Member of Congress