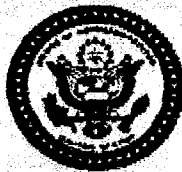


ROBERT L. (BOB) LIVINGSTON
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Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

February 15, 1978

Maj. Gen. Charles I. McGinnis
Director of Civil Works
Office of the Chief of Engineers
Washington, D.C. 20314

Dear General McGinnis:

In our recurring meetings dealing with the current status of the Lake Ponchartrain Hurricane Protection Plan and the projected repairs to the Industrial Canal Lock in Orleans Parish, it has become plain to me that despite the overwhelming need for prompt resolutions to these complex problems, such resolutions may not be forthcoming for several years. The Corps has estimated that completion of the studies to resurrect the Hurricane Protection system around Lake Pontchartrain may take between two and four years. They have further estimated that completion of the project at the Industrial Canal Lock cannot be achieved before 1988.

Accordingly, I wish to go on record as having protested these inordinate delays, and to urge you and the Corps to do everything humanly possible to speed up the intervals required for study, design, and construction of these most important projects.

Thousands of human lives are dependent upon prompt completion of an efficient Hurricane Protection system. While the U.S. District Court has held that studies leading up to the acceptance of present plans were insufficient, I have no doubt that new studies, and, if necessary, new designs, can be undertaken, tested, agreed upon by all parties without undue delay, if only the Corps of Engineers is prepared to accept that task. For example, I am advised that an Environmental Impact Statement (E.I.S.) was recently completed for the Oil Storage Salt Dome Application by a private organization, Science Applications, Inc., in less than six months. If this be true, I find it hard to understand why an E.I.S. prepared by the Corps could take two to four years.

RC Thompson

UMP

37 JCS

7 J. Collins

LMV

2 FCS

Maj. Gen. Charles I. McGinnis - 2 -

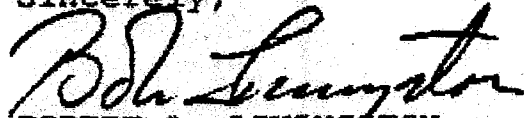
February 15, 1978

The economic development of the entire New Orleans area is dependent upon an efficient port system which in turn demands a prompt resolution of environmental and design problems related to the widening of the industrial canal locks. This project is of utmost importance to our area, and I urge you to accelerate the disposition of this matter as quickly as possible.

I am sure that I speak for the entire Louisiana Delegation when I say that we shall all be more than pleased to do whatever is necessary to assist you in arriving at prompt and thorough conclusions with respect to both of these projects.

Thanking you, and with kindest personal regards, I remain

Sincerely,


ROBERT L. LIVINGSTON
Member of Congress

RLL:m

cc: Maj. Gen. R. C. Marshall - Vicksburg, Miss.
Colonel Early J. Rush, III - New Orleans, La.
Mr. Guy Le Mieux - Lake Front Airport, New Orleans, La.
The Hon. Ernest N. Morial - Mayor-Elect, New Orleans, La.
Mr. Roy H. Gonzalez - St. Bernard Parish, Police Jury
Senator Russell B. Long
Senator J. Bennett Johnston, Jr.
The Hon. Corrine C. Boggs
The Hon. John B. Breaux
The Hon. Thomas J. Huckaby
The Hon. Gillis W. Long
The Hon. W. Henson Moore
The Hon. Davie C. Treen
The Hon. Joe D. Waggoner, Jr.