



Media Advisory

US Army Corps of Engineers®

Mississippi Valley Division/
Mississippi River Commission
St. Louis District

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MRC's "LOW-WATER" INSPECTION TRIP

St. Louis, Mo., August 10, 2004 - The Mississippi River Commission will conduct its annual "low-water" inspection trip on the Mississippi River, August 16-27, 2004. The St. Louis-area public meeting will be held at Melvin Price Locks and Dam in Alton, Ill., starting at 9 a.m., Friday, August 20.

The public meeting scheduled aboard the Motor Vessel MISSISSIPPI provides the Commission members an opportunity to meet with local residents and hear their concerns, ideas and issues.

The public meeting agenda is as follows:

1. Commission President and Mississippi Valley Division Commander, Brig. Gen. Robert Crear, will present a summary of national and regional issues affecting the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, and Commission programs and projects on the Mississippi River and its tributaries.
2. St. Louis District Commander, Col. C. Kevin Williams, will present a District overview.
3. Local organizations and members of the public will have an opportunity to make presentations or offer views or comments on any issue affecting programs or projects of the Commission and the Corps.

The Mississippi River Commission, organized in 1879, is composed of seven members, each nominated by the President of the United States and confirmed by the Senate. Three of the organization's members are officers of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers; one member is from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration; and three members are civilians, two of whom are civil engineers.

The public hearing process is unique to the Mississippi River Commission and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. The benefits of hearing first hand the issues and concerns through the public hearing process are invaluable to the Commission and the Corps. Also, the interaction with congressional, federal and state interests, local boards and non-government organizations and the public is crucial to the decision making process of the Commission.

Note to Editor's: Commission members will be available for media interviews at 8 a.m. and 1 p.m. – prior to and following the public meeting. Please contact the Public Affairs Office at 314-331-8068 or 314-331-8002 for additional information or to set up an interview time.