



**US Army Corps
of Engineers®**
St. Louis District

Media Advisory

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Congressman Costello – Corps of Engineers announce Illinois Levee Summit

Congressman Jerry Costello (D-Illinois 12th District) and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, St. Louis District will hold an Illinois Levee Summit onboard the Corps Motor Vessel Mississippi at the Melvin Price Locks and Dam, Wednesday, August 15.

The purpose of the meeting is to provide a forum for leaders within levee districts, Federal, State, and Local governments, businesses and communities to discuss the importance of flood risk management to their communities and to develop strategies for providing a more reliable system of protection.

One objective of the Levee Summit is to communicate risk and reliability of flood protection systems and to develop a tool for continuous communication between the Corps and those associated with these systems.

The Summit will allow Congressman Costello and the Corps to gather stakeholder input and develop a path forward for a more reliable system of protection. It will allow for a dialogue of “systems management” between levee districts.

Agency personnel will explain levee program requirements and address information relative to reconstruction of flood protection systems. The agenda includes participation by Congressman Costello, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, as well as the Federal Emergency Management Agency and the Illinois Department of Natural Resources. A risk inundation model developed as a tool for communications in New Orleans will also be briefed by the Corps.

The meeting is scheduled to run from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. There will be a one hour lunch break at noon.

Who: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, St. Louis District and Congressman Jerry Costello.

What: Illinois Levee Summit Meeting

When: 10 a.m., Wednesday, Aug. 15, 2007 (with pre conference media session with Congressman Costello at 9:30 a.m. onboard MV Mississippi before the open session begins)

Where: Aboard M/V Mississippi at the Melvin Price Locks and Dam. That facility is located on Ill. Hwy 143 about 1 mile south of Alton, Ill.

Media wishing to attend the pre conference media session at 9:30 a.m. or cover this conference are urged to contact the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Public Affairs Office in St. Louis at 314-331-8002.