DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
CORPS OF ENGINEERS, CHICAGO DISTRICT
231 SOUTH LASALLE STREET SUITE 1500
CHICAGO, IL 60604

September 3, 2021

SUBJECT: 2021 West Reach Inspection Reports

Mr. Dan Repay
Little Calumet River Basin Development Commission
900 Ridge Road, Suite H
Munster, IN 46321

Dear Mr. Repay:

This letter is to transmit to you our findings from the annual inspections of the Highland, Hammond, Hammond Forest Ave, and Munster Levee Systems conducted in June 2021. The reports consist of the standard Inspection Checklist, photos taken during the inspection, and a map showing the locations of areas for your attention. All interim eligibility criteria for determining eligibility in the Rehabilitation Program have been met for all levee segments and therefore are considered 'Active' in the P.L. 84-99 program. The ratings are summarized below.

Segment/System	Preliminary Inspection Rating	Rehabilitation Program Status
Highland	Minimally Acceptable	Active
Hammond	Minimally Acceptable	Active
Hammond Forest Ave	Minimally Acceptable	Active
Munster	Minimally Acceptable	Active

As a reminder, the inspection ratings will be posted to the National Levee Database (NLD) at https://levees.sec.usace.army.mil/ and available to the public. The attached reports are considered 'For Official Use Only' (FOUO) and will only be available to authorized individuals.

The purpose of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) Levee Safety Program is to make sure levee systems are reliable and do not present unacceptable risks to the public, property, or the environment, with the emphasis on public safety. Two important principles that guide our program are the shared responsibility among partners at all levels for levee safety and the need for continuous and periodic project inspections and assessments.

The Highland Levee System leveed area is about 927 acres that includes residential, business, and commercial properties. The population in the leveed area is

7,127. The estimated property value is $683 million. The overall flood risk of the project is considered moderate.

The Hammond Levee System leveed area is about 2,500 acres that includes residential, business, and commercial properties. The population in the leveed area is 23,634. The estimated property value is $2.19 billion. The overall flood risk of the project is considered moderate.

The Hammond Forest Ave Levee System leveed area is about 55 acres that includes residential, business, and commercial properties. The population in the leveed area is 367. The estimated property value is $49.8 million. The overall flood risk of the project is considered low.

The Munster Levee System leveed area is about 559 acres that includes residential, business, and commercial properties. The population in the leveed area is 4,668. The estimated property value is $751 million. The overall flood risk of the project is considered low.

The new Levee Safety Engineer Circular (EC 1165-2-218) has been published. This document establishes the policies for implementing the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) Levee Safety Program, and describes USACE activities, roles, and responsibilities for federally authorized levees. This document also describes activities that sponsors are required to conduct or participate in consistent with their project agreements. There are changes to some of the terminology and processes so please reach out if you have any questions. The guidance was finalized on 22 April 2021 and can be found at: https://www.publications.usace.army.mil/Portals/76/Users/182/86/2486/EC%201165-2-218.pdf?ver=Gm_2vTnybm3P4xgmb5vUbw%3d%3d.

The Project Cooperation Agreement requires that the communities be informed of the limitations of protection provided by the project and that the levee is only part of an overall plan to manage their flood risks. It is requested that you provide us documentation of your outreach and notifications for our records.

Camera inspections of culverts and pipes passing through the levees are required to be performed every 5 years. Recently, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) updated Engineer Manual (EM) 1110-2-2902, Conduits, Pipes, and Culverts Associated with Dams and Levee Systems. This manual provides guidance for many aspects of culverts and pipes through levees, especially: Inspections (frequency, methods [CCTV, sonar], and third-party pipes); and Repair and Rehabilitation (routine maintenance, slip-lining, etc).The manual was finalized on 31 December 2020 and can be found at: https://www.publications.usace.army.mil/Portals/76/Users/182/86/2486/EM%201110-2-%202902a.pdf?ver=6N64KR0IND2lmoG3X1LFhg%3d%3d. The frequency for future inspections will be determined by the pipe's condition assessment rating. The method

for visual inspection will be required to follow the updated guidance.

Deficiencies noted in the inspection reports should be addressed to ensure significant performance problems do not develop. We remain available to discuss the deficiencies and appropriate repairs measures or other technical questions that you may have. Please be sure to coordinate with our office to have any work near the project reviewed and approved before allowing any work to proceed. Our reviews are to ensure the integrity of the project is not compromised by the proposed work and the project will continue to function as designed. Alterations will be reviewed under the Section 408 program.

For any questions regarding these findings, please contact Mr. William Rochford by phone at 312-846-5450 or by e-mail at William.A.Rochford@usace.army.mil. We will coordinate with you for the next Routine Inspections planned for summer 2022. In addition, we scheduled to perform a detailed Formal Inspection (previously referred to as a Periodic Inspection) of the Hammond Levee in 2022.

We recognize and appreciate your ongoing efforts to operate, maintain and improve the Little Calumet River Project. Your commitment to ensuring the levee systems continue to perform as designed for the communities they serve reflects highly upon you. We look forward to working with you during future projects.

Sincerely,

KOZAK.MICHELLE.SOPHIE.1506348010

Digitally signed by KOZAK.MICHELLE.SOPHIE.1506348010
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Michelle Kozak, PhD
Emergency Management
Chicago District
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

Enclosures:

1. Highland Inspection Checklist
2. Hammond Inspection Checklist
3. Hammond Forest Ave Inspection Checklist
4. Munster Inspection Checklist