



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

May 10, 2023

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

Dear Mr. Repay,

The Chicago District performed an inspection of the Griffith, Gary Burr, Gary North, and Gary South levee segments on April 11-14, 2023. 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. More information about the Levee Safety Program can be found in EC 1165-2-218.

This project has demonstrated its importance in reducing flood risk to the area. The Burr Street Levee System (Griffith, Gary Burr, Griffith River Road NPS) protects about 1,140 people and almost \$174 million worth of property, and the Gary Levee System (Gary North, Gary South, INDOT, NPS-MLK, and NPS-Gary North Railroad Tieback) protects about 7,950 people and over \$1.25 billion worth of property. The annual damages prevented reported for fiscal year 2022 was over \$107 million for the Little Calumet River Project. The overall risk of the Griffith, Gary Burr, and Gary South levees is considered to be low and the overall risk of the Gary North Levee is considered to be moderate.

The enclosed site visit reports consist of photos with descriptions taken during the inspection, and a map showing the locations of areas for your attention. The inspection rating will be posted to the National Levee Database (NLD) at <https://levees.sec.usace.army.mil/> and available to the public.

Based on our findings, the previous rating of **Minimally Acceptable** for the levee segments will not change. The project will continue to remain **Active** in the P.L. 84-99 Rehabilitation Program and eligible for federal rehabilitation assistance for items rated M or A. Eligibility determination is based on the USACE *Interim Policy for Determining Eligibility Status of Flood Risk Management Projects for the Rehabilitation Program Pursuant to P.L. 84-99*. It is the Local Sponsor's responsibility to monitor the Project during high water storm events to assess project performance and inspect after storm subsidence to record any storm-related project damage. The Local Sponsor must

immediately report storm-related project damage to the Corps so that the Corps may evaluate required repair reimbursement eligibility under the P.L. 84-99 Rehabilitation Program. The non-project segments are not included in this program.

Deficiencies noted in the report should be addressed to ensure significant performance problems do not develop. The Local Sponsor is reminded that deferred maintenance may affect eligibility for rehabilitation assistance, and they should immediately prioritize, and address any serious maintenance recommendations included in this report. 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 levee reviewed and approved before allowing any work to proceed. Our reviews are to ensure the integrity of the levee is not compromised by the proposed work and the levees will continue to function as designed. Alterations will be reviewed under the Section 408 program.

We look forward to continuing to work together in ensuring this project continues to provide protection. We are available to discuss any technical questions about the operation and maintenance and inspection requirements. We will coordinate with you regarding future inspections planned for the spring of 2023. Please contact Yuki Galisanao (312-846-5458) or myself if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Michelle Kozak, PhD  
Chief of Emergency Management  
Chicago District  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

Enclosures