MEETING NOTICE

THERE WILL BE A MEETING OF THE
LITTLE CALUMET RIVER BASIN DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION
AT 6:30 P.M. THURSDAY, MAY 5, 1988
AT THE DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION OFFICE
8149 KENNEDY AVENUE, HIGHLAND, INDIANA

PLEASE NOTE: THERE IS A NEW ENTRANCE INTO OFFICES
LOCATED IN CENTER OF PLAZA

AGENDA

1. Call to Order by Chairman John DeMeo

2. Recognition of Visitors, Guests

3. Approval of minutes of April 7, 1988 meeting

4. Reports of Standing Committees
   A. Finance/Policy Committee - Arlene Colvin, Chairperson
      • Financial status report
      • Approval of claims for March, 1988
      • Other issues

   B. Legislative Committee - George Carlson, Chairman
      • Report on Project scheduling meeting held April 28 in Indianapolis
      • Status of "Local Cooperation Agreement" negotiations
      • Testimony by Cong. Visclosky regarding Corps project funding
      • Other issues

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C. Land Acquisition/Management Committee -  
    Charles Agnew, Chairman  
    • Land Acquisition Committee meeting at 5:30 p.m.  
    • Appraisals, offers, acquisitions, recommended  
      actions  
    • Erie R.R. bridge improvements update  
    • Other issues  

D. Interim Flood Control/Planning Committee -  
    Clyde Baughard, Chairman  
    • Northcote bridge replacement project report  
    • Report on 1988 Corps permits for Lake Co.  
      Drainage Board projects  
      • River dredging - Indpls. to Kennedy  
      • Penn Central R.R. culverts improvement  
    • Other issues  

E. Breakwaters/Marina Committee -  
    Bill Tanke, Chairman  
    • Meeting with Mayor Maletta on April 11  
    • Report of Lake Michigan Marina Commission  
      reception for Budget Committee members  
    • Report of status of Portage vacation of rights-of-way  
    • Other issues  

5. Other Business  

6. Statements to Board from the floor  

7. Set date for next meeting, adjournment
MINUTES OF THE LITTLE CALUMET RIVER BASIN DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION
HELD AT 6:30 P.M. THURSDAY, APRIL 7, 1988
AT THE COMMISSION OFFICES
8149 KENNEDY AVENUE, HIGHLAND, INDIANA

Chairman John DeMeo called the meeting to order at 6:40 p.m. There were ten Commissioners present. Guests were recognized and quorum was declared.

Development Commissioners:
John DeMeo
William Critser
George Carlson
Charles Agnew
William Tanke
Arlene Colvin
Clyde Baughard
Doyle Niemeyer
Jerry Pagac
David Springman

Visitors:
Michael Doyne
Edward Lukowski - Hammond
Rob Pleva - Lake County Parks Dept.
Stephen Davis - Indiana DNR
Richard Bundy - Salmon Unlimited
Rickey Austin Black Oak Citizens for Better Gov't
Tom Houlihan - The Times
Keith Eller
Deborah Schubert - Black Oak Citizens for Better Gov't

Staff:
Dan Gardner
Bruce Stouffer
Lou Casale
Sandy Mordus

A motion was made by Jerry Pagac to approve the minutes of the March 3rd meeting; seconded by Chuck Agnew; motion passed unanimously.

Finance/Policy Committee - Treasurer Arlene Colvin presented the financial report for February as well as the claims. Arlene Colvin made a motion to approve the claims as presented; seconded by Clyde Baughard; motion passed unanimously.
Discussion was held on Addendum "A" to the existing NIRPC contract. Attorney Casale described the addendum providing for the Executive Director of LCRBDC to split his time between the Development Commission and NIRPC and charge accordingly. The addendum, as well as the original contract, shall be effective through December 31, 1988. Ratification of the addendum was made by Arlene Colvin; seconded by George Carlson; passed unanimously.

Ms. Colvin also reported that the Audit Report for 1985-86 was received and all was in order.

The Director & Officers insurance was renewed for the year 1988.

Legislative Committee - Although the final Local Cooperation Agreement with the Corps of Engineers will not be signed until the first construction contract is to be implemented, Committee Chairman George Carlson reported that staff has been involved in several meetings with the Corps to finalize an acceptable draft to forward to their Headquarters in Washington for their review and approval. The draft presented reflects the revisions that were made as a result of these meetings; those portions underlined in the draft were changes staff instigated. Dan Gardner talked about the word "concurrence" which the Corps was having problems with and stated that Col. Franco must review the draft yet and will make a determination of the language used. A meeting is scheduled in Indianapolis (the Corps will be present) with the state agencies (the Governor's Office, State Budget Agency, DNR, State Highway Dept.) on Thursday, April 28th to discuss the implications of the Commission's signing of the Agreement and to discuss the future non-Federal financial requirements required of them.

Land Acquisition/Management Committee - Committee Chairman Chuck Agnew reported property closings of DC50, 51, 105, 106, 113, 118 and 130. Signed options were also received on DC86 and DC208.

Mr. Agnew stated that an insurance quote of $468 was received on the Erie Bridge property. A motion was made by Mr. Agnew for attorney to proceed with acquisition of the bridge property; seconded by Clyde Baughard; motion passed unanimously. When the liability policy is renewed, this piece of property would be covered under the blanket policy.

Mr. Carlson will check with the city of Hammond on the $20,000 from Community Block Grant Fund money that was earmarked for removal of this bridge.
A motion was made by Chuck Agnew to re-assign the existing Ensweiler lease to Keith Eller; seconded by Arlene Colvin; motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Chuck Agnew to authorize small pump repair on DC83 up to a maximum amount of $8,000; motion seconded by Jerry Pagac; motion passed unanimously. Staff will explore the idea of renting a pump in the interim if necessary. It was reported that Don Ewen had, without authorization, pulled the pump and took it in for repair. Attorney Casale will talk with Mr. Ewen's attorney about his illegal actions.

A motion was made by Chuck Agnew to advertise for bids to chip and seal the roadway around Lake Etta fishing lake; motion seconded by Clyde Baughard; motion passed unanimously. The cost should be approximately $11,000.

Interim Flood Control Committee - Committee Chairman Clyde Baughard reported that a letter had been received from Conrail R.R. addressed to Ten Ech Engineering stating that they had no objections regarding construction of larger culverts at Penn Central as long as certain factors were addressed. Ten Ech Engineering has performed the study for the larger Penn Central culverts and is under contract with the Basin Commission.

Mr. Gardner reported that the Basin Commission met recently. The Lake County Drainage Board has earmarked funds for the dredging work from Indianapolis Blvd. to Kennedy Ave. Mr. Baughard stated that the clearing and snagging that was done in that area has helped the water to flow faster.

Breakwaters/Marina Committee - Committee Chairman Bill Tanke referred to a letter received from the Coast Guard committing them to increase the intensity of Burns Waterway jetty and pier lights.

Discussion ensued in regard to a proposal to the Portage Planning Commission regarding vacation of rights-of-way near the marina site. A motion was made by Bill Tanke directing Lou Casale and Dan Gardner to attend the Portage Planning Commission meeting and obtain clearer information in regard to vacating these rights-of-way; motion seconded by Chuck Agnew; motion passed unanimously.
Mr. Gardner stated he is attempting to schedule a meeting with Mayor Maletta of Portage to discuss marina development.

Mr. Gardner also announced that NIRPC will have a new entrance to the offices for the next meeting.

Chairman John DeMeo commended past member Michael Doyne for his dedicated service to the Commission and recognized his receiving of the highest award from the Governor's Office, the Sagamore of the Wabash award. Mr. Richard Bundy, Salmon Unlimited, joined the Commission in honoring Mr. Doyne.

Rickey Austin, representing Black Oak Citizens for Better Government, asked the Commission to investigate the J-Pit - its quality of water, where exactly the water comes from and where it is going to. He is concerned that the water is contaminated. If it is contaminated, that contamination would be flowing into the Little Calumet River. Staff will investigate. Mr. Gardner stated that a local office has been established for the EPA. That staff person is Ron Mustard and a local hot line will be established for citizens' input.

Mike Doyne, past member, inquired whether the Commission has looked at other sample Local Cooperation Agreements. He also thanked the other Commissioners for their cooperation and service to the Commission.

The next meeting was scheduled for 6:30 p.m. Thursday, May 5, 1988. There being no further business, the meeting adjourned 8:00 p.m.
MERCANTILE NATIONAL BANK

JANUARY 1, 1988 - MARCH 31, 1988

CASH POSITION - JANUARY 1, 1988
Checking Account
  Land Acquisition  $ 43,505.08
  General Fund  38,699.96
  Tax Fund  1,707.50
Investments  868,500.00

$952,412.54

RECEIPTS: January 1, 1988 - March 31, 1988
Lease Rents  $ 9,808.99
Interest  14,829.48
Land Acquisition  57,744.83
Taxes  1,080.94

TOTAL RECEIPTS:  $ 83,464.21

DISBURSEMENTS: January 1, 1988 - March 31, 1988
1987 Expenses paid in 1988  $ 22,874.98
Legal Service  849.99
NIRPC  11,696.65
Travel & Mileage  76.77
Printing & Advertising  208.00
Bonds & Insurance  481.00
L/A Legal Services  8,355.00
L/A Professional Services
  (a) Appraisal Services  150.00
  (b) Surveying Services  3,180.00
  (d) Land Purchase Contractual  15,223.45
  (e) Operational Contractual  3,930.00
L/A Land Purchase Cost  26,446.62

TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS:  $ 93,472.46

CASH POSITION - MARCH 31, 1988
Checking Account
  Land Acquisition  $ 32,070.09
  General Fund  19,045.79
  Tax Fund  2,788.41
Investments  888,500.00

$942,404.29
**INVOICE**

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<th>Amount</th>
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<td>Associated OH Charges @ 35% of Project Salaries</td>
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April 29, 1988

TO:  Dan Gardner, Executive Director  
     Little Calumet River Basin  
     Development Commission  
     8149 Kennedy Avenue  
     Highland, Indiana  46322

Please accept this statement as billing to the Development Commission for payment of $16.00 per hour as per contract for work performed as Land Acquisition/Management Agent for the Little Calumet River Basin Development Commission.

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Total hours...103 hours

Total payment due...........$1,648

[Signature]

Robert B. Stouffer

APPROVED: Dan Gardner  
Executive Director  
Little Calumet River Basin  
Development Commission
April 29, 1988

TO: Dan Gardner, Executive Director  
   Little Calumet River Basin  
   Development Commission  
   8149 Kennedy Avenue  
   Highland, IN 46322

Please accept this statement as billing to the Development Commission for reimbursement of mileage at $.25 per mile as per contract for travel incurred for work performed as Land Acquisition/Management Agent for the Little Calumet River Basin Development Commission. Mileage vouchers enclosed.

April 4 - April 29, 1988:

   Total miles - 370 miles @ $.25 = $92.50

[Signature]
Robert B. Stouffer

APPROVED:  
Dan Gardner  
Executive Director  
Little Calumet River Basin  
Development Commission
GENERAL ASSEMBLY APPROPRIATIONS TO DATE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>FISCAL YEAR APPROPRIATIONS</th>
<th>AMOUNT</th>
<th>FUND SOURCE</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1975-76 &amp; 76-77</td>
<td>$ 600,000</td>
<td>Cigarette Tax Fund</td>
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<tr>
<td>1977-78 &amp; 78-79</td>
<td>$ 2,000,000</td>
<td>Cigarette Tax Fund</td>
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<tr>
<td>1979-80 &amp; 80-81</td>
<td>$ 1,700,000</td>
<td>Cigarette Tax Fund</td>
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<tr>
<td>1981-82 &amp; 82-83</td>
<td>$ 1,000,000</td>
<td>Cigarette Tax Fund</td>
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<tr>
<td>1983-84 &amp; 84-85</td>
<td>$ 1,768,800</td>
<td>General Fund</td>
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<tr>
<td>(breakwater construction)</td>
<td>$ 400,000</td>
<td>General Fund</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(general purposes)</td>
<td>$ 3,000,000</td>
<td>General Fund</td>
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<tr>
<td>1987-88 &amp; 88-89</td>
<td>$ 2,000,000</td>
<td>General Fund</td>
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<tr>
<td>TOTAL 14 years</td>
<td>$12,468,800</td>
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</table>

EXPENDITURES AND CURRENT CASH POSITION

- Previously spent for Project purposes by Indiana D.N.R. (1976-1980) $2,649,800.00
  - Initial project acquisition & development studies
  - Appraisals, related technical services
  - Project land acquisition

- Expended to date by Development Commission for Project purposes (1981-present) $4,264,056.98
  - Land appraisal/acquisition services
  - Project land acquisition
  - Portage-Burns Waterway breakwater construction
  - Lake Etta park development
  - Interim river dredging project

- Current balances:
  - Base Capital Invested $700,000.00
  - Commission Local Operating account $207,545.00
  - Allotted State funds for draw down claim basis $750,643.74
  - State treasury account yet to be allotted by State Budget Committee $3,500,000.00
PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION COST APPORTIONMENT

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TOTAL PROJECT COST</th>
<th>$80,800,000 (1985 dollars)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total Federal Cost Items</td>
<td>$56,800,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total Non-Federal Cost Items</td>
<td>$24,000,000</td>
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NON-FEDERAL COST BREAKDOWN

- REAL ESTATE ACQUISITION & RELOCATIONS          $10,000,000
- BRIDGES & CULVERTS RECONSTRUCTION            $6,300,000
- UTILITIES RELOCATION/RECONSTRUCTION           $1,500,000
- CASH CONTRIBUTION BY NON-FEDERAL SPONSOR      $6,200,000

Includes as major items:
- FLOOD CONTROL MATCHING COSTS ($3,900,000)
  (5% cash contribution, up front for construction items in that year/cycle. New to the Reagan budget)
- 1/2 RECREATION COSTS ($1,500,000)
- FISH & WILDLIFE MITIGATION ($21,000)
- ENVIRONMENTAL ENHANCEMENT FEATURES ($54,000)

Source: U. S. Congress bills H.R.6, S.1567
          U. S. Army Corps of Engineers estimates

NOTE:
Total Project Cost and cost breakdowns represent the total cost estimate contained in the conference committee report recently passed by the House and Senate in Washington. The "Non-Federal Costs" are project totals and do not reflect any previous State/local appropriations or commitments in place for project match.
ANALYSIS OF NON-FEDERAL PROJECT RESPONSIBILITIES

1) LANDS/EASEMENTS/RIGHTS-OF-WAY ACQUISITION

STATUS: • 1600 acres of needed project lands are held/in process for acquisition by the Development Commission
• 920 acres are publicly held by other public agencies and are available for project use
• Over 70% of needed land has been acquired for the project
• Construction/maintenance easements will be sought vs outright purchase in remaining heavily developed sections of Hammond, Munster and Highland for purposes of levee/floodwall construction. This will reduce cost and aid in ease of procurement.

NEED ANALYSIS: • Approximately 1050 acres of project lands remain to be publicly acquired in fee simple ownership. Estimated cost is $3,500,000.
• Approximately 150 acres of land in the heavily populated corridor needs to be secured by easement for construction/maintenance of flood control levees. Estimated cost is not presently known but is anticipated to be below estimated outright acquisition cost of $1,500,000.
• Approximately $3,500,000 remains available from previously appropriated General Assembly funding for land acquisition purposes.
• An estimated $1,500,000 needs to be appropriated by the General Assembly to complete the land acquisition program.

2) BRIDGES & CULVERTS RECONSTRUCTION

STATUS: • Indiana Department of Highways has made tentative commitments for reconstruction of Grant St. (Gary) and Indianapolis Blvd. (Hammond-Highland) crossings of Little Calumet River. Lack of available funds have pushed projected implementation dates back.
• Estimated cost of these two projects is put at $2,874,000 in 1987 estimates memo.
• Reconstruction of Georgia Street culvert (Gary)/I-80/94 culverts crossing of river has never been estimated or scheduled by Department, but could cause greatest difficulty and disruption of traffic. This project needs to be addressed in earnest.
2) **BRIDGES & CULVERTS: RECONSTRUCTION (Cont'd)**

- Lake County Highway Department has removed (1987) culvert crossing of Taft St. right of way (Gary) over river.
- Additional Lake County Highway Dept. projects of Chase St., culverts reconstruction (Gary) and Virginia St. crossing obstructions removal (Gary) are currently being pursued by the Development Commission.

**NEED ANALYSIS**:

Assumption is that funding/scheduling commitments for bridge/culvert reconstruction projects by the responsibility of the respective Highway Department (State or County) who have jurisdictional responsibility for the roadway crossing. These reconstructions need to be formalized and fixed now to meet Federal Corps of Engineers construction schedule. Sponsor (Development Commission) has no jurisdiction to cause these commitments, but must be cooperative agreement of State agencies as to priority of project scheduling.

- The total commitment of funds for these projects is not shown as funding needed to be appropriated to the Development Commission, but is a non-Federal cost that must be born by the State or Lake County Highway Department funding mechanisms.

Estimated total need is put at some $4.8 million of State Highway responsible costs for the three projects.

3) **UTILITIES RELOCATION & RECONSTRUCTION**

**STATUS**:  
- Estimated $1,500,000 of utility line relocations are needed in constructing project.
- Each utility relocation is being analyzed by the Corps of Engineers as to whether it is integral to the flood control levee construction/location. If it is so judged, then the cost responsibility for relocation will be a Federal cost rather than a non-Federal cost. This determination will be made over the coming year.

**NEED ANALYSIS**:

Up to as much as $1,500,000 needs to be appropriated by the General Assembly for utility relocations and reconstructions.
3) UTILITIES RELOCATION & RECONSTRUCTION (Cont'd)

- Factors that could greatly reduce this needed State funding are:
  1) Determination by the Corps of Engineers that a great many utility lines are integral to the levee construction and thus a Federal cost, or
  2) Indiana D.W.R. permits for utility crossings of the Little Calumet River call for any needed relocations for construction of the "flood control channel" be accomplished at the utility's expense.

For budgeting purposes, up to $1,500,000 of State appropriations may be needed for utility relocations, although it appears optimistic that this figure can be greatly reduced.

4) NON-FEDERAL SPONSOR - CASH CONTRIBUTION

STATUS: • This is a new feature contained in the Reagan/Congressional Water Resources bill requirements. It contains an item including 5% cash contribution by the non-Federal sponsor up front for flood control construction items in the year of their construction; 1/2 cost share of project recreation development in year of each item construction; and contributions to environmental enhancement (landscaping).

NEED ANALYSIS• A total of $6,200,000 needs to be appropriated by the General Assembly for availability as match in designated construction years.
FUNDING CONCLUSIONS

Based upon the preceding analysis, certain conclusions can be made to best anticipate and meet the non-Federal construction requirements for the project.

- With the fall 1986 project construction authorization, actual construction is scheduled to begin in the FY 1990, contingent upon project land acquisition completion and non-Federal funding availability. Construction is anticipated to take 6 - 7 years.

- Allowing that most non-Federal items of cooperation are needed up front or concurrent with that particular construction year, the remaining non-Federal funding by the Indiana General Assembly is needed over the next 3 - 4 State biennium budget periods.

- An additional $7,700,000 - $9,200,000 is needed over the next 4 biennium budget periods to meet project non-Federal requirements.

- In order to meet anticipated project scheduling the funding is required as follows:

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<th>Biennium</th>
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<td>1995-96</td>
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Mr. Chairman, I would like to thank you and the other members of the Subcommittee for allowing me to address you today regarding funding for several water development projects in Northwest Indiana. The Water Resources and Development Act of 1986 (P.L 99-662) authorized four projects of significant importance to my District. It included an extensive flood control project along the Little Calumet River and Cady Marsh Ditch, a restoration project at Lake George in Hobart, and a beach nourishment project to alleviate erosion problems along Indiana's Lake Michigan shoreline.

Today I would like to request initial funding for the Lake George restoration project in the amount of $200,000. Included in P.L. 99-662, this project has not yet been funded. My request will allow the Corps of Engineers to begin design of the restoration project required to remove silt and other sediments from the watershed.

This is an important project that will restore the lake to an environmentally sound condition and provide a foundation for economic development in the Hobart community.

In regards to the Corps Budget requests for Fiscal Year (FY) 1989, I have reviewed their requests and support the following funding levels as follows:

- $30,000 for continued revetment repair in Beverly Shores, Indiana
- $1,373,000 for breakwater repair, dredging and the placing of stone in Burns Harbor
- $165,000 to carry out a beach monitoring program and surveys in the Burns Waterway Small Boat Harbor
- $87,000 to provide budget authority for the Corps to complete studies on dredging the Indiana Harbor Ship Canal
- $240,000 for the final study on flood control on the Little Calumet River, prior to the beginning of construction
- $55,000 for the repair of the east breakwater at the federal harbor facility in Michigan City, Indiana

In addition, I would like to bring to the Subcommittee's attention several concerns I have regarding the Corps budget requests for FY 1989. As noted above, $240,000 has been requested in FY 1989 for completion of the study of the Little Calumet River flood control project. Although I support this request I have some reservations about the Corp's additional request for study money. Last year I appeared before this Subcommittee and stated: "I fully support the Corps's 1988 budget request for $250,000 to complete design work for the Little Calumet River flood control plan in accordance with Plan 3A of the Report of the Engineers, dated July 2, 1984." It was my impression at the time that this request would enable the Corps to complete their work on this important flood control project. However, a year later I regret that I once again have to appear before the Subcommittee to request additional funds for this incomplete study.

Therefore, I want to assert that, unless otherwise noted by the Corps, their request for $240,000 in FY 1989 study money should allow the Corps to complete its study. The next request made should be for actual construction dollars.
Secondly, I believe that the Corps should use these monies only to study the implementation of Plan 3A of the flood control program. I understand that the Corps has been directed by the Administration to examine an alternative plan (referred to as Plan 3B which is a significant change in policy and not approved by the Congress) for this flood control project. This is contrary to the specific terms of P.L. 99-662 and, I find this action unacceptable. I encourage the Subcommittee to carefully monitor this project to ensure that the Corps acts in accordance with P.L. 99-662.

A final issue I would like to raise involves the Army Corps project to complete the final engineering study for a beach nourishment project. The Corps was directed in P.L. 99-662 to design and construct a shoreline protection project along the Indiana shoreline. Before any construction funds can be requested for this project, the Corps must first complete its study. It is my understanding that the study is underway. I would like to reaffirm my support for this project and underscore my desire to see the Corps work aggressively in 1988 so that an appropriate request for construction funds for this project can be made for FY 1990.

Given the important role each of these projects has on the local environment and economy in Northwest Indiana, I strongly support their inclusion in Energy and Water Development Appropriations Act for FY 1989.

Thank you again for this opportunity to testify.
March 28, 1988

Mr. Dan Gardner  
Little Calumet River Basin Commission  
8149 Kennedy Avenue  
Highland, Indiana 46322 

RE: LAKE COUNTY BRIDGE NO. 246  
NORTHCOTE AVENUE OVER LITTLE CALUMET RIVER  

Dear Mr. Gardner:  

Per our telephone conversation with Mr. Bruce Stouffer of your office, we are enclosing one (1) set of preliminary plans for the above referenced project for your review and comments. 

As we discussed with Mr. Stouffer, the proposed replacement structure will be constructed at approximately the same elevation as the existing structure. While a considerably larger waterway opening will be provided beneath the new structure, the two hundred year flood elevation will completely inundate both the existing and proposed structures. However, since this crossing is not a critical crossing which must be kept open for emergency access and since access to the structure will be blocked by flood control structures during extreme flood conditions, it is reasonable to allow this structure to remain below anticipated flood levels and simply design it to withstand the flood waters. 

We would appreciate your concurrence in keeping the proposed structure at approximately the same grade as the existing structure so we may proceed with obtaining an IDNR permit for construction. 

Regarding your question about sidewalks, the proposed structure will have a 5'-6" sidewalk on the west side only. 

Should you have any questions on the above, please let me know. 

Very truly yours, 

Ali S. Abuafares, P.E. 
Project Engineer 

ASA/icg  
Enclosure
April 14, 1988

Mr. Ali S. Abufarares, P.E.
Project Engineer
Condon Engineering Associates, Inc.
8777 Purdue Road, Suite 113
Indianapolis, IN 46268-3104

Re: Lake County Bridge No. 246
Northcote Ave. over Little Calumet River

Dear Mr. Abufarares:

I am writing in response to your letter of March 28 regarding the Little Calumet River Basin Development Commission's request for our concurrence on the Northcote Avenue bridge design.

The Development Commission is the state legislatively created local sponsor agency for the comprehensive flood control project with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers for the Little Calumet River in Lake and Porter counties. As such, we advocate proper management of the floodplain area and adequate improvements to any crossings of the river. Your design for a larger waterway opening is consistent with these goals and as such, we would concur in its implementation. The establishment of the elevation of the bridge deck is the responsibility of the technical permitting and plan engineering agencies. For the comprehensive flood improvement project, this elevation is needed to be coordinated with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. I understand your assertion that this crossing would be closed under extreme flood conditions even after the flood control project is constructed is correct. However, the concurrence allowing this elevation setting in your bridge design most properly resides with the Corps of Engineers and not this agency.
In summary, we are supportive of the needed structural reconstruction of the Northcote Bridge and of the improvement to the waterway opening and would have no objection to the elevation setting as long as it is acceptable to the Corps of Engineers and the State Department of Natural Resources.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Dan Gardner
Executive Director

/sjm
cc: James M. Ridenour, Dept. Natural Resources
    Dave Hunter, U. S. Army Corps of Engineers
Low lake level strands marinas

By Tom Knightly
Staff writer

Only 18 months ago the water was washing over the docks at some marinas in Northwest Indiana.

Now marina officials are worried that, at some marinas, the water won’t be deep enough.

Lake Michigan is down about 2 feet from a record high in October 1985.

The lower water levels in the lake, combined with accumulation of silt on the bottoms of tributaries, have resulted in a tremendous number of requests for dredging permits in the Great Lakes, according to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

Except for lakefront marinas at East Chicago and Michigan City, the marinas in Northwest Indiana are located on creeks and other waterways connecting to Lake Michigan, such as Burns Waterway and Salt Creek in Porter County and Trail Creek in Michigan City.

Silt can block the channels used by boats entering and leaving the lake.

“We have situations where marinas cannot open” unless dredging takes place, says Gary Mannesto, chief of the General Regulatory Branch of the Corps of Engineers District office in Detroit.

Mannesto said by far the greatest number of requests for dredging permits is from Michigan, with only one to his knowledge from Northwest Indiana — that from the Michigan City Port Authority on behalf of the authority and three marinas on Trail Creek.

Mannes to said the marina on Porter-Burns Waterway that were contacted reported no concern about being landlocked by low water or a shallow channel at the entrance to the waterway on Lake Michigan.

Ron Kniole, chairman of the Michigan City Port Authority, said the permit sought there

See Low water, Page 82.

A drop in Lake Michigan water levels has left part of this floating pier high and dry in Trail Creek in Michigan City.

Low water

...from Page 81

He said as a result of last year's dredging, boats have plenty of room to spare once they are in the creek.

Commercial vessels on the lakes have not reported any problems due to the drop in the water levels, said Mannesto.

While marinas may have problems with the low water, property owners along the Lake Michigan shoreline in Northwest Indiana are breathing a lot easier.

Many of them built seawalls to protect their property from the encroaching high water. Now they can look out on beaches dangerously close to lakefront homes.

Experts have said the record high water levels in the lakes were caused by above-average rainfall in the 300,000-square-mile Great Lakes drainage basin over 10 of the 50 years leading up to 1986.

The specialists predicted it would be 45 years before the lakes would return to their average 20th century levels, but then a severe dry period lasted from November 1986 to July 1987. The result is this year's low water levels.

Ron Wisnow of the Corps of Engineers said if water levels like the water levels this year, they should simply wait awhile.

“The reality is beginning to understand that any situation is very short-lived,” he said. “It’s never going to stay normal for any length of time.”

Peter Zak, owner of South Shore Marine on Burns Waterway, said he can live with the present water level. He said it's nothing compared to 1983 and 84, when he recalled, the level was four feet lower.

He said because of the fluctuating water levels he has adjustable docks that can be lowered or raised. He is beginning to understand that any situation is very short-lived. It’s never going to stay normal for any length of time.”

He said the reality is beginning to understand that any situation is very short-lived. It’s never going to stay normal for any length of time.”
## Monthly Budget Report

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MEMORANDUM

TO: Marina Committee members

FROM: Dan Gardner

DATE: May 5, 1988

RE: Update of marina development/breakwater issues

1. Col. Franco reported to me after the presentation to the State agency officials in Indianapolis on May 2nd that he has sent the official Corps of Engineers reply to C-Way Construction regarding their claim for additional compensation for the breakwater construction project. The position of the Corps is that no additional compensation/payment is due the contractor and that there exists no legal basis for the claim.

   C-Way must now accept this decision or file a written response/protest to this decision. Pending the discovery of new facts that have bearing on the decision, the only recourse to C-Way would be in the Federal courts.

The key point for the Development Commission is that the Corps has decided that no additional payments should be made to the contractor, of which we would have had to share 50% of that amount as per our contract with the Corps if there was judged a valid claim. Also, if the contractor still pursues the claim, the Corps will defend their position in court and we will not have to seek to be included, seeing as the Corps and our position is identical. To date, we still do not have any correspondence reporting this decision.
2. City of Portage attorney, Greg Sobkowski, has contracted me to inform us he is in the process of preparing his data before contacting General Telephone to cause their relocation of their telephone line under the Crisman Road right-of-way. We will be informed and included in any meetings with General Telephone once they are established. Enclosed is a letter just received from Attorney Sobkowski.

3. Following this memo is a letter received from Midwest Steel written to the Corps stating renewed concern over potential failure of their water intake pipe caused by the north breakwater.

   No response has been made to date to Midwest by the Corps.

4. Also enclosed for your information is a letter by Midwest Steel announcing a public meeting to be held Tuesday, May 10th at 6:30 p.m. to discuss future use/conversion of the sludge settling pond.
May 3, 1988

Mr. Ron Biggs
Engineering Supervisor
General Telephone Company
14 Lafayette Street
P.O. Box 431
Valparaiso, Indiana 46384

Dear Mr. Biggs:

I am writing to confirm the terms of our phone conversation of May 3, 1988. As I indicated to you, I am the City Attorney for the City of Portage. In October of 1966, GTE applied for a permit to cut into State Road 249 (Crisman Road) north of the Little Calumet River to the intersection of U.S. 12 to place a telephone conduit system. That permit (No. 53061) was granted on or about October 27, 1966. As a condition of the permit, GTE agreed to move or remove any structures installed under the permit at its own expense should further traffic conditions or road improvement necessitate, when requested to do so by the Indiana State Highway Commission. In 1987, the State Highway Commission transferred the roadway subject to the permit together with all its rights pursuant to the permit to the City of Portage.

The City is presently engaged in pursuing the development of the area north of the Little Calumet River to the intersection of U.S. 12 as a marina in conjunction with the Little Calumet River Basin Development Commission. As part of the marina development, the portion of the Highway 249 (Crisman Road) covered by the permit will be improved. In order for the road to be improved, GTE's conduit system must be relocated. It is my understanding that it may either be lowered 20 to 30 feet or moved approximately 100 feet east of its present location.

On behalf of the City of Portage, I am requesting that the conduit system be relocated in accordance with the terms of Permit No. 53061. You indicated that you would have to forward my letter to GTE's legal counsel for their review before a final decision could be made. You further indicated that you would need to see specific plans in order to evaluate the two relocation options. I will forward this request to the appropriate parties so that plans may be presented to you in the near future.
As I indicated to you during our phone conversation, this project must be commenced by July 1, 1988 or certain funding available to the City will be withdrawn. Therefore, your prompt attention to this matter will be greatly appreciated. Please contact me within 10 days of the receipt of this letter concerning GTE's response to this request.

It was a pleasure speaking with you on May 3, 1988. Thank you for your cooperation thus far. I look forward to an amicable resolution of this matter for the benefit of all of the residents of the City of Portage.

Very truly yours,

[Signature]

Gregory A. Sobkowski
Portage City Attorney

GAS:1st:M/176

cc: Hon. Sammie Maletta, Mayor
    City of Portage
    Portage City Hall
    6070 Central Avenue
    Portage, Indiana 46368

    Mr. Dan Gardner, Executive Director
    Little Calumet River Basin Development Commission
    8149 Kennedy Avenue
    Highland, Indiana 46322
April 13, 1988

Mr. J. P. D'Aniello  
Chief Engineer  
Department of the Army  
Chicago District  
Corps of Engineers  
219 South Dearborn Street  
Chicago, IL 60604-1797

Dear John:

SUBJECT: CONDITION OF SHEET PILE BULKHEAD PROTECTING MIDWEST STEEL DIVISION'S WATER INTAKE PIPE UNDER THE BREAKWATER AT THE ENTRANCE TO BURN'S WATERWAY

If you will recall, a meeting was held at Midwest Steel on September 23, 1987, on the above referenced subject. In attendance were representatives of Midwest Steel, Sverdrup & Parcel, Corps of Engineers, and Little Calumet River Basin Development Commission.

The focus of the meeting centered on Midwest Steel's concern as to the integrity of the bulkhead and breakwater and the possible impact a failure of the bulkhead and breakwater would have on Midwest Steel's operation. The emphasis was placed on obtaining O&M status for the structure in order to insure proper maintenance would be done.

In that meeting, the Corps of Engineers agreed to make a detailed inspection of the area by November 1, 1987. The results of that inspection and "as-built" drawings on the area were to be forwarded to Midwest Steel for review. Minutes of that meeting were sent by C. R. Carlson of Midwest Steel to all attendees. In addition, I wrote a follow-up letter to you, dated October 19, 1987, restating the content of the meeting.

The information received by Midwest Steel was not of sufficient detail or clarity to be of substantial use in determining the acceptability of the structure.

A recent visual inspection of the area, by Midwest Steel Engineers, indicates further deterioration of the bulkhead and breakwater has taken place over the past Winter. It appears some of the breakwater rock has been displaced and is now resting directly on the Midwest Steel water intake pipe.
Mr. J. P. D'Aniello  
Mr. M. L. Terry  
April 13, 1988  
Page 2

I believe the condition has significantly worsened over the past several months and I further believe the deterioration will continue if immediate action is not taken. The present situation places the Midwest Steel water intake in a critical condition and in turn, jeopardizes the entire operation at Midwest Steel.

I must request the Corps of Engineers take immediate action to remove the rock from the intake pipe and to reconstruct the sheet pile bulkhead by a design that will adequately protect the water intake pipe. Lack of immediate attention will only increase the probability of a catastrophic failure.

Your immediate attention to this matter is urgently requested. Representatives of Midwest Steel are available to discuss the actions required at any time.

If you have any questions or comments, do not hesitate to contact me. Your immediate attention to this situation will be greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

Michael L. Terry, Director  
Engineering & Construction

MLT/cs

cc: Mr. D. Gardner  
   Little Calumet River Basin Development Commission  
   8149 Kennedy Avenue  
   Highland, IN 46322
April 28, 1988

Mr. Dan Gardner, Director
Little Calumet River Comm.
8149 Kennedy Avenue
Highland, IN 46322

Dear Dan:

I have received some inquiries concerning the recent activity at National Steel's green belt landfill. Due to your or your organization's interest in the environmental issues related to our facility, I invite you to attend an informational meeting. The meeting will be held Tuesday, May 10, 1988 beginning at 6:30 p.m. at the Midwest Steel Employees Association located on Indiana 249 in Portage.

Representatives from National Steel Corporation and their engineering consultants will make presentations explaining the current greenbelt project, the status of the sludge lagoons, and National Steel's future plans for both sites.

If you plan to attend the meeting please call Carole Lewis at (219) 763-5537 by Friday, May 6, 1988.

Sincerely,

Clarence J. Ehlers
Manager, Public Affairs

CJE/mm
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