Emergency Management

October 30, 2018

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

SUBJECT: Little Calumet River Levees – 2018 East Reach Levee Inspections

Dear Mr. Repay:

This letter is to transmit to you our findings from the inspections of the levee segments conducted in June and July 2018. The reports consist of the standard Inspection Checklist, photos taken during the inspection, a map showing the locations of areas, and the Interim Eligibility Checklists. The Levee Segments have received the following ratings:

- Gary Burr – ‘Minimally Acceptable’
- Griffith Burr – ‘Minimally Acceptable’
- Gary North – ‘Minimally Acceptable’
- Gary South – ‘Minimally Acceptable’
- Marshalltown - ‘Unacceptable’

Deficiencies noted in the report should be addressed to ensure significant performance problems do not develop. Unacceptable ratings due to dense vegetation in the ditches that could impede flow, a missing electrical cover, and one of the 2 pumps at the Ironwood Pump Station not working are not related to the key criteria for eligibility for PL 84-99. The levee system is expected to be able to perform effectively in the next flood based on the conditions observed during this recent inspection. However, settlement of the levee crest that has lowered the crest below the design elevation in Marshalltown is a critical performance issue that should be addressed immediately and is the driver for the overall ‘Unsatisfactory’ rating. We understand that the Commission is working to resolve these issues. It was noted that some large animal burrows were found near the Indiana University Northwest which should be addressed promptly. All interim eligibility criteria for determining eligibility in the Rehabilitation Program have been met and therefore all the levees listed above are considered ‘Active’ in the P.L. 84-99 program.

For the levee segments in an ‘Active’ status, we will coordinate with you to conduct our next Routine Inspections in late spring/early summer 2019.

This year, we also inspected levee segments that form part of the levee systems, which the federal levees tied into. The ratings of these Non-Project Segments (NPS) do not affect the eligibility in the Rehabilitation Program, and no action is required related to these segments. However, they are included for your overall awareness as they may affect the levee system.
performance during a flood event. The results of these inspections are being included in the overall screening level risk assessments that we are performing on the levee systems.

- INDOT - 'Unacceptable'
- Griffith River Road NPS - 'Unacceptable'
- Gary North Railroad Tieback NPS - 'Unacceptable'
- Martin Luther King Drive NPS - 'Unacceptable'

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.

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.

Please contact Mr. William Rochford at (312) 846-5450 or me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Robert G. Paluch, M.S., P.E.
Chief, Readiness Section

Encls
1. Gary Burr Levee Inspection Report
2. Griffith Burr Levee Inspection Report
3. Griffith River Road NPS Levee Inspection Report
4. Gary North Levee Inspection Report
5. Gary North Railroad Tieback NPS Levee Inspection Report
6. Gary South Levee Inspection Report
7. INDOT NPS Levee Inspection Report
8. Martin Luther King Drive NPS Levee Inspection Report
9. Marshalltown Levee Inspection Report