

RUSSELL D. FEINGOLD  
WISCONSIN

506 HART SENATE OFFICE BUILDING  
WASHINGTON, DC 20510  
(202) 224-5323  
(202) 224-1280 (TDD)  
feingold.senate.gov

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY  
COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS  
COMMITTEE ON THE BUDGET  
SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON AGING  
DEMOCRATIC POLICY COMMITTEE

# United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-4904

September 1, 2004

Chairman Pete Domenici and Ranking Member Harry Reid  
Subcommittee on Energy and Water  
Senate Appropriations Committee  
129 Dirksen Senate Office Bldg.  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Domenici and Ranking Member Reid:

I am writing to support full funding for the Environmental Management Program (EMP) in the Army Corps' fiscal year (FY) 2005 budget. I urge the Committee to fund the EMP at the fully authorized level in the Corps' construction account. As the Committee is aware, the EMP was reauthorized in Water Resources Development Act of 1999 at a level of \$33.52 million. The President's FY 2005 budget, however, calls for \$28 million in funding. The House of Representatives' energy and water appropriations bill only funds the program at \$16 million, which is \$3 million less than FY 2004 actual funding.

The EMP is designed to enhance and restore the Upper Mississippi River System from Guttenberg, Iowa to the Twin Cities. The program supports critical river and wetlands habitat rehabilitation projects and long term monitoring of the river system. Habitat projects have included: dredging backwater areas and channels, constructing dikes, stabilizing islands, and controlling water levels and flows. The EMP program also helps to support the \$7 billion per year recreation and tourism industry on the Upper Mississippi and is strongly supported by the business communities along the river.

I understand the difficult task that the Committee faces in selecting funding priorities this year. I do not believe in supporting unnecessary programs. The EMP is crucial to the health of the Upper Mississippi River and to the local economies the river supports. I therefore urge you to fund the program at its fully authorized level.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

  
Russell D. Feingold

○ 1600 ASPEN COMMONS  
ROOM 100  
MIDDLETON, WI 53562  
(608) 828-1200  
(608) 828-1215 (TDD)

○ 517 EAST WISCONSIN AVENUE  
ROOM 408  
MILWAUKEE, WI 53202  
(414) 276-7282

○ 401 5TH STREET  
ROOM 410  
WAUSAU, WI 54403  
(715) 848-5660

○ 425 STATE STREET  
ROOM 225  
LA CROSSE, WI 54601  
(608) 782-5585

○ 1640 MAIN STREET  
GREEN BAY, WI 54302  
(920) 465-7508