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Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-2204

October 16, 2012

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Ms. Jo-Ellen Darcy
Assistant Secretary of the Army for Civil Works
108 Army Pentagon, Room 3E446
Washington, D.C. 20310

Dear Assistant Secretary Darcy:

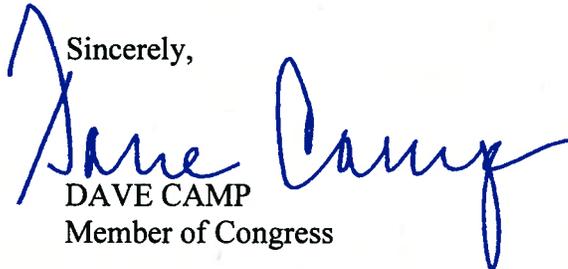
I am writing regarding the Army Corps of Engineers' (Corps) recent Great Lakes Mississippi River Interbasin Study (GLMRIS) Interim Report, released October 5, 2012. As you may be aware, the Water Resources Development Act of 2007 (WRDA 2007), which authorizes GLMRIS, requires the Corps to complete a feasibility study on means to prevent the transfer of aquatic invasive species between the Great Lakes and Mississippi River basins.

The Stop Invasive Species Act, which was included in Public Law 112-141 (MAP-21), amends WRDA 2007 to require the Corps to complete this feasibility study, with a specific focus on hydrological separation, by January 6, 2014. However, the Corps' Interim Report explicitly states it does not intend to complete a feasibility study, but rather will offer merely a report identifying "several alternatives" for further study to be considered at the Corps' discretion.

I believe the work plan outlined by the Corps in the Interim Report will not fulfill its legal obligations under WRDA 2007, as amended by MAP-21. Accordingly, I request a response from you on the following: 1) Details on how the Corps concluded it is unable to complete a feasibility study by the required date; 2) Details on how the Corps concluded the product they plan to complete in December 2013 meets the law's requirement to produce a feasibility study; 3) Whether the Secretary of the Army, who the law holds responsible for its implementation, is committed to seeing through GLMRIS to a feasibility study that can be acted upon by Congress.

Your reply and any questions may be directed to my Washington, D.C. office. I appreciate your prompt response on this matter.

Sincerely,


DAVE CAMP
Member of Congress