



EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT  
OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20503

June 2, 2008

The Honorable John Paul Woodley, Jr.  
Assistant Secretary of the Army (Civil Works)  
108 Army Pentagon  
Washington D.C. 20310-0108

Dear Mr. Woodley:

As required by Executive Order 12322, the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) has completed its review of your recommendation concerning deauthorization of the Mississippi River Gulf Outlet (MRGO).

Your recommendation for this project is consistent with the policy and programs of the President. However, we note that the study does not address certain requirements of the 2007 Water Resources Development Act, including developing a plan to restore the natural features of the ecosystem to reduce or prevent storm damages and a plan to prevent the intrusion of saltwater into the waterway. As such, Army's transmittal letter to Congress should clearly note that the Army Corps' development of these plans is ongoing. Approval of this report is not an endorsement of the future findings or recommendations of these ongoing studies. When completed, the Army Corps should submit its recommendations regarding these additional plans to OMB for review under Executive Order 12322.

The Office of Management and Budget does not object to you submitting this report to Congress.

Sincerely,

Richard A. Mertens  
Deputy Associate Director  
Energy, Science, and Water

ENCL 6