



FEMA

March 29, 2021

David Busse
Levee Safety Officer, Chief, Engineering and Construction Division
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, St. Louis District
1222 Spruce Street
St. Louis, MO 63103

RE: Wood River Flood Protection Project
Upper Wood River Levee System
Madison County, Illinois

Dear Mr. Busse:

This letter is written pursuant to the compliance review performed by U.S. Department of Homeland Security's Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) of the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) Levee System Evaluation Report (LSER) for the Wood River Flood Protection Project, Upper Levee System in the Madison County, Illinois. These documents were submitted by the St. Louis District of U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) and include submissions dated March 10, 2017 June 18, 2018, November 18, 2018, and February 9, 2021.

Documents submitted to FEMA included data and documentation to support accreditation of the Wood River Flood Protection Project, Upper Levee System.

FEMA performed a compliance review of all data and certifications submitted. Based on FEMA's compliance review, all applicable requirements to reflect full accreditation have been met for the Wood River Flood Protection Project, Upper Levee System. In response, FEMA plans to recognize the Wood River Flood Protection Project, Upper Levee System as accredited on the future *Preliminary* FIRM. The flood hazard areas landward of this system will be mapped as shaded Zone X and Special Flood Hazard Area for interior drainage areas. An updated levee system accreditation note will be placed in that area of the FIRM panel. FEMA accreditation of a levee system does not guarantee that the levee will provide flood hazard reduction to properties from flooding; therefore, FEMA has included a note on related FIRM panels that overtopping, or failure of an accredited levee system is possible.

FEMA recognizes the dedication of USACE and other levee stakeholders to address, understand, and effectively communicate the risks associated with living and working landward of the Wood River Flood Protection Project and looks forward to our continued partnership. Please be advised that if the risk associated with this levee system changes or is updated, FEMA should be notified and may update the hazard associated with this levee system.

Wood River Flood Protection Project
Upper Levee System
March 29, 2021

The FEMA lead for this Madison County map update is John Wethington. Mr. Wethington may be contacted by phone at (312) 408-5485, or by email at john.wethington@fema.dhs.gov. Please do not hesitate to contact the Region V office if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mary Beth Caruso". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Mary" and last name "Caruso" being clearly legible.

Mary Beth Caruso
Director, Mitigation Division
FEMA Region V

All "cc" communications delivered by electronic correspondence.

cc: Mr. Kevin Williams, Wood River Drainage & Levee District
Mr. Joe Silkwood, Mayor, Village of East Alton
Mr. Brant Walker, Mayor, City of Alton
Mr. Gary Cranmer, Director of Building and Zoning, Village of East Alton
Mr. Vince Warlick, Director of Building and Zoning, City of Alton
Mr. Steve Brendel, Stormwater Coordinator, Madison County
Mr. Charles Etwert, Chief Supervisor, Southwestern Illinois Flood Prevention District Council
Mr. David Busse, Levee Safety Officer, Chief, Eng. and Construction Division, USACE, St. Louis District
Ms. Rachel Lopez, Levee Safety Program Manager, USACE, St. Louis District
Mr. Jeremy Eck, Acting Levee Safety Program Manager, USACE, St. Louis District
Mr. Hal Graef, Project Manager, USACE, St. Louis District
Ms. Tracey Kelsey, Project Manager, USACE, St. Louis District
Ms. Marilyn Sucoe, Acting NFIP State Coordinator, Illinois Department of Natural Resources
Mr. Dan Shulman, External Affairs, FEMA Region V