



MISSISSIPPI RIVER COMMISSION

1400 Walnut Street
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May 19, 2026

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Mr. Tim Maiers
Executive Director
Midwest Flood Control Association
7134 S. 78th Street
Payson, IL 62360

Dear Mr. Maiers:

Thank you for joining the Mississippi River Commission during the 415th Session of its Annual High-Water Inspection Trip and for providing written testimony at our public hearing in New Madrid, Missouri, on March 23, 2026. This tradition of listening, partnering and inspecting goes back to the Commission's very first inspection trip in 1879. Your participation in this historic tradition is critical for helping the Commission better understand and develop solutions to the water resource challenges facing the people of the valley.

The Commission is pleased to hear about your improved relationship and dialogue with the Rock Island District. The support and partnership of the St. Louis and Rock Island districts and having their leadership and staff meet with partners in the upper valley is a critical component of getting a practical, actionable plan for flood control. We strongly support the efforts of the Midwest Flood Control Association to secure a comprehensive plan for flood control for the upper basin.

We agree that the Upper Mississippi River-Flow Frequency Study results should be used in a manner that supports realistic and implementable solutions. The Commission also agrees that the study results should merely be used as an informative tool, not as a regulatory enforcement tool that could affect levee accreditation, flood insurance rates, and property values. These considerations are important factors in evaluating future actions and underscore the need for the St. Louis and Rock Island districts to continue open and active dialogue with affected communities and stakeholders. We ask that district leaders continue to engage with you and listen to your concerns.

Since 1879, the seven-member Presidentially appointed Mississippi River Commission has developed and matured plans for the general improvement of the Mississippi River from the Head of Passes to the Headwaters. The Mississippi River Commission brings critical engineering representation to the drainage basin, which impacts 41% of the United States and includes 1.25 million square miles, over 250 tributaries, 31 states, and 2 Canadian provinces.

Listening, Inspecting, Partnering and Engineering since 1879

Once again, thank you for your testimony. We look forward to hearing from you on future inspection trips and working together to improve the watershed so that future generations can continue to enjoy this incredible system we have inherited.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Kimberly A. Peebles', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Kimberly A. Peebles
Major General, U.S. Army
President, Mississippi River
Commission