United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-2405

September 6, 2023

COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, NUTRITION, AND FORESTRY

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

> COMMITTEE ON RULES AND ADMINISTRATION

Colonel Cullen Jones Commander, New Orleans District U.S. Army Corps of Engineers 7400 Leake Avenue New Orleans, LA 70118

Dear Colonel Jones:

I am writing regarding the Lower Mississippi River Comprehensive Management Study authorized under section 213 of the Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) of 2020.

As you carry out the study, I respectfully request that you provide the Mississippi Sound Coalition opportunities for active and meaningful involvement throughout the consultation and data-sharing process. Further, I hope you will welcome input from the Mobile District, which has a strong understanding of the Mississippi Sound and the challenges it has faced in recent years. Lastly, I encourage you to ensure that local Mississippi River and Tributaries (MR&T) project sponsors, such as the Mississippi Levee Board and the Yazoo-Mississippi Delta Levee Board, have a seat at the table as well.

Thank you for taking this matter into thoughtful consideration, and please do not hesitate to contact me or members of my staff should you wish to discuss further.

Sincerely,

CINDY HYDE-SMITH

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United States Senator