DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS
WASHINGTON DC 20314-1000

REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF:

31 MAR 2011

CECW-MVD

MEMORANDUM FOR COMMANDER, Mississippi Valley Division (CEMVD-PD)

SUBJECT: Implementation Guidance for Section 3177 of the Water Resources Development Act of 2007 (WDRA 2007) – UPPER MISSISSIPPI RIVER SYSTEM ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

1. Section 3177 amends Section 1103(e)(1)(A)(ii) of WRDA 1986 by inserting before the period at the end the following: ", including research on water quality issues affecting the Mississippi River (including elevated nutrient levels) and the development of remediation strategies". A copy of Section 1103 of WRDA 1986, as amended, is enclosed.

2. Upper Mississippi River System Environmental Management Program (UMRS EMP) actions carried out under Section 1103(e)(1)(A)(ii) are referred to collectively as the Long Term Resources Monitoring Program (LTRMP). Based upon prior guidance provided in 1986, 1987, 1988, 1989, 1990, and 2000, the LTRMP has been monitoring, performing research, and participating in the development of water quality remediation strategies in direct support of fish and wildlife Habitat Rehabilitation and Enhancement Projects, a component of the UMRS EMP authority. Since water quality remediation is not a mission of USACE, no work will be undertaken beyond efforts currently supporting aquatic ecosystem restoration unless funds are specifically appropriated to address water quality remediation as a stand-alone research area or mission.

FOR THE COMMANDER:

Theodore A. Brown

Encls

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WRDA 1986, SECTION 1103 (e)(1)(A)(ii), as amended by WRDA 1999 SECTION 509 and WRDA 2007, SECTION 3177.

"(e) PROGRAM AUTHORITY.--

"(1) AUTHORITY.--

"(A) IN GENERAL.--The Secretary, in consultation with the Secretary of the Interior and the States of Illinois, Iowa, Minnesota, Missouri, and Wisconsin, may undertake, as identified in the master plan--

"(i) a program for the planning, construction, and evaluation of measures for fish and wildlife habitat rehabilitation and enhancement; and

"(ii) implementation of a long-term resource monitoring, computerized data inventory and analysis, and applied research program including research on water quality issues affecting the Mississippi River (including elevated nutrient levels) and the development of remediation strategies.