Protecting your laboratory environment
LABCONCO
LABCONCO CORPORATION
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December 1, 2014

RE: Blue River Basin
Kansas City, Missouri

Dear U. S. Army Corps of Engineers:

On behalf of Labconco Corporation's 200 employees who work each day in our 8811 Prospect Avenue production and corporate headquarters facility, we are requesting your support to modify the Blue River Basin total project cost to $47,000,000 fully funded to allow for the completion of the Big Blue River Basin Levee and Flood Wall System. Labconco's primary facilities are located within the Dodson Industrial District. The entire District desperately needs protection from floods of the Blue River. The flooding of the river has increased over the last several years, causing considerable damage to businesses in the Dodson District. There have been significant economic losses with businesses, roads and utilities shut down throughout the years due to these floods.

During recent years, Labconco has invested heavily in our Prospect Avenue location, including a 41,000 square foot expansion of our production facility at a cost of nearly $2 million plus substantial additional investment in new equipment and other facility upgrades designed to support current and future growth in our production requirements. Labconco produces high quality laboratory equipment which is used in research and development on a global basis. Currently, over 30% of our sales are exported to customers outside the United States. Labconco has operated at this location for over 50 years and has witnessed the impact of flooding in this area. Further, because of the continued substantial risk of flooding, we incur significant additional costs including incremental construction costs and operating expenses (flood insurance and other costs) which adversely impact our ability to be competitive in domestic and global markets.

We believe the current state of the river basin has a direct impact on the economic viability of our property and the future industrial development in this area. We are asking for the project total cost modification and appropriations to complete the upgrade of flood protection in the Dodson Industrial District, to protect our substantial investment in the area and to provide for future investments in this industrial district. Businesses have made significant investment in this area and economic growth will continue if the project is completed. In addition to Labconco, many other companies have invested since the project started years ago on the faith that the project would be completed. With only a portion of the floodwall finished, the investment to date has no value and might actually increase the risk of loss to our property due to our close proximity to the unfinished portion of the levee and flood wall system. Please honor your commitment to Dodson and finish the Blue River Basin project.

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As you look ahead to the 2015 budget, we are requesting completion of the flood protection project. Our area has been able to fund and construct part of the project, and we are asking that Congress continue your commitment to fund the Blue River Basin project through its completion. We believe completion of this project is vital to protecting the economic viability of the Dodson Industrial District.

Sincerely,
LABCONCO CORPORATION

Stephen E. Gound

Stephen E. Gound
Chairman