

U.S. Department of Homeland Security  
FEMA Region V  
536 South Clark Street, 6th Floor  
Chicago, IL 60605



**FEMA**

November 14, 2019

Michael L. Sullivan  
President, Prairie Du Pont Levee and Sanitary District  
1327 Davis St Ferry Road  
East Carondelet, IL 62240

Gary A. Stumpf  
Chief Executive Officer, Fish Lake Drainage and Levee District  
10702 Levee Road  
Columbia, IL 62236

RE: St. Clair and Monroe County, Illinois, Prairie du Pont and Fish Lake,  
Illinois Flood Protection Project Certification Documents

Dear Mr. Sullivan and Mr. Stumpf:

This letter is in reference to documents and certifications submitted to the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) by Wood Environment & Infrastructure Solutions, Inc. (Wood) to demonstrate that the Prairie du Pont and Fish Lake Flood Protection Project complies with minimum requirements of the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) for purposes of showing flood protection against Base (one-percent annual chance) Flood Elevations of the Mississippi River and relevant tributaries. Applicable regulations are found at Title 44 of the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), Section 65.10 (44 CFR Section 65.10). The documents and certifications were submitted by Wood under various cover dated July 6, 2017, June 29, 2018, July 5, 2018, April 16, 2019, and July 24, 2019. This letter serves to provide notice that the submitted documentation and data have been reviewed for completeness and have been determined to meet the minimum certification criteria outlined in 44 CFR Section 65.10

Documentation and certifications from Wood per the above-referenced dates were submitted on behalf of the Prairie du Pont Levee and Sanitary District and Fish Lake Drainage and Levee District, agencies created by Illinois state law for oversight of operations and maintenance of the Prairie Du Pont Levee and Sanitary District & Fish Lake Drainage and Levee District (PDP-FL) levee system. Materials submitted by Wood substantiate that operations and maintenance plans have been adopted by the Prairie du Pont Levee and Sanitary District and Fish Lake Drainage and Levee District as required to support levee accreditation under provisions of 44 CFR Section 65.10.

These submissions, provided under the direction of the Southwestern Illinois Flood Protection District Council, were received in response to FEMA's ongoing actions to update Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRMs) for communities in the Counties of St. Clair and Monroe. FEMA retains the right to have conversations with the levee owner about the status of the system as an accredited levee. We also ask that you advise this office should new or updated information become available regarding loading conditions or other design or operational considerations.

While levees can help reduce the risk of flooding, it is important to remember that they do not eliminate the risk. For those living or working near levees, it is important to understand the risk, learn the facts, and be aware of steps that can be taken to reduce the risk to their families, businesses, and communities from the threat of flooding. For these reasons, FEMA encourages community leaders to continue their risk communications to help everyone understand their risk. The NFIP was created to reduce flood damages by identifying flood risks, encouraging sound community floodplain management practices, and providing flood insurance to lessen the financial impact of flood damage. Through the NFIP, property owners in participating communities are able to insure against flood losses.

The FEMA lead for this project is Ken Hinterlong. Mr. Hinterlong may be contacted by phone at (312) 408-5529, or by email at [ken.hinterlong@fema.dhs.gov](mailto:ken.hinterlong@fema.dhs.gov). Please do not hesitate to contact the Region V office if you have any questions.

Sincerely,



Mary Beth Caruso  
Director, Mitigation Division  
FEMA Region V

cc: Mr. Curtis McCall Jr., Mayor, Village of Cahokia  
Mr. Kevin Hutchinson, Mayor, City of Columbia  
Mr. Jerald Wilson, President, Village of Dupo  
Mr. Herbert Simmons, President, Village of East Carondelet  
Mr. Mike Fausz, Floodplain Coordinator, Monroe County  
Ms. Anne Markezich, NFIP Coordinator, St. Clair County  
Mr. Charles Etwert, Chief Supervisor, Southwestern Illinois Flood Prevention District Council  
Mr. Randy Cook Jr., Senior Civil Engineer, Wood Environment & Infrastructure Solutions, Inc.  
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. Paul Osman, NFIP State Coordinator, Illinois Department of Natural Resources  
Mr. Dan Shulman, External Affairs, FEMA Region V