CESAM-PD-F 6 March 1998

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Alternative Sand Recapture Technologies for Dauphin Island Alabama

1. On 25 February 1998, I attended a meeting in Montgomery, Alabama, called by State Senator Steve Windom to discuss alternative sand recapture technologies for Dauphin Island, Alabama (see enclosed letter), particularly a technique developed by Mr. Bill Parker. The legislative language referred to in Mr. Windom's letter is found in House Report 105-190 which accompanied the Energy and Water Development Appropriations Bill for 1998. A copy of that language is enclosure 2. The following is a list of those attending the meeting:

Name	Representing
Mr. Steve Windom	Alabama Senate
Mr. Hap Meyers	Alabama Senate
Mr. Michael Davis	Senator Windom's Office
Dr. George Crozier	Dauphin Island Sea Lab
Mr. Brad Gane	Alabama Department of Environmental Management
Mr. Gil Gilder	Alabama Department of Economic and Community Affairs
Dr. Scott Douglass	University of South Alabama
Mr. Robert T. Crowe	Walter Industries, Inc.
Mr. Bill Parker	Parker Beach Restoration
Mr. Alex Farris	Farris, Harden & Associates
Mr. Pete Robinson	Corps of Engineers, EN-HD

2. The meeting, although called by Mr. Windom, was apparently organized by Mr. Crow who is the Director of Public Affairs for Walter Industries, Inc. Mr. Crow stated that much of his work involves lobbying activities in Washington, D.C. When asked why he was involved in the erosion issues of Dauphin Island, he replied that he simply saw a problem and wanted to assist in solving it. Mr. Crow stated that he was responsible for the language in the House Report.

3. Mr. Parker made a presentation to demonstrate his sand recapture technique, which involves the installation of nets in the surf zone to capture sand and rebuild the beach. His technique has been used in Naples, Florida from 21 October 1987 to 7 April 1988. The nets extended about 150 feet into the surf. A second application of his techniques was at Port Fouchon, Louisiana, beginning in November 1988 and utilized a smaller webbing in the nets. In both cases photos indicated that the beach accreted during the

time the nets were in use. Mr. Parker stated that no monitoring had been performed either up-drift or down-drift of the projects to determine other effects on the beach. Following the Naples effort, Mr. Parker stated that the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers built a beach nourishment project that superceded his effort. At Port Fouchon, the accreted beach has since been eroded.

4. Dr. Douglass pointed out that the projects at Naples and Port Fouchon had both been performed during a time of the year when there is a natural tendency for beaches to rebuild. He also stated that because of the lack of monitoring, it is unclear just how successful his technique was or would be.

5. During the course of the meeting I explained that the language in House Report 105-190 urging "the Corps to develop a beach restoration project utilizing alternative sand recapture technologies" does not authorize the Corps to do anything out of the ordinary. Accordingly, if the Town of Dauphin Island or other non-Federal government would request a feasibility study under the authority of Section 103 of the River and Harbor Act of 1962, we would request funds to initiate the study. During the course of the study, alternative sand recapture technologies could be evaluated. I also summarized other Corps programs available to the State and local interests to assist in studying/solving the beach erosion problem. All of these programs, however, require cost sharing to some extent, a requirement for public access to the beach, or favorable benefit-cost ratio. I also stated that there seemed to be little likelihood that a beach project for Dauphin Island could be developed that would be consistent with current Administration policies. I encouraged the State representatives, in concert with local Dauphin Island interests, to decide on a course of action then meet with Corps representatives to determine what can be done within existing authorities and what would require additional Congressional authorization.

Roger A. Burke

Encls
as

ROGER A. BURKE
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CONSERVATION, ENVIRONMENT & NATURAL RESOURCES

FEB 1998
Received
Coastal
Programs

February 5, 1998

Mr. Phillip Hinesley
Coastal Program Manager
ADECA - Coastal Program
1208 Main Street
Daphne, Alabama 36526

Re: Dauphin Island Beach Restoration
Fiscal Year 1998 – Water and Energy Appropriations Bill

Dear Mr. Hinesley:

I am writing to schedule a meeting and move forward with a request to secure the necessary support and funds to launch a beach restoration project. This restoration project involves using the environmentally compatible procedure of controlling the deposit of sand suspended in currents traveling near the shore.

Congressman Sonny Callahan has placed very significant language in the Water and Energy Appropriations Bill directing the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to develop a demonstration project using the specific procedure developed by Bill Parker. The language in the bill identifies the need and also the procedures that will be used for the project.

I am calling a meeting to discuss this effort as follows:

Date:	February 25, 1998
Time:	8:00 a.m.
Place:	Holiday Inn Madison, Montgomery, Alabama

Please confirm your attendance by contacting Winks Kelley at (334) 242-7118. We look forward to hearing from you!

Sincerely,

Steve Windom

SRW/wpk

105TH CONGRESS } HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES { REPORT
1st Session } { 105–271

MAKING APPROPRIATIONS FOR ENERGY AND WATER DEVELOPMENT FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 1998, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

SEPTEMBER 26, 1997.—Ordered to be printed

Mr. MCDADE, from the committee on conference, submitted the following

CONFERENCE REPORT

[To accompany H.R. 2203]

The committee of conference on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on the amendment of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 2203) "making appropriations for energy and water development for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1998, and for other purposes", having met, after full and free conference, have agreed to recommend and do recommend to their respective Houses as follows:

That the House recede from its disagreement to the amendment of the Senate, and agree to the same with an amendment, as follows:

In lieu of the matter stricken and inserted by said amendment, insert:

That the following sums are appropriated, out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1998, for energy and water development, and for other purposes, namely:

TITLE I

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE—CIVIL

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY

CORPS OF ENGINEERS—CIVIL

The following appropriations shall be expended under the direction of the Secretary of the Army and the supervision of the Chief of Engineers for authorized civil functions of the Department of the

$400,000 for a flood warning system for the Tug Fork Basin. In addition, the conferees are aware of the flood situation at Haysi Dam and urge the Corps of Engineers to reevaluate the benefit-cost analysis and provide to the Committees on Appropriations of the House and the Senate a report on the Haysi Dam, Virginia, element of the project prior to submission of the fiscal year 1999 budget. The conference agreement also deletes language proposed by the Senate which provided that flood warning systems for the Tug Fork and Levisa Basins would be undertaken at full Federal expense.

Using $463,000 of the funds provided for the LaFarge Lake and Kickapoo River, Wisconsin, project, the Corps of Engineers is directed to complete the Memorandum of Understanding between the Ho-Chunk Nation and the State of Wisconsin, evaluate a conservation easement, covenant, or other appropriate legal instrument for the protection of archeological resources at the site, start processing real estate documents for future land transfers, and continue coordination activities as authorized by the Water Resources Development Act of 1996. The remaining $250,000 is for planning and engineering of the highway relocations and to complete required NEPA documentation as authorized.

The conference agreement includes $40,000,000 for the Section 205 program. Using those funds, the Corps of Engineers is directed to proceed with the projects described in the House and Senate reports. For the Lake Carl Blackwell project in Oklahoma, the Corps of Engineers may use available funds to proceed with plans and specifications for the project. In addition, the Corps of Engineers is directed to proceed with studies of flooding problems along Dry Creek in Cortland County, New York, and the Lamoille and Missisquoi Rivers in Vermont.

The conferees agree that the Huntsville Spring Branch, Alabama, project funded by the House under Section 206 of the Water Resources Development Act of 1996 should proceed as a small flood control project under the Section 205 program. The conferees also agree that the Reno, Nevada, project and the Lycoming County, Pennsylvania, project should proceed under the Section 205 program.

The conference agreement includes $11,000,000 for the Section 14 program. Using those funds, the Corps of Engineers is directed to proceed with the projects described in the House and Senate reports.

The conference agreement includes $3,000,000 for the Section 103 program. Using those funds, the Corps of Engineers is directed to proceed with the projects described in the House report.

The conference agreement includes $11,400,000 for the Section 107 program. Using those funds, the Corps of Engineers is directed to proceed with the projects described in the House and Senate reports.

The conference agreement includes $2,000,000 for the Section 208 program. Using those funds, the Corps of Engineers is directed to proceed with the projects described in the House report.

The aquatic restoration project at Hamilton Army Airfield in Marin County, California, funded under the Section 204 program

105TH CONGRESS
1st Session
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
REPORT
105–190

ENERGY AND WATER DEVELOPMENT APPROPRIATIONS BILL, 1998

JULY 21, 1997.—Committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union and ordered to be printed

Mr. MCDADE, from the Committee on Appropriations, submitted the following

REPORT

[To accompany H.R. 2203]

The Committee on Appropriations submits the following report in explanation of the accompanying bill making appropriations for energy and water development for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1998, and for other purposes.

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Clearing and Snagging for Flood Control (Section 208).—The Committee has provided $2,000,000 for the Section 208 program, $1,500,000 more than the budget request. From within the funds provided, the bill includes: $500,000 for a project to remove sediment from Blackwood Creek in California; $500,000 for a project to remove sediment from Ward Creek in California; and $50,000 to clear debris from Saw Mill Creek in the Borough of Milford, Pensylvania.

Small Beach Erosion Control Projects (Section 103).—The Committee has provided $3,000,000 for the Section 103 program, the same as the budget request. From within the funds provided, the bill includes: $100,000 for a study of beach erosion control measures at the former U.S. Coast Guard seaplane base in Miami, Florida; and $800,000 to complete the Shelter Island/Ram Island Causeway project in New York.

The Committee recognizes the serious erosion problems being experienced on the east end of Dauphin Island, Alabama. To counter this threat to property and habitat, the Committee urges the Corps of Engineers, acting in coordination with non-Federal interests, to initiate a beach restoration project on the east end of Dauphin Island, Alabama, utilizing alternative sand recapture technologies.

Small Navigation Projects (Section 107).—The Committee has provided $11,400,000 for the Section 107 program, $6,400,000 more than the budget request. From within the funds provided, the bill includes: $250,000 for planning associated with the project to deepen the West Turning Basin at Canaveral Harbor in Florida; $150,000 for a feasibility study for construction of a harbor of refuge at Duluth (McQuade Road) Harbor, Minnesota; $1,500,000 for construction of a harbor of refuge at Taconite Harbor, Minnesota; $3,500,000 for construction of a harbor of refuge at Two Harbors, Minnesota; $50,000 for completion of the feasibility study for the Morehead City Harbor, North Carolina, project; $100,000 for a feasibility study for the Buffalo Inner Harbor, New York, project; $100,000 for a feasibility study for the Union Ship Canal, New York, project; and $31,000 for a feasibility study of expanding the turning basin at the Port of Morrow, Oregon, project.

Project Modifications for Improvement of the Environment (Section 1135).—The Committee has provided $21,175,000 for the section 1135 program, $7,000,000 more than the budget request. Within the funds provided, the bill includes: $2,770,000 for construction of the Ajo Detention Basin project in Arizona; $2,100,000 for completion of plans and specifications and the initiation of land acquisition for the Gunnerson Pond, California, project; $500,000 for completion of plans and specifications and initiation of construction for the Pine Flat Dam Turbine Bypass, California, project; $150,000 for a project modification plan for the Wildcat-San Pablo Creeks, California, project; $1,350,000 for design and construction of the Middle Creek, California, project; $200,000 for construction of manatee protection features at Canaveral Locks in Florida; $3,133,000 for construction of the Lower Amazon Creek Restoration and Protection project in Oregon; $1,000,000 for the Mecklenburg County Streambank Stabilization and Restoration project in North Carolina; $1,000,000 for an environmental restoration project at Lake Wallenpuapack, Wayne County, Pennsylvania; $1,052,000 for