

MISSISSIPPI RIVER COMMISSION



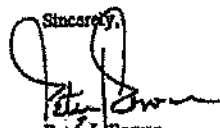
April 15, 2016

INTRODUCE YOURSELF

Mosler

“There is no easy answer to the fluff problem. The Corps cannot prescribe a single solution. Were we able to do that, it would have been done a long time ago. We need the help of the port and the users of the channel, along with a variety of technical experts to shape the framework of possible solutions. That is how we intend to go forward.”

LETTER TO MORGAN CITY HARBOR AND
TERMINAL DISTRICT DATED FEBRUARY 13, 2004

Sincerely,

Peter J. Rowan
Colonel, U.S. Army
District Engineer



THIS SLIDE IS WHAT I STARTED MY PRESENTATION TO YOU WITH DURING THE LOW WATER PUBLIC MEETING AUGUST OF 2015.

A STATEMENT FROM COLONEL PETER ROWAN DATED 2/13/2004

ASKED FOR ASSISTANCE FROM THE PORT, USERS & TECHNICAL EXPERTS TO COME UP WITH POSSIBLE SOLUTIONS FOR FLUFF IN THE BAR CHANNEL.



OUR AREA OF CONCERN – THE LOWER ATCHAFALAYA RIVER BAR CHANNEL

WHERE FLUID MUD REFERRED TO AS “FLUFF” FORMS AND CREATES SERIOUS PROBLEMS FOR NAVIGATION

OUR FLUFF SOLUTION AUGUST 2015

- Work with the Corps to implement a dredging program that de-densifies fluff through continuous re-suspension
- Think “outside the box”



WHEN I SPOKE TO YOU IN AUGUST, WE SAID WE WANTED TO WORK WITH THE CORPS TO IMPLEMENT A PROGRAM THAT DE-DENSIFIES FLUFF THROUGH CONTINUOUS RE-SUSPENSION.

WE ASKED THE CORPS TO JOIN US IN THINKING “OUTSIDE OF THE BOX”.

WE INTRODUCED AN IDEA, AND CORPS HEADQUARTERS, DIVISION AND DISTRICT ALL BOUGHT IN TO THAT CONCEPT.

AND WE WANT TO THANK EVERYONE WHO WORKED WITH US.

OUR FLUFF SOLUTION APRIL 2016



- Worked with COE to determine most suitable equipment and how to gather good scientific data that will either prove to be successful or tell us to go back to the drawing board
- The main reason this method of dredging was chosen was because it has been proven successful in the past.
- A hopper dredge demonstration was completed in early 2002. The test was only for 10 – 14 days, but results were promising.
- When the Corps completed a VE Study in 2010 this method of dredging was again determined to be a good choice.

OUR FLUFF SOLUTION APRIL 2016



- This dredge was picked because of its pumping capabilities
- You can see how thick the fluff is in this photo.

OUR FLUFF SOLUTION APRIL 2016

- Demonstration dredging project is scheduled for June 2016
- Permits are issued
- Contract is in place
- Waiting for dredge to finish work on current job



- Demonstration dredging project is schedule for June 2016 and will run for 60 to 90 days
 - Permits are issued
 - Contract is in place
 - Waiting for dredge to finish work on current job
-
- The contract was awarded with additional option hours which I will talk about in a minute.

ATCHAFALAYA RIVER FLOODING 2016 RESULTING
FROM A FEDERALLY IDENTIFIED DISASTER

OUR 20' CHANNEL IS NOW REDUCED TO 9.5'!



We thought the “fluff” in the Bar Channel was our only worry.

Until we started getting reports of a badly shoaled area of the river.

This is an area that has never had problems in the past.

The shoaling is caused by excessive rain and flooding from the Red and Ouachita Rivers and 30% of the flow of the Mississippi River as this water and sediment makes its way down the Atchafalaya River.

ATCHAFALAYA RIVER FLOODING 2016 RESULTING
FROM A FEDERALLY IDENTIFIED DISASTER



SHIPYARDS ARE LOSING JOBS IN THE MILLIONS OF DOLLARS

SCRAP METAL RECYCLING BUSINESSES ARE LOSING JOBS AS WELL

SUPPLIERS AND SERVICE COMPANIES AFFECTED

WORKS HOURS LOST BY EMPLOYEES

IF THE CHANNEL IS ALLOWED TO CONTINUE TO FILL WITH
SEDIMENT, THE WORKFORCE, SUPPLIERS, SERVICES COMPANIES
AND OTHER BUSINESSES THAT CONTRIBUTE TO SUSTAINING THIS
COMMUNITY WILL NO LONGER SURVIVE.

ATCHAFALAYA RIVER FLOODING 2016 RESULTING
FROM A FEDERALLY IDENTIFIED DISASTER

- THE CORPS HAS NO FUNDS TO OPEN OUR
BLOCKED CHANNEL
- THE PORT HAS REQUESTED THAT THE
CORPS USE A PART OF OUR DEMO FUNDS
TO TAKE CARE OF THE SHOALING IN THE
RIVER
- WE ARE SEEKING ADDITIONAL FUNDS TO
REPLACE FUNDS TAKEN FROM DEMO
PROJECT



- THE CORPS HAS NO FUNDS TO OPEN OUR BLOCKED
CHANNEL
- REQUESTED THAT THE CORPS:
 - Release option hour funding on Demo to use
funds for emergency dredging
 - Apply released funds to cutter head contract in
order to dredge river
- IN ORDER TO TAKE CARE OF THE SHOALING IN THE
RIVER-THE CORPS HAS GRANTED OUR REQUEST
- WE ARE SEEKING ADDITIONAL FUNDS TO REPLACE
FUNDS TAKEN FROM THE DEMO PROJECT



www.portofmc.com

We need help to maintain the lifeblood of our community—the Atchafalaya River!