



**US Army Corps
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New Orleans District

News Release

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Mississippi River Commission schedules Louisiana leg of low-water inspection *Public meeting in Morgan City, Thursday, August 23*

NEW ORLEANS – Members of the Mississippi River Commission will conduct their annual low water public meeting in Morgan City on Thursday, August 23, aboard the Motor Vessel Mississippi starting at 8:30 a.m. at City Front.

This will be the last of six public meetings aboard the M/V Mississippi in communities along the Mississippi River. The low water inspection trip began August 13 in LaCrosse, Wis. Local citizens are given the opportunity to meet and directly address their views to members of the Commission.

The inspection in Louisiana begins Wednesday, August 22, with passage through Old River Lock to reach the Atchafalaya River. The vessel docks at Krotz Springs to allow local interests to board before departing for Morgan City, where it is scheduled to arrive at 5:30 p.m.

Thursday's agenda:

1. Brig. Gen. Edwin J. Arnold, Jr., president of the Commission and division engineer of the Mississippi Valley Division, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, will present a summary of national and regional issues affecting the Corps of Engineers and Commission programs and projects on the Mississippi River and its tributaries.

2. Col. Thomas F. Julich, district engineer, New Orleans District, will make a State of the District Report.
3. Members of the public, including representatives of local organizations, make presentations or comments on issues pertaining to flood control projects affecting the water resource infrastructure needs in the valley. The Commission encourages views and opinions on other water-related issues such as marine transportation, flooding impacts, environmental benefits, water and sewage infrastructure and emergency response to natural disasters.

The Mississippi River Commission, organized in 1879, has seven members, nominated by the President and confirmed by the Senate, who are:

- Brig. Gen. Edwin J. Arnold, Jr., Vicksburg, Miss.
- Sam E. Angel, planter, Lake Village, Ark.
- R.D. James, civil engineer, New Madrid, Mo.
- William Clifford Smith, civil engineer, Houma
- Brig. Gen. Steven Hawkins, U.S. Army, Cincinnati, Ohio
- Brig. Gen. David Fastabend, U.S. Army, Portland, Ore.
- Rear Adm. Nicholas A. Prah, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Norfolk, Va.
- Col. Frederick L. Clapp Jr. (secretary, non-voting), U.S. Army, Vicksburg, Miss.

The duties of the Commission include the entire length of the Mississippi River from its headwaters to Head of Passes. The Commission focuses on policy recommendations and work programs, the study of and reporting upon the necessity for modifications or additions to the Mississippi River & Tributaries Project (authorized in 1928), recommendations upon any matters authorized by law, and making inspection trips. The Commission usually inspects the river and holds public hearings twice each year, in the spring during high water, and in summer during low water.