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The Honorable Richard G. Lugar  
United States Senate  
306 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

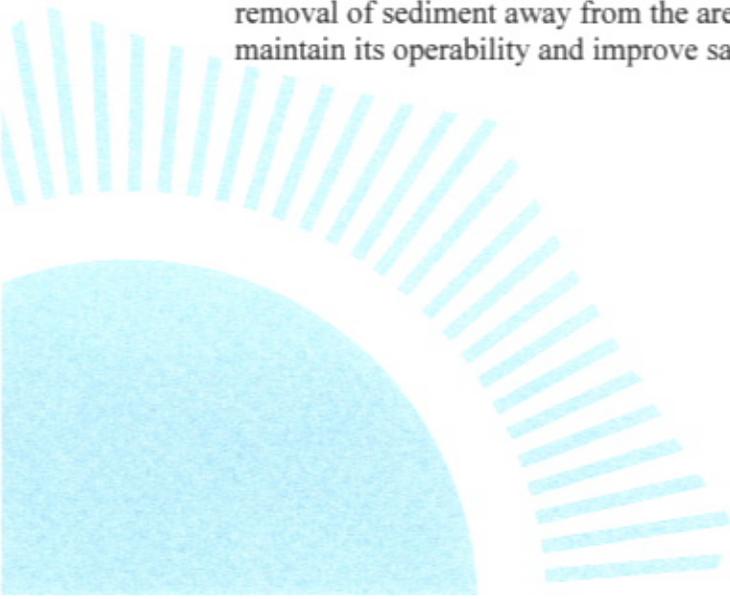
Dear Senator Lugar:

Thank you for your leadership and ongoing support for the energy and water infrastructure initiatives important to Northwest Indiana. As Congress proceeds with the development of an Energy and Water Appropriations bill for FY 2010, I respectfully request your support for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) projects outlined below.

**Burns Harbor, Indiana – \$1,810,000 (Operations and Maintenance)**

The Northern Indiana Public Service Company Bailly Generating Station is located on Lake Michigan, between the Port of Indiana-Burns Harbor and the U.S. Park Service's Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore. Water used in the generation of electricity is diverted from Lake Michigan through an intake structure located north of the station. When this structure was originally installed, it was approximately 1,500 feet into Lake Michigan. It is now only 700 feet offshore, as the construction of a nearby breakwater in 1968 has caused sand to build up around the intake rather than flow to depleted beach areas. Excess sedimentation inhibits the ability of the Bailly intake to supply the generating station with water at the temperature and quantity needed for optimal electricity generation. It is also impacting shoreline and water-based recreation in nearby areas.

The Corps is in the process of developing a long-term solution to this problem. With your support, the agency was authorized by Congress through the Water Resources Development Act of 2007 to perform a feasibility-level analysis of the issue. As the required planning, design, and environmental work proceeds for this effort, annual removal of sediment away from the area surrounding the Bailly intake is needed to maintain its operability and improve safety conditions for the recreating public.



In recent years, Congress has included funding within the Corps' Operations and Maintenance account to undertake dredging work in the Burns Harbor area. Report language has accompanied the legislation to ensure that dredging focuses on the problem area closest to the Bailly intake. I respectfully request that sufficient funding and similar language be added to the Energy and Water Appropriations bill again this year.

**Burns Harbor, Indiana – \$600,000 (General Investigations)**

As previously mentioned, the Corps has been engaged in the development of a long-term and more cost-effective solution to the shoaling problem occurring at the Bailly station. The agency recently completed a Value Engineering Study to further its congressionally-directed feasibility analysis. They expect to finalize this study by December 2009. It is anticipated that FY 2010 funding will be needed to perfect the modeling and environmental reporting necessary to recommend a future shoreline mitigation project. Your support of this effort would be greatly appreciated.

Senator Lugar, thank you again for your consideration of these important projects and for your continued efforts to improve the quality of life in Northwest Indiana. Should you have questions or require additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

*Eileen Odum*