



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Periodic Inspection Results for the Sny Island Levee Drainage District Reach II – Pike County, Local Flood Risk Management Project

Sny Island Levee Drainage District Reach II is a federally authorized, non-federally operated and maintained predominately agricultural flood risk management project. The project was authorized by Congress under the PL 83-780, 83rd Congress, approved 3 September 1954, known as the Flood Control Act of 1954.

The Sny Island Reach II levee system is located in Pike Counties in Illinois on the left descending bank (LDB) of the Mississippi River, Pool 24. Sny Island Reach II includes the main stem levee between Hadley-McCraney Creek and Kiser Creek diversion channels along the Mississippi River, the left descending bank of the Hadley-McCraney Creek diversion channel tieback levee, and the right descending bank of the Kiser Creek diversion channel tieback levee. The majority of project improvements were completed in 1968.

The Sny Island Drainage District is responsible for the upkeep and maintenance of the levee system.

The five year Periodic Inspection of the Sny Island Levee Drainage District Reach II system was performed 28 November and from 10 December 2012 through 12 December 2012. The local sponsor shows an active response to operation and maintenance of the project. However, some deficiencies were noted and corrective actions are required. The overall system rating recommended by the contractor who conducted the inspection was unacceptable based on the deficiencies identified in the report.

The USACE Rock Island District neither, acting on its own, nor as a representative of the Chief of Engineers, authorized or approved the permanent alteration of the levee increasing the Congressionally authorized height. Levee modifications arising from the flood fight activities remain the obligation of the Sponsor to remove and restore to authorized levels or seek the approval of the Chief of Engineers for them to remain as permanent modifications.

The need for a 408 permit for permanent modification of the levee above the authorized height was communicated verbally to the Sny Island Levee Drainage District as evidenced by Sny Island Levee Drainage District testimony before the Mississippi River Commission in 2010. The USACE has rated the system as Minimally Acceptable with the condition that for all modifications still in existence at the time of the 2013 fall inspection, the 408 permit process will be started. This shall include a plan for obtaining permits formulated by the Sny Island Levee Drainage District and approved by USACE prior to the 2013 fall inspection. The USACE will evaluate the progress of the 408 permits periodically to determine if the Sny Island Levee Drainage District is adhering to the approved plan.



Issues that could impair the operation of the system and are in the most need of action:

- Unpermitted levee modifications, including but not limited to removal of seepage berms.
- Unwanted vegetation is present within the vegetation-free zone of the levee system as defined by ETL 1110-2-571.
- Various locations with depressions and rutting on the levee crown and slopes.
- Unauthorized encroachments on both riverside and landside toes.
- Unwanted woody vegetation and degradation of the rock on the rip rap revetments.
- Animal burrowing activity within the levee prism.
- Irregular slope on the landside slope of the sand levee.

The next annual inspection will be scheduled for 2013, with periodic inspections currently scheduled every five years.