

## **Minnesota Department of Transportation**

## Office of Freight and Commercial Vehicle Operations 395 John Ireland Blvd.

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Mr David Wethington
GLMRIS Project Manager
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
111 North Canal Street
Chicago, IL 60606-7206

Dear Mr Wethington,

I will not be able to attend your public scoping meeting on December 15<sup>th</sup>, but would like to make a comment or two regarding aquatic nuisance species controls on the Illinois River.

My first comments are in the form of questions: Are the electronic barriers on the Illinois Waterways doing their intended purpose of keeping the flying carp from entering Lake Michigan? What is the status of the third electronic barrier being built in the approximate same location?

We have concerns on the Upper Mississippi of the flying carp coming to our region also. But there is also a movement on the Upper Mississippi River to install fish passages in some of the dams to allow fish species to pass upstream. This will allow the flying carp to migrate further up the Mississippi. Some agencies apparently feel that the flying carp will not threaten our native fish species. Is it location that concerns some and not others?

I have also read where there are scientific studies saying that the Lake Michigan environment may not be conducive to the flying carp propagating enough to be of concern or threat to native fish species.

These should be good discussion topics for you meeting on the 15<sup>th</sup>. I am sorry that I cannot attend.

Sincerely,

Dick Lambert

Ports & Waterways

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Mn/DOT