

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

February 19, 2014

Brigadier General Margaret W. Burcham
Commander, Great Lakes and Ohio River Division
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Great Lakes and Ohio River Division
550 Main Street
Room 10-032
Cincinnati, OH 45202-3222

Dear Brigadier General Burcham,

Thank you for recently meeting with us to discuss the Blanchard River Flood Risk Management Project (BRFRMP) located in Putnam and Hancock counties, Ohio, and the importance of securing funding for the project in the 2014 work plan. We greatly appreciate the support you have shown for the BRFRMP over the past several years, and are hopeful that the Division will continue to support the project during this phase of the process.

In the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2014 (P.L. 113-76), the Army Corps of Engineers received an overall 10% funding increase above the fiscal year 2013 enacted level. As you are aware, within that increase there are unallocated funds of \$8 million for flood control, as well as \$3.6 million general flood and storm damage reduction. These additional funds to the Army Corps for Fiscal Year 2014 are to support flood control studies, particularly those that lead to significant economic benefits by avoiding damages caused by flooding. We appreciate your efforts to advance the BRFRMP to date, and urge you to consider the economic development this project will have on the City of Findlay and Village of Ottawa and ask you to support including the BRFRMP in the 2014 Work Plan.

Thank you again for all of your assistance in advancing this important project. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,



Sherrod Brown
U.S. Senator



Rob Portman
U.S. Senator



Robert E. Latta
Member of Congress