

HAROLD ROGERS  
5TH DISTRICT, KENTUCKY

COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS  
RANKING MEMBER  
SUBCOMMITTEE ON THE DEPARTMENT OF  
HOMELAND SECURITY  
SUBCOMMITTEE ON DEFENSE



Congress of the United States  
House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515-1705

July 27, 2009

PLEASE RESPOND TO:

WASHINGTON OFFICE:

2406 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING  
WASHINGTON, DC 20515-1705  
(202) 225-4601

DISTRICT OFFICES:

551 CLIFTY STREET  
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(606) 679-8346 OR  
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601 MAIN STREET  
HAZARD, KY 41701  
(606) 439-0794

110 RESOURCE COURT  
SUITE A  
PRESTONSBURG, KY 41653  
(606) 886-0844

Mr. Timothy Belcher  
PO Box 1195  
Elkhorn City, Kentucky 41522-1195

Dear Mr. Belcher:

Thank you for contacting me in support of a comprehensive study of the Big Sandy watershed.

As you know, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) has identified this study for consideration under their Section 216 Continuing Authorities Program (CAP), which allows USACE to review operations of completed projects when advisable due to changed physical, economic or environmental conditions. This study would evaluate the long-term planning and usage of water throughout this important basin. I have long been a supporter of efforts to ensure water usage in the Big Sandy carefully addresses and balances the needs for flood control, navigation, fresh water supply and especially recreation. For this reason, I have worked with the SEKTDA to develop a region-wide approach to tourism development, to maximize our efforts to attract visitors, market our region, and develop strategies to enhance the outdoor experiences in our area.

As my staff informed you, only projects requested by President Obama as part of the fiscal year 2010 budget request were included in the House Energy & Water Appropriations bill (HR 3183) pertaining to USACE funding for CAP Section 216. Unfortunately, a funding request for the Big Sandy Watershed Study was not included by the President. As Congress continues to develop the FY10 budget for the Corps of Engineers, please be assured that I will continue to bear your funding request in mind.

Again, thank you for contacting me. It is an honor to serve you in the United States House of Representatives.

Sincerely,

HAROLD ROGERS  
Member of Congress

HR:aj