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Douglas W. Lamont, P.E.
Senior Official Performing the Duties of the Assistant Secretary of the Army
Department of the Army, Civil Works
108 Army Pentagon
Washington, DC 20310-0108

Dear Mr. Lamont,

I am writing to urge you to release the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) Tentatively Selected Plan for the Brandon Road Study, and to remain on course to release the Chief's Report by January 2019. Asian Carp present an immediate, serious threat to Ohio families. Lake Erie is a source of drinking water for 3 million Ohioans, provides 124,000 jobs to Ohioans, and generates \$1.8 billion in tourism revenue to the State of Ohio. Should Asian Carp reach the Great Lakes, they will devastate the economic and natural resources of Lake Erie and Ohio.

The USACE's delay in the face of this immediate threat is unacceptable. The Great Lakes and Mississippi River Interbasin Study (GLMRIS) was not complete until 2014, and even then stopped short of recommending a single plan of action. Although the Brandon Road Lock Tentatively Selected Plan is a potential step in the right direction, it should not add to the already lengthy timeline to address the Asian Carp problem. The USACE's choice to withhold the plan even after its January 2017 due date could jeopardize the ultimate outcome of the Chief's Report in January 2019.

The GLMRIS study identified prevention as the Great Lake's best defense against Asian Carp. Recent reports indicate that a silver carp was found 9 miles away from Lake Michigan, beyond the electric dispersal barriers. This finding demonstrates the very real, very imminent threat. Given the time necessary to implement a specific plan, it is imperative that the Chief's Report be completed by January 2019. If Asian Carp are allowed to reach the Great Lakes, it may be too late to save Lake Erie.

Releasing the Tentatively Selected Plan and publishing the Chief's Report is necessary to protect Ohio's families. I urge you to release the Tentatively Selected Plan immediately, and to complete the Chief's Report by the January 2019 deadline.

Very respectfully yours,

Mike DeWine
Ohio Attorney General