

# International Union of Operating Engineers

AFFILIATED WITH THE AFL-CIO

LOCAL NO. 101

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April 1, 2015

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Mr. Matthew Sailor  
Regulatory Project Manager  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers—Kansas City Regulatory Office  
601 E. 12<sup>th</sup> St., Room 402  
Kansas City, Missouri 64106

Re: Renewal of Missouri River Commercial Dredging Permits

Dear Mr. Sailor:

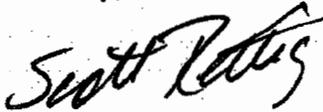
Please accept this letter in support of the matter of the Holliday Sand & Gravel, LLC, (will refer to as Holliday) request for a renewed Missouri River Dredge Permit. We understand that during the previous permit renewal in 2010, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers cut Holliday's dredging volume in the Kansas City segment of the river by 79 percent. We believe that the company's three facilities, located on the Missouri River in the Kansas City metropolitan area and St. Joseph, are vital to the economic development of the region, and that any further tonnage reductions would harm jobs, construction and the region's economy. Our comments are on behalf of the members of Operating Engineers Local #101.

Holliday supports hundreds of union and construction employees in the Kansas City metropolitan area. In addition to our union, Local #101, Holliday's organized employees include: Heavy Construction Laborers' Local 663. The construction industry has not fully recovered from the recession, and we support Holliday's requested volumes of dredging to avoid losing hundreds of construction materials jobs, which would be harmful to the local economy. Additionally, the economic impact of each of these jobs should be multiplied by nine (9) times to understand the total employment impact from the loss of family purchasing power and related construction industry job loss. These jobs represent millions of dollars in payroll for the local and regional economy.

Holliday is the key producer of sand for the Kansas City metropolitan area and St. Joseph. If sufficient sand is not available, infrastructure projects will be halted (i.e. highways, bridges and buildings). In addition, there is concern in the construction community that further reducing or eliminating dredging in these three locations will result in significantly increased costs of building materials containing sand for concrete, precast concrete products and asphalt.

Kansas City and St. Joseph's construction and transportation industry depends on quality and economical sand from the Missouri River, and we ask that Holliday's dredging be allowed to continue at the greatest levels that are possible.

Sincerely,



Scott Rettig  
Business Manager  
Operating Engineers

Cc:

Missouri Department of Natural Resources  
Attn: Stacia Bax  
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