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January 7, 2016

Colonel Calvin C. Hudson II  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
Fort Worth District  
819 Taylor Street, Room 3A32  
Fort Worth, Texas 76102-6124

Dear Colonel Hudson:

On December 12, 2015, the *Dallas Morning News* published an article detailing the status of the Lake Lewisville Dam and potential consequences should the dam fail.<sup>i</sup> Following this article, several of my Texas colleagues and I sought answers to the questions raised in the article. While we have been assured by the Lewisville U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) office that the structural integrity of the dam is sound, I remain concerned about the timeline for repairs.

On December 17, 2015, Representatives Kenny Marchant, Pete Sessions, Eddie Bernice Johnson, and I met with James Dalton, Dave Wethington, Brian Giacomozzi, and David Paul in Washington, D.C. In this meeting, we learned that the USACE awarded a contract to fix the slide that appeared on the dam in May 2015, and that work would begin on January 4, 2016. In addition, we were told that the final report of the current Dam Safety Modification Study is expected in 2017, with modifications beginning in 2020. We were informed these modifications could cost anywhere from \$50 to \$500 million.

I remain in regular contact with the Lake Lewisville USACE office. Lewisville USACE staff is always ready and willing to answer my questions or accommodate requests, and I greatly appreciate the effort. I was recently informed that while the slide repair has begun, due to additional rainfall, the repair will require more work than initially assessed, pushing the cost from \$6.4 million to anywhere between \$9 to 11 million. Because the repairs are being funded through the Lake Lewisville Operations and Maintenance account, a reprogramming of funds through the Fort Worth District office is necessary to ensure repairs continue and conclude as soon as possible. I request that you immediately reprogram the necessary funds so that there is no delay.

In addition, throughout my communication with the Lewisville USACE office I learned that seepage with the potential for piping was identified by the USACE during an assessment in July 2005. This is a serious matter that must be resolved in order to ensure the dam does not

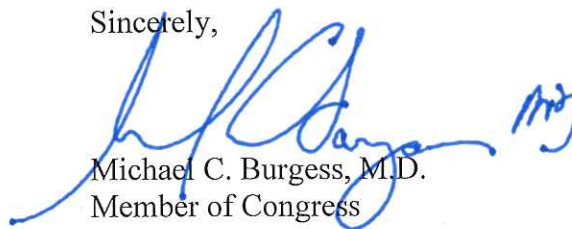
become unstable. I understand that solutions to bring the areas of seepage under control will be outlined in the upcoming Dam Safety Modification Study report, along with other long-term modifications. I urge you to expedite the completion of this study and subsequent modification plans.

I remain confident in the ability of the USACE to ensure the continued operation of the Lake Lewisville Dam. In addition to expediting the repair of the slide through a reprogramming of funds, as well as the completion of the Dam Safety Modification Study, please answer the following questions:

1. Does the USACE have alternative plans to repair the slide if the current plan is stalled or delayed due to weather or other factors?
  - a. How will any additional repair options affect homeowners in the area and downstream?
  - b. When does the USACE anticipate repairs to conclude?
2. Has the process to reprogram funds for the slide repair begun? If so, what is the status of this reprogramming?
3. Has the USACE contacted property owners in the area to confirm the dam is secure and explain the upcoming modifications?
  - a. What outreach to local property owners is planned as repairs move forward over the next several years?
4. Is 2017 the earliest expected completion date for the current Dam Safety Modification Study report, or can the completion of the report be accelerated to June 2016 so work can begin sooner?

I appreciate your response to these questions. Please contact my office with any questions.

Sincerely,



Michael C. Burgess, M.D.  
Member of Congress

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