

WASHINGTON, DC –

Congressman Lee Terry (R-NE) today announced that the House Subcommittee on Water Resources and Environment, operating under the House Transportation & Infrastructure Committee, will hold a hearing on November 30 to examine the management of the summer 2011 Missouri River Valley flooding. In August, at Terry's invite, House Transportation & Infrastructure Committee Chairman John Mica (R-FL) came to Omaha to tour several flooded areas with Terry. In October, Terry and other House members called on Chairman Mica to convene a hearing on this matter as soon as possible.

At the hearing, the Subcommittee members will analyze the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' dam operating procedures during the flooding and attempt to determine if the Corps' water release decisions triggered and/or intensified the flooding. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is currently considering revising its Operating Plan of the Missouri River system, and the November 30 hearing will be an opportunity for the Subcommittee members to encourage reforms of the system.

"This flooding devastated numerous communities throughout the Missouri River Valley. Some families left their homes, never to return. We need to determine precisely what happened, so we can learn what mistakes, if any, were made, and use that knowledge to prevent a repeat of this situation. The information that is gained at this hearing can be the foundation of new long-term management plans for the Missouri River," Terry said.

Note: Hearing time, location, and witness list will be made available soon.