



December 19, 2017

US Army Corps of Engineers, Mobile District
Attn: Chief of Staff and ACT Program Manager – Kristina K. Mullins
Box 2288
Mobile, Alabama 36628-001

Dear Ms. Mullins:

This regards your recent Allatoona Lake success under the 5/4/15 ACTS WCM.

LAA believes that the several proactive internal procedures that you implemented under the new WCM has resulted in noticeably improved Allatoona Lake conditions during its important late summer recreational season. In particular, LAA is pleased that even with challenging hydrology conditions in 2016 and 2017, you have been successful in providing for continued use of this critical regional recreational asset through the Labor Day milestone calendar period; this is in stark contrast with prior history where frequent reduced lake levels significantly comprised Allatoona Lake enjoyment and economic impact for many of its 7 million annual visitors during the high summer season.....Congratulations and THANK YOU.

LAA is also encouraged by the results of the new phased rule curve which seeks to limit drawdown to 5 feet after Labor Day and up to late November. We believe the resulting increased recreational use and economic impact through the Lake's many access points during that part of the active summer season will be significant.....THANK YOU.

Separately, and as evidenced by our November 19, 2013 letter to Georgia's governor (attached for your ease of reference) we strongly oppose any State desires that would be detrimental to the Lake's important regional recreational uses; specifically those efforts to move Etowah water to other regions. We note that a recent court ruling directed that progress be made on that conflict - in that regard, we ask that LAA be given notice as to any such related planned USACE actions.

Finally, while acknowledging the complexity of the issue, our interest also remains never-the-less in having the 1940's flood control criteria revisited by means of a water reallocation study. We still believe that the severe 17' winter drawdown, in light of 60+ years' operational history and decades of technological enhancements - is likely no longer warranted; LAA's opinion is that some significantly reduced drawdown amount would not threaten flood risk envelopes and that the resulting excess winter water could be better deployed to benefit all.

Thanks again for your management of this cherished asset that we lovingly know as Lake Allatoona – your stewardship and its resulting contribution to our region's quality of life cannot be overstated.

Sincerely,

Mike Bearden, Chairman
For the Lake Allatoona Association Board of Directors

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Governor Nathan Deal

Bartow County Commissioner Steve Bradley
Cherokee County Commission Chair Dr Dan Eichenbaum
Cobb County Commission Chair Mike Boyce

Attachment: LAA 11/19/13 letter to Governor Deal