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**OFFICE OF GOVERNOR RONNIE MUSGROVE**  
**INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM**

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**TO:** COLE  
**FROM:** BOYD  
**SUBJECT:** YAZOO COUNTY AND GEORGE LAKE  
**DATE:** 5/8/2000  
**CC:** TELL

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I received a call from Mr. Paul Eagles (Corps of Engineers) regarding the Yazoo County's desire for the implementation of a flood control/environmental project at Lake George. Others involved in the project include Griffin Norquist has been the attorney for this project, and Sam Fisher is the President of the Yazoo County Board of Supervisors.

Eagles says the county is ready to move forward but needs legislative authority. In the 2000 legislative session, HB 1247 and SB 2754 (both local and private) died in the House committee. These bills would have permitted Yazoo County to "construct a dam or other low-water control structure and appurtenances at the outlet of Lake George...." Eagles is seeking the Governor's assistance in passing this legislation, perhaps during the proposed Special Session.

Norquist provided a copy of the Attorney General's opinion which notes that the local and private legislation under Mississippi Constitution, Section 90 may not address water courses. The Attorney General's office holds that this may only be done through a general bill.

Seeing that general legislation is required, I recommend that this legislation be added to the call for the proposed special session as it relates directly to the economic impact of the Delta region. HB 1593 would allow Tunica County to "construct a dam or low-water control structure as the south and west end of the Tunica Cut-off Lake. This bill should also likely be added to the call if the Yazoo bill is to be added.

Please advise.