

June 19, 2002

Ms. Kathleen Clarke, Director
Bureau of Land Management
United States Department of Interior
7450 Boston Boulevard
Springfield, Virginia 22153

Mr. Michael D. Ned
Acting State Director, Eastern States
Bureau of Land Management
United States Department of Interior
7450 Boston Boulevard
Springfield, Virginia 22153

Subject: Designation of the Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality as the Mississippi lead for developing BLM cooperating agency status

Dear Ms. Clarke and Mr. Ned:

Thank you for your letter of May 17, 2002, inviting Mississippi to participate in the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) land use planning processes. We welcome the opportunity to work with BLM as your letter proposes.

I am designating the Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) as the Mississippi lead for purposes of developing an agreement with BLM for cooperating agency status. Please work with Mr. Charles Chisolm, MDEQ's Executive Director, in completing the necessary agreement. His address is P. O. Box 20305, Jackson, Mississippi 39289-1305; and his phone number is 601/961-5000.

Very truly yours,

RONNIE MUSGROVE

RM:mtb