

July 24, 2003

Pete Johnson, Federal Co-Chair
Delta Regional Authority
236 Sharkey Avenue, Suite 400
Clarksdale, Mississippi 38614

Dear Mr. Johnson:

After reviewing the list of Mississippi projects that you have deemed to be eligible for funding, I am forwarding the attached list of eligible projects with our recommendation that they be approved for funding through the 2003 Delta Regional Authority grant program.

As you know, Mississippi's allocation for 2003 was drastically reduced to \$897,062.73. Therefore, our office has been faced with the difficult task of choosing between almost 60 project applications requesting over \$8.5 million in DRA funds. We are recommending 10 projects that represent a total request of \$895,826.00. The attached list of these projects identifies each project by the project number that your staff assigned to the pre-application.

I have been in contact with Steve Hale, Executive Director of the Mississippi Development Authority and have made arrangements for payment of Mississippi's share of the DRA operating expenses. A payment of \$96,222.84 will be made to your office in the very near future.

Thank you for your assistance in this matter and your continued efforts on behalf of the citizens of the Mississippi Delta. If you have any questions or need additional information regarding our recommendations, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

Armerita Tell, Director
Office of Citizen and Community Services
Mississippi Alternate to the DRA