DUANE A. SMITH
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

FRANK KEATING
GOVERNOR

STATE OF OKLAHOMA
WATER RESOURCES BOARD

September 6, 2000

Colonel Leonardo V. Flor
District Engineer
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
1645 South 101st East Avenue
Tulsa, OK 74128-4609

Dear Colonel Flor:

The Oklahoma Water Resources Board (OWRB) is concerned about impacts on threatened and endangered aquatic species in the Kiamichi River Basin in southeast Oklahoma. Use of available water resources in the 29 counties of the southeast Oklahoma region could possibly have some impact on these threatened and endangered species. I understand that the Corps of Engineers can conduct a cost-shared feasibility study on ecosystem restoration of the Kiamichi River Basin under the General Investigations Program.

I understand that the OWRB's cost-sharing responsibility during the feasibility phase would be 50 percent, up to one-half of which can be provided as in-kind services. I also understand that preconstruction engineering and design and construction for ecosystem restoration measures are cost-shared at a maximum of 65 percent Federal and a minimum of 35 percent by the local sponsor. The local sponsor provides all the lands, easements, rights-of-way, relocations and disposal areas needed for the project as part of their share of the project.

OWRB is currently seeking a fully-Federally funded feasibility study through the Energy and Water Development Appropriations Bill, 2001. However, if full Federal funding is not possible, OWRB will be interested in participating in the feasibility study as the cost-sharing local sponsor as stated above.

The purpose of this letter is to express the intent of the OWRB to enter into negotiations for the feasibility phase. The Project Study Plan developed during the negotiations will describe the study activities, proposed schedule and cost of the study. I understand that this letter is not a contractual obligation on the part of either the Corps or the OWRB and either party may discontinue the project development process at any time.

Sincerely,

Duane

Duane A. Smith
Executive Director

3800 N. CLASSEN BOULEVARD • OKLAHOMA CITY, OKLAHOMA 73118 • TELEPHONE (405) 530-8800 • FAX (405) 530-8900

Lonnie L. Farmer, Chairman • Richard C. Sevenoaks, Vice Chairman • Grady Grandstaff, Secretary
Ervin Mitchell • Richard McDonald • Bill Secrest • Dick Seybolt • Wendell Thomasson • Harry Currie

Recycled Paper