



KATHLEEN BABINEAUX BLANCO
GOVERNOR

State of Louisiana

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

Baton Rouge

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November 18, 2004

Mr.

Dear Mr.

Thank you for contacting me regarding the construction of a reservoir in Washington Parish. I appreciate hearing your views on this matter.

In 2003, the legislature passed and Governor Foster signed into law Act 71, which created the Washington Parish Reservoir District for the purpose of developing the natural resources of Washington Parish by conserving soil and water to be used for agricultural, recreational, commercial, industrial and sanitary purposes, and fostering economic development. A board was created to develop and run the reservoir district and the board was to be made up of local representatives who would represent the desires and concerns of Washington Parish residents.

As I understand, the Washington Parish Reservoir Board has selected several site options for the location of the reservoir. With the legal power granted it by the legislature, the local board has sole responsibility for determining the location of the reservoir. While the board is charged with enhancing the area's economic development and natural resources, I agree with you that the board must also give serious consideration to the impact their decision will have on residents in and around the selected site for the reservoir.

I urge you to remain actively engaged in the board's site selection process so that they may have the benefit of significant resident input and can make the best site selection possible.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Kathleen Babineaux Blanco".

Kathleen Babineaux Blanco
Governor