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November 11, 2020

District Engineer
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Vicksburg District
4155 Clay Street
Vicksburg, MS 39138

Re: Draft Supplement Environmental Impact Statement on Yazoo Backwater Pumps

To Whom it May Concern:

The American Cotton Shippers Association (ACSA) appreciates the opportunity to submit this comment letter in response to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers October 16, 2020 released Draft Supplement Environmental Impact Statement on Yazoo Backwater Pumps. ACSA is a trade association primarily made up of cotton merchants founded in 1924. Collectively, our members handle the vast majority of U.S. cotton production and foreign growths traded globally. Our services consist of merchandising, delivery logistics, and risk management.

ACSA would like to add support for the implementation of the Yazoo Backwater Project. We feel that immediate action is necessary to address flood control in this key cotton producing region. The economic damage, frequency of inundation, and environmental impact clearly suggest that action must be taken. ACSA particularly endorses the supportive comments offered by the Mississippi Levee Board and the persistent advocacy provided for this project by Delta Council.

ACSA applauds the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers for their recognition of the validity of the current proposal in the recent report which states, "The Proposed Plan is the most balanced, implementable approach, and meets the economic and environmental needs of the basin." As managers of risks for cotton producers, ACSA is committed to advocate for public policy and measures that manage and reduce risks. Implementation of this project will evacuate floodwater in the Mississippi Delta without creating environmental harm. Thank you in advance for considering our support for this plan's implementation.

With regards,

William H. "Buddy" Allen
President and CEO
American Cotton Shippers Association