



April 3, 2003

Office of the General Counsel

Mr. Mitchell Daniels, Director
 Office of Management and Budget
 Eisenhower Executive Office Bldg.
 725 17th St., NW
 Washington, DC 20503

VIA FIRST CLASS MAIL

Re: Failure by the US Army Corps of Engineers to Implement the Data Quality Act

Dear Budget Director Daniels:

As you know, Section 515 of the Data Quality Act (PL 106-554) directs the Office of Management and Budget to "provide policy and procedural guidance to federal agencies for ensuring and maximizing the quality, objectivity, utility and integrity of information (including statistical information) disseminated by Federal agencies." By October 1, 2002 each federal agency was required to implement its own implementing guidelines that include "administrative mechanisms allowing affected persons to seek and obtain correction of information maintained and disseminated by the agency."

On February 13, 2003, Public Employees for Environmental Responsibility ("PEER") submitted a Freedom of Information Act request to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers ("USACE") for its DQA guidelines. In a letter dated March 26, 2003, USACE Counsel Richard Frenette reported that the agency had no responsive documents:

I have been advised that the Corps has not prepared the Information Quality Guidelines that you are seeking. The Corps has been instructed not to proceed until it receives final guidance from the Department of Defense and from the Army, and that guidance has not yet been received.

