



ILLINOIS CHAMBER
OF COMMERCE

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NEWS RELEASE

Brandon Road Lock and Dam (TSP) Concern for Illinois' Infrastructure

SPRINGFIELD, December 8, 2017 – In a letter sent to the U.S. Army Corps. of Engineers today, the Illinois Chamber of Commerce expressed disagreement to the Brandon Road Lock and Dam Tentatively Selected Plan (TSP). This plan was released by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers as part of ongoing efforts to prevent the spread of Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) such as Asian carp, but would have a negative impact on companies that use the waterways.

The letter addressed the Illinois Chamber of Commerce's concerns with the plan.

"We are concerned that the TSP did not attempt to look at improving the resiliency and redundancy of our inland waterways system without impacting existing assets. This is something we think can be done while preventing the spread of Asian carp and other AIS," said Illinois Chamber of Commerce President and CEO Todd Maisch.

"We remain committed to preventing the spread of AIS, but the preferred alternatives within the TSP do not provide enough support to the over fishing that have been scientifically proven to reduce the Asian carp population," said Illinois Chamber of Commerce Infrastructure Council Executive Director and Vice President of Policy Ben Brockschmidt.

"The structural alternatives proposed will take too long to address this issue and will have severe and negative consequences on not just commercial navigation, but freight and transportation across Northeast Illinois and the state as a whole," said Brockschmidt.

The Illinois Chamber of Commerce continues to work on this issue with the U.S. Army Corps. of Engineers, State of Illinois, and government and non-government entities.

For more information about the Illinois Chamber of Commerce, visit; ILChamber.org

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