

May 9, 2007

Statement on Expected Flooding Along Missouri River and Completion of Second District Levee Projects

Washington, DC- Today, Congressman Todd Akin called Missouri Governor Matt Blunt and St. Charles County Executive Ehlman to discuss the expected flooding of the Missouri River this week.

"I placed calls today with Governor Matt Blunt and Executive Ehlman to discuss the expected flooding along the Missouri River.

"Although Missourians have much experience with river flooding, the prospect of such is never routine. My conversations with the Governor and St. Charles County Executive reinforced my trust in the competence of our community leaders as well as the resilience of our residents.

"With the threat of river flooding again challenging our community it is gratifying to note that the recent conclusion of the L-15 levee, as well as the tremendous progress made on various other levees in the second district, mark a substantial increase in preparedness for such unfortunate but expected events. Continuing the flood control work that Senators Bond and Talent tirelessly championed, I have aggressively sought Federal funds during my six years in Congress to complete three local flood control projects. These include the L-15 Levee in the confluence area of St. Charles County, the Valley Park levee on the Meramec River, and the Chesterfield Project on the Missouri River in Chesterfield Valley. Two of these projects, the L-15 and the Valley Park Levee, are now completely finished. Three closure structures and several pump stations still must be built on the Chesterfield Project. The completion of the L-15 and other levies in the Second District represent the culmination of over 15 years of work that was started by my predecessor, then Congressman Jim Talent."