



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY
CIVIL WORKS
108 ARMY PENTAGON
WASHINGTON DC 20310-0108

APR 18 2011

Dr. Michael Barrett
President, Weed Science Society of America
University of Kentucky
Plant Science Building
1405 Veterans Drive (Office 409)
Lexington, Kentucky 40546-0312

Dear Dr. Barrett:

This is in response to your letter dated March 22, 2011, co-signed with other members of the Weed Science Society of America and the Aquatic Plant Management Society, expressing concern about the lack of funds in the Fiscal Year 2012 President's Budget for the Army Corps of Engineers Aquatic Plant Control Research Program.

I understand the importance of this research program to the many stakeholders represented by these two societies. The Corps of Engineers has done an outstanding job in conducting this research and providing a valuable service for the Nation's water resources. However, as difficult budget decisions were made on this and many other worthwhile programs, projects and activities across the Nation, the Army was unable to continue budgeting for this program. Hard choices had to be made in order to help put the country on a fiscally sustainable path.

Thank you for your interest in this program. I regret that I cannot provide a more positive outlook on its funding. If you need any additional information, you may wish to contact Mr. Tim Toplisek in Corps Headquarters (202-761-4259) or Dr. Linda Nelson at the Army Engineer Research and Development Center (601-634-2656).

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jo-Ellen Darcy". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looping initial "J".

Jo-Ellen Darcy
Assistant Secretary of the Army
(Civil Works)