

Delahunt, William

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 29, 2005 4:12 PM
To: Delahunt, William
Subject: Being Smart

Dear Representative Delahunt:

It was stupid to build New Orleans below sea level, but it would be insane to rebuild it there. Congress must insist that the billions to be appropriated be used to rebuild on higher ground. It was also stupid not to keep the levees in repair, but it would be insane to bother with them now. Not only should the city be rebuilt on high ground, and the port moved upstream if necessary, but the levees should be removed to let the Mississippi spread millions of tons of silt over the delta to replenish the marshes, the shellfish beds, and the fish spawning grounds.

Hurricanes will continue to wreak havoc unless something is done to replace the million acres of coastal land that Louisiana has lost in the past half century.

Remember hurricane Carol? One town in Connecticut that was wiped out converted the bottom of the narrow river valley to parks and agriculture, and rebuilt the town on the plateau above the valley. That was smart, so let's all be smart now. Granted much of Holland is under sea level, but the people there are Dutch. Americans will not even spend pennies to avert disaster; we'll only spend billions to repair the damage afterward.

Yours,

[REDACTED]
Falmouth, Massachusetts 02540
[REDACTED]