



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS
441 G STREET, NW
WASHINGTON, DC 20314-1000

REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

JAN 05 2016

CECW-NWD

MEMORANDUM FOR COMMANDER, Northwestern Division

SUBJECT: Implementation Guidance for Section 4003(c) of the Water Resources Reform and Development Act of 2014 – Missouri River Recovery Implementation Committee (MRRIC) Expenses Reimbursement

1. Section 4003(c) amends Section 5018(b)(5) of the Water Resource Development Act of 2007 (121 STAT. 1200) to allow the Secretary of the Army to reimburse members of the MRRIC for travel expenses incurred in line with official MRRIC business, subject to the availability of funds. A copy of Section 5018 (b) (5) is enclosed (Encl 1).
2. Subject to the availability of specifically appropriated funds, members of the MRRIC may be reimbursed for travel expenses, including per diem in lieu of subsistence, at rates authorized for an employee of a Federal agency under subchapter I of chapter 57 of title 5, United States Code, while away from the home or regular place of business of the member in performance of services for the MRRIC. Reimbursement may be requested for attendance at meetings called in accordance with Section VIII(b) of the MRRIC Charter dated 1 July 2008, as revised. A copy of the Charter is at Encl 2. Reimbursement will be limited to officially designated representatives of eligible tribal nations and officially selected representatives of stakeholder interest categories, in accordance with Section V(d) and (e) of the Charter. Only one representative per MRRIC member seat (primary or alternate, not both) may be reimbursed for each meeting. Committee representatives from Federal or State agencies will seek reimbursement for travel expenses from their agencies in accordance with the applicable rules and processes of their respective agencies.
3. Those MRRIC members requesting reimbursement may be issued invitational travel orders, or utilize other acceptable reimbursement methods. An accounting of total costs incurred in the previous fiscal year will be reported to the Committee at the first meeting of the new fiscal year. These costs will be published in the meeting notes and documented in MRRIC's annual report, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service annual reports and the Biennial Reports to Congress.
4. Reimbursements of travel expenses as allowed for pursuant to section 5018(b)(5) as amended by section 4003(c) should not cause a district to have to reduce the scope or capability of budgeted MRRIC work (i.e., studies, construction, etc.). To avoid this, an affected district should include a separate budget line for these expenses as part of the district's budget submittal to the division during the budget development process. This

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budget line shall be titled: "SEC 4003(c) MISSOURI RIVER IMPLEMENTATION COMMITTEE EXPENSES REIMBURSEMENT". The Division will use this information to develop the overall budget request for MRRIC for submittal to HQUSACE.

2 Encls

1. Section 4003(c) text
2. MRRIC Charter



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