

BIOGRAPHY OF PHYLLIS HARDEN

Phyllis Harden is primarily responsible for Legislative and Special Projects for Pine Bluff Sand and Gravel Company. She began her career with Pine Bluff in 1981. Pine Bluff Sand and Gravel Company operates many towboats, including three 30-barge towboats, and several hundred barges on the Arkansas, Mississippi, Tennessee, Cumberland, Ohio, Red and Ouachita Rivers and on the Gulf Intracoastal Waterway. Pine Bluff owns and operates the only privately owned dustpan dredge and it is under contract with the Corps of Engineers. The *Wallace McGeorge* primarily maintains the Mississippi River Ship Channel and solely deepened the crossings from a depth of 42 feet to 45 feet at a very low cost to the government. Currently, the *Wallace McGeorge* performs advance maintenance dredging to a depth of 48 feet, which is not far from the 50 foot depth currently under study. Pine Bluff also operates two quarries, one on the McClellan-Kerr Arkansas River Navigation System (MKARNS) and one on the Cumberland River above Paducah, Kentucky. Both quarries produce and ship crushed stone and riprap by barge. The crushed stone is primarily for highway and building projects and the riprap is often for Corps of Engineers marine construction and maintenance projects.

Phyllis was instrumental in the initiation of Pine Bluff's most successful Safety Program, which dramatically reduced injury and illness to the company's highly productive people. She is also frequently in Washington, DC advocating for Corps of Engineers waterway projects and funding for the MKARNS. Phyllis was recently appointed by Gov. Asa Hutchinson to serve on the Arkansas Waterways Commission. She serves on the Board of Directors and is a Past-President of the Mississippi Valley AGC, the Board of Directors of the National Waterways Conference, and the Board of Directors of the Dredging Contractors of America. Locally, Phyllis is Vice-Chairman of the Pine Bluff-Jefferson County Port Authority Board.