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### **Corps Reconsiders Some Water Projects**

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The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has suspended some 150 controversial water projects. The move comes in the wake of several reports indicating the Corps' justifications for projects are over-stated. The Great Lakes Radio Consortium's Lester Graham reports:

Environmental groups have long accused the Corps of Engineers of cooking the books to make water control projects seem to be a good deal for taxpayers. In the year 2000 a Corps insider became a whistle-blower, saying he was told to change his findings when they didn't justify enlarging locks and dams on the Mississippi. Since then the National Academy of Sciences confirmed the whistle-blower's statements. Newspaper reports have revealed the same pattern on projects from Oregon to Delaware. Now the Corps says it will pause 150 projects that have been authorized, but not yet under construction. It will make new economic assessments on many of them and reevaluate others. Critics of the Corps are cautious. They say Congress needs to intervene to ensure that the Corps - quote- "gets over its addiction for wasting money." The Corps says some projects will only receive a quick check and then proceed, while others might need more analysis.