

## OUR VIEW

### The politics of revenge

A disturbing comment was made Friday night as the Caddo Lake Institute released its awaited hydrology study on the possible impacts of use of Caddo Lake water for a proposed Entergy power plant.

The report itself did not propose any fatal flaws to the deal, although it suggested that perhaps that more safeguards are needed to make certain the lake isn't damaged. Institute president Dwight Shellman suggested that this difficulty could be overcome if the city agrees to take care of any possible shortfall.

Since the report's possible problems represent a sort of "worst case scenario," we'd guess that the city can find a way to make that agreement, thus effectively ending organized opposition to the Entergy project.

That is well and good for this community. Not only that it represents what can happen when all sides of an issue negotiate in good faith to resolve a problem. We hope this process can be remembered in Marshall for a long time to come.

But the disturbing comment was made by Shellman in the course of Friday's press conference. He said grants he has been seeking for a wetland center at Caddo Lake have been threatened because of the institute's position on the Entergy plant.

"There are people who are already trying to take away these grants to try to punish the institute for its position," Shellman said.

If true, this shows incredibly bad judgment on the part of those doing the threatening. Furthermore, we can't imagine that such a person or group involved with that cares anything about Marshall at all. The politics of revenge is typically personal and not for the common good.

The fact is, if we knew the name of the groups or individuals engaged in such ridiculous activity, we promise you we would print them without hesitation. The community ought to know the identity of those who are actively engaged in destroying — not building — Marshall.

Because as important as we also believe the Entergy plant to be, it is no more important than the continued protection of Caddo Lake or the wetlands center that has the potential to bring more tourism and investment into Marshall.

Besides that, it is just plain dirty politics and we — along with the entire country — are sick and tired of that. Support your project, if you will, but stay away from the politics or revenge. Such tactics are not respected and neither are the people who stoop to use them.

## One Even

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