



**US Army Corps
of Engineers®**

Hurricane Protection Office End of Year Teammate Update *31 December 2009*

We have reached a number of milestones in 2009 for which I am extremely proud, and I feel certain that with continued perseverance and teamwork with our stakeholders, we will achieve 100-year risk reduction in June 2011. Wishing you a healthy and happy Holiday Season!



Mission

We are committed to achieving the 100-year level of risk reduction in 2011 for the people of Orleans and St. Bernard parishes by constructing the Hurricane and Storm Damage Risk Reduction System.

The program also includes completing the permanent canal closures and pumps, the Grand Isle flood risk management project, Plaquemines Parish risk reduction projects, storm proofing and repair of existing pump stations.

1. Orleans Metro (Main Supporting District - St. Louis)

Currently, more than 90% of the Orleans Metro perimeter meets the 100-year level of protection.

The construction contract for work between London Avenue and the Inner Harbor Navigation Canal (LPV 104.02), was advertised earlier this month and will be awarded in February 2010. Work will consist of constructing the new Seabrook floodwall and ramp at the University of New Orleans, as well as replacing the floodgate at the railroad.

Major construction continues at the lakefront. Between 17th and Topaz Streets (LPV 101.02), the contractor demolished a substantial amount of the existing floodwall along Lake Marina Drive. Between Orleans and London Avenues (LPV 103.01A1), the contractor is demolishing the existing I-wall and scour protection, as well as preparing to drive piles for the new and more robust T-wall.

The last remaining contract for work between Orleans and London Avenues (LPV 103.01A2) will be awarded next spring and has about a six-month construction duration. This will be the last major contract to award in Orleans Metro.



2. New Orleans East (Main Supporting District - Memphis)

We awarded a \$64.9 million contract on 4 December to Chapel Hill, LLC, a Louisiana-based firm, to supply and deliver the earthen clay material needed to complete 100-year levee work on two reaches.

The project areas extend from South Point to CSX Railroad (LPV 109) and from the opposite side of the CSX Railroad gate to the Inner Harbor Navigation Canal Surge Barrier (LPV 111). These two projects (LPV 109 and LPV 111) will be the most massive levees constructed on the East Bank.

Major construction between Paris Road and South Point, LPV 108, is now 85% complete.

We will host a public meeting on 26 January to provide an update of construction status and to address related impacts to businesses and residences.

Public Meeting - Tues., January 26, 2010
6:00 PM Open House, 6:30 PM Presentation

St. Maria Goretti Catholic Church
7300 Crowder Blvd
New Orleans, LA 70127



News Release - <http://www.mvn.usace.army.mil/news/view.asp?ID=273>

News Coverage - http://www.nola.com/hurricane/index.ssf/2009/12/corps_proposes_changes_to_plan.html

3. St. Bernard Parish (Main Supporting District - St. Paul)

The contract award for phase two construction from Verret to Caernarvon (LPV 148.02) was cancelled following a protest. On 6 November, the solicitation was reinstated and given to those offerors who responded to the initial solicitation. We expect to award the Early Contractor Involvement (ECI) contract in early 2010.

Approximately six weeks was lost in this process, so we had to reduce the scope of preconstruction and validation services in the solicitation to mitigate that loss. The pile load test, which was part of the initial solicitation, was removed and work will be done through another contract so that it is not held up further. Currently, this project (LPV 148.02) is six months behind schedule.

Pile load testing continues between Bayou Bienvenue and Bayou Dupre (LPV 145) at four sites. Major construction will begin in February on schedule. Construction of access points from the Mississippi River Gulf Outlet to the levee crown began this month.



The comment period for Individual Environmental Report (IER) 9, Caernarvon Floodwall, ends on 24 December. We attended a Citizens of Plaquemines East (COPE) meeting on 21 December to provide an update on that section of the Chalmette Loop.

News Coverage - http://www.nola.com/hurricane/index.ssf/2009/12/plaquemines_parish_residents_w_1.html

4. Inner Harbor Navigation Canal (Corps-wide Support)

Our new IHNC video, which features the Lake Borgne Surge Barrier, proposed Seabrook Floodgate Complex and Interior Floodwall Improvements is posted on the Team New Orleans Web site.

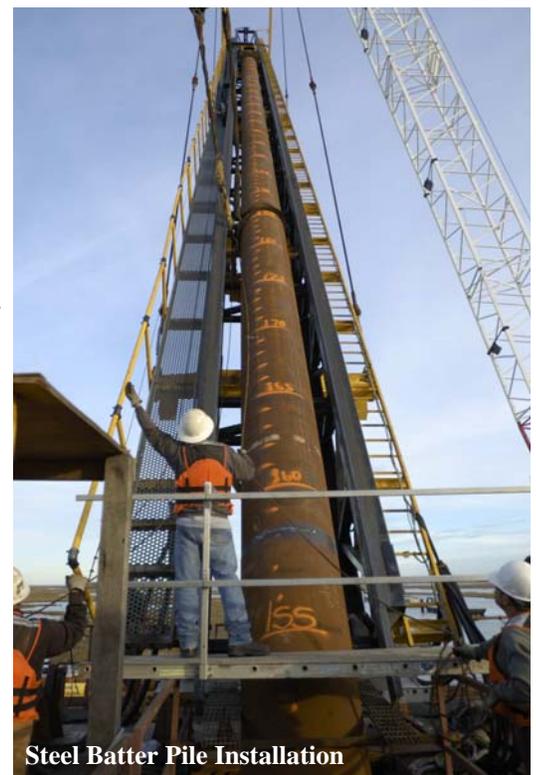
<http://www.mvn.usace.army.mil/hps2/videos/ihncanimation/ihncanimationvideo.asp>

a. Surge Barrier

Powderhouse Productions visited the construction site in December to gather footage for an episode of the "Build it Bigger" on the Discover Channel. We expect the episode to air in April 2010.

We continue to infill 66-inch concrete piles and 36-inch steel batter piles. The overall design of the entire structure is 82% complete. As of 18 December, 332 of 645 (51%) 36" steel batter piles were installed. All of the 2554 18" closure piles have now been fabricated and 2202 (86%) installed.

We have cast 132 of 337 precast floodwall caps and set 84 (25%).



Construction of the parapet wall continues and we have started the guardrail posts. The barge gate tremie slab is being chipped smooth and the sill formwork operation has started. Rebar tying in the northwest quadrant on the bypass sill is nearly complete. We have also started mobilization for the north and south floodwall tie-ins.

IHNC Surge Barrier *In the News*

ENR - http://construction.com/video/?fr_story=5681bde706a1945e1ec1f6c1a9287e92c994ef54&rf=bm

ENR - <http://enr.construction.com/infrastructure/environment/2009/1216-StormSurgeBarrier-1.asp>

USACE photo taken by Paul Floro selected as one of ENR's 2009 Photos of the Year!

<http://enr.construction.com/photocontest/2009/detail.asp?itemid=18>

b. IHNC East Wall

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers awarded a \$2.4 million contract on 10 December to Shavers-Whittle Construction, a Louisiana-based firm, to further strengthen a section along the East Wall. The contract calls for driving 1,400 feet of sheet pile approximately 4,000 feet south of the Ted Hickey (Seabrook) Bridge.

News Release - <http://www.mvn.usace.army.mil/news/view.asp?ID=278>

c. Seabrook

We held an Individual Environmental Report (IER) public meeting on 3 December in Gentilly to provide an overview of the proposed action for the Seabrook Floodgate Complex. The IER then went out for a 30-day public review on 8 December and that document is available on our environmental Web site <http://www.nolaenvironmental.gov/>. We welcome comments through 6 January 2010.

A protest on the Early Contractor Involvement (ECI) contract award was filed on 16 November and will be resolved within 100 days.

News Coverage - http://www.nola.com/hurricane/index.ssf/2009/12/seabrook_storm_surge_gates_eff.html

5. Plaquemines Parish (Main Supporting District - Vicksburg)

Geotechnical investigations and surveying on the non-Federal alignments continue.

Status meeting to address grass growth are ongoing with Parish officials. Scheduled work has been delayed for over a month due to rainy weather.

We completed a number of scoping meetings to solicit input for the Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (SEIS) for the existing New Orleans to Venice levees.

We anticipate that a draft of that document will be released for public review in June 2010.



Rig obtains soil borings for geotechnical study

6. Existing Pump Station Repairs (Main Supporting District - Chicago)

We have completed 29 projects out of a total of 30; the project at Elaine Pump Station is under construction. The overall Pump Station Repair Program is approximately 99% complete.

On 2 November, we began demolishing 14 residential units in the Mariner's Cove subdivision adjacent to the 17th Street Outfall Canal Interim Control Structure (ICS). All of the units have been demolished, but site restoration has been delayed by rain.



Elaine Pump Station Construction

7. Storm Proofing (Main Supporting District - Chicago)

We continue work on finishing up the storm proofing program in Jefferson Parish (15 projects): four are in Scope of Work development, four are in design, three are under construction, two proposals are under review and two are complete. Storm proofing continues in Orleans Parish (18 projects): four are in Scope of work development, 11 are in design, one is under construction and two are complete. The overall Storm Proofing Program is approximately 25% complete.

News Coverage - http://www.nola.com/hurricane/index.ssf/2009/12/post_20.html



Westminster Pump Station - Climber Screen

8. Grand Isle (Main Supporting District - St. Louis)

Major construction of the geotextile tube is now complete. Currently, the tubes are being covered with dredged sand. The 1,000 feet of burrito levee that was damaged during Hurricane Ida will be replaced with geotextile tube in 2010.

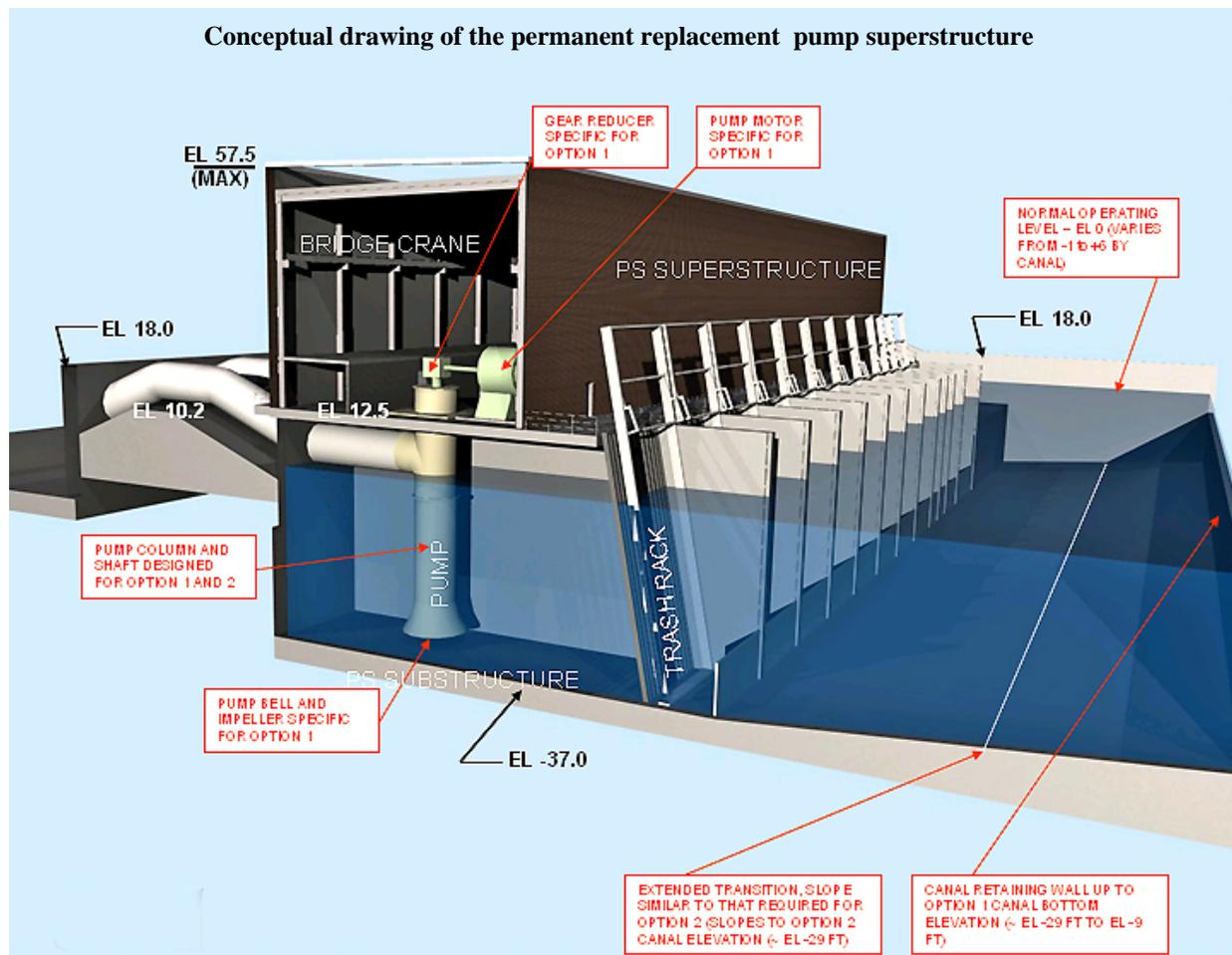
9. Permanent Replacement Pump Stations

Replacing the outfall canal temporary structures with the Congressionally authorized and funded permanent facilities is essential, and we will engineer and build the new facilities to accommodate potential future improvements to the city's internal drainage system. Recently, we met with the state (OCPR) to develop language for an amendment to the Project Partnership Agreement (PPA). The State is now reviewing the amended PPA, and we anticipate that the document will be signed sometime next month. Based on our projected schedule, the permanent replacement pump stations would be complete in 2014.

News Coverage - Cost to maintain outfall canal pumps could fall on city

<http://www.wvltv.com/news/local/City-Council-Grapples-With-How-To-Pay-For-Storm-Protection-System-Maintenance-78913052.html>

Community Meeting Request for Proposal Phase Two - Thurs., January 21, 2010 6:00 - 9:00 PM



Col. Robert A Sinkler, Commander
Hurricane Protection Office

Recent Visitors to the IHNC Surge Barrier Construction Site



White House Fellows



Staffers, Senator Vitter's Office



Mississippi River Commission President Brig. Gen. Michael Walsh, The Honorable Clifford Smith and Brig. Gen. John McMahon (not pictured)



Association of Levee Boards of Louisiana



Rear Admiral Mary Landry, Commander Eight Coast Guard District, U.S. Coast Guard (second from right)



**Joseph Threat, Deputy Director of Support Services, FEMA
Mark Landry, Interim Director, FEMA**

Recent Visitors to the IHNC Surge Barrier Construction Site



Charles Barton, Mississippi Valley Division (MVD), Col. Thatch Shephard, MVD Deputy Commander and other MVD Leaders



U.S. Northern Command, Department of Defense



Singapore Building and Construction Authority



Mary Anne Hanner, Ph.D., Dean, College of Sciences Eastern Illinois University



Col. William Davis, Marine Forces Reserve Engineer (right)



Stradford Goins, Vice President Southeast Louisiana Flood Protection Authority-East



**Inner Harbor Navigation Canal Surge Barrier Construction
Discovery Channel “*Build it Bigger*” Shoot**



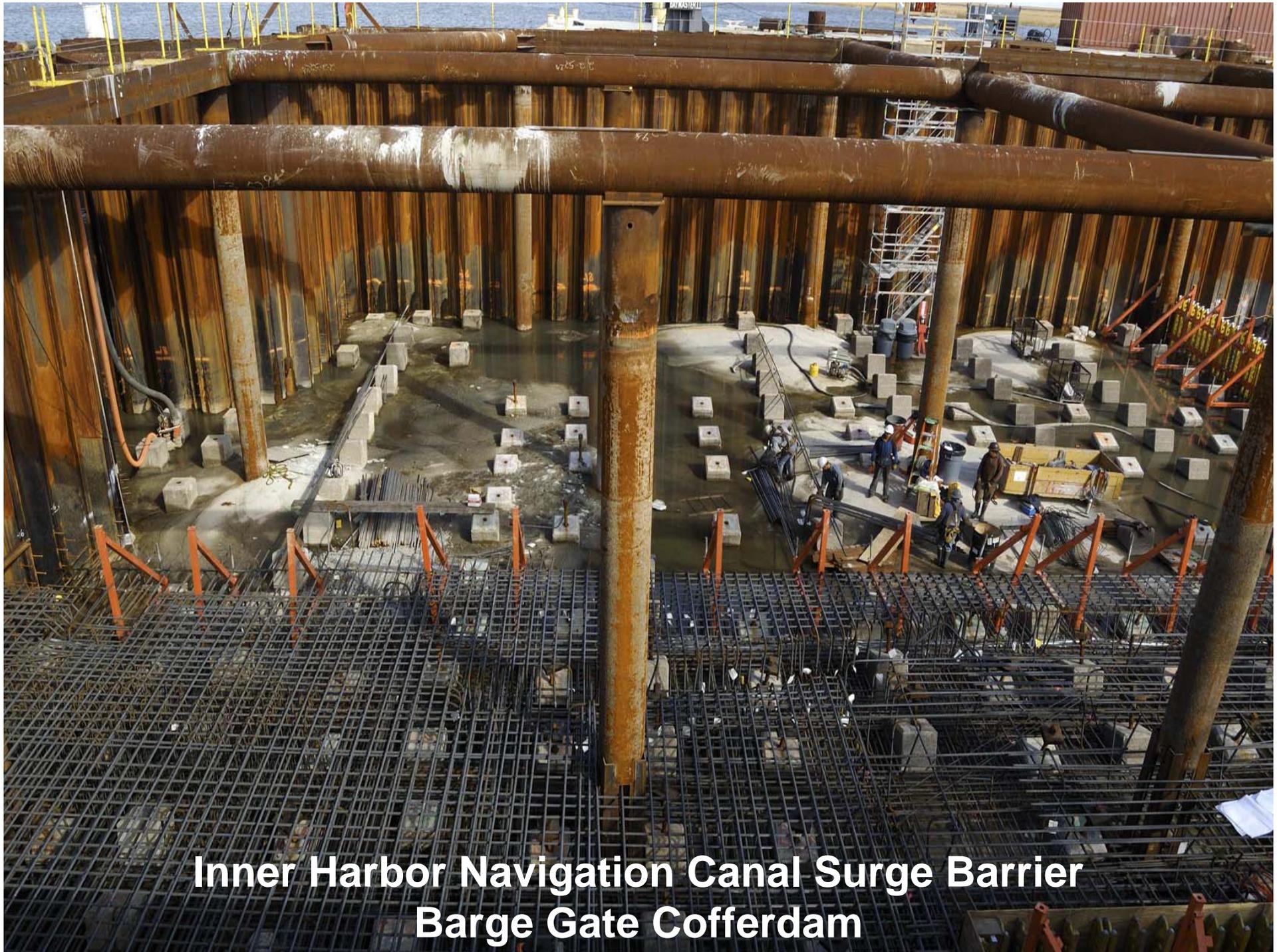
Inner Harbor Navigation Canal Surge Barrier Construction
Discovery Channel *"Build it Bigger"* Shoot

Inner Harbor Navigation Canal Surge Barrier Construction





**Inner Harbor Navigation Canal Surge Barrier
Concrete Cap Installation**



**Inner Harbor Navigation Canal Surge Barrier
Barge Gate Cofferdam**

Inner Harbor Navigation Canal Surge Barrier Construction

