



**US Army Corps
of Engineers**
New Orleans District

News Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Coastal Engineering Research Board to Meet in Metairie, La., April 2

NEW ORLEANS, La. - The Coastal Engineering Research Board (CERB), which provides guidance for coastal engineering research to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, will hold a public meeting April 2 in Metairie, La., from 8:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at the Marriott Metairie, 3838 N. Causeway Blvd.

The CERB is a congressionally authorized advisory board that provides policy guidance and review of plans and funding requirements for coastal research and development to the commander of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. The board usually meets semiannually at various coastal and Great Lakes locations. The CERB is comprised of four Corps of Engineers senior officers and three civilian engineers/scientists who are experts in the field of coastal engineering.

The CERB meeting, hosted by the Corps' South Atlantic Division and the Mississippi Valley Division, and will focus on research efforts related to the Mississippi and Louisiana coasts. The meeting's theme is "Regional System-wide Analysis Lessons Learned from the Louisiana Coastal Protection and Restoration Study (LACPR) and the Mississippi Coastal Improvement Project (MsCIP)." CERB presentations will focus on the systems perspective research that is needed and the technical skills and capabilities that must be developed to implement a "Systems Approach to Coastal Protection."

CERB members attending this meeting include Maj. Gen. Don Riley, director of civil works, Corps of Engineers; Brig. Gen. John McMahon, commander, South Pacific Division, Corps of Engineers; Brig. Gen. Joseph Schroedel, commander, South Atlantic Division, Corps of Engineers; Margaret A. Davidson, director, Coastal Services Center, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, and Dr. R. Bruce Taylor, Taylor Engineering, Inc.

Presentations at this CERB meeting will include:

Oceanography - Ty Wamsley, Coastal and Hydraulics Laboratory, U.S. Army Engineer Research and Development Center (ERDC)

Sediments - Dr. Jeffrey Waters, Coastal and Hydraulics Laboratory, ERDC

Fresh Water and Ecology - Dr. Barbara Kleiss, Environmental Laboratory, ERDC, and Mississippi Valley Division

Economics and Sociology - Brian Harper, Institute for Water Resources, Corps of Engineers

Policy, Planning, and Budget Realities for Storm Protection - Dr. Leonard Shabman, Resources Realities for the Future

States' Perspectives (Mississippi and Louisiana) - Dr. William Walker, Mississippi, Department of Marine Resources, and Garret Graves, Louisiana Governor's Office of Coastal Activities

Technical Innovations and Future Vision of Technical Support - Edmond Russo, Coastal and Hydraulics Laboratory, ERDC, and Dr. Susan Rees, Mobile District, Corps of Engineers

The CERB meeting is open to the public. There will be a public comments session at 2:45 p.m. for comments on Corps of Engineers research and development needs for coastal engineering. Public comments should address Corps' coastal engineering research needs or the topics presented during the CERB meeting.

Due to very limited seating, advance notice of attendance is requested. For more information on the meeting or for attendance notification, contact the New Orleans District Public Affairs office at 504-862-1914.

The CERB functions as an advisory board to the Chief of Engineers and was established by Public Law in 1963. It was originally the Beach Erosion Board established in 1930.

The CERB has seven members. The CERB president is the Corps' director of civil works in the Washington, D. C. headquarters. The three other military members are senior officers (Corps division commanders) from coastal divisions who normally serve through their tenure as division commanders or as determined by the Chief of Engineers. The three civilian members are national experts in the field of coastal engineering and serve two-year terms.

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