



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

News Release

Public Affairs Office
504-862-2201

www.mvn.usace.army.mil

For Immediate Release

Contact: Julie Morgan, 504-862-2037

March 11, 2008

Corps to present 100-year protection alternatives for Jefferson and Orleans Westbank and Upper Plaquemines

NEW ORLEANS - The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New Orleans District, is hosting a public meeting on Thursday, Mar. 13, 2008 at Our Lady of Holy Cross College's Moreau Center, 4123 Woodland Dr., in Algiers to discuss possible levee alignment alternatives that will bring the Hurricane Storm Damage and Risk Reduction System located on the Westbank in Jefferson, Orleans, and Plaquemines Parishes to 100-year levels of protection.

"The meeting presentation will detail the alternatives under consideration for improving the Algiers and Harvey Canals and the Hero Canal and Eastern Terminus levee," said Julie Vignes, senior project manager for the Westbank levee system.

The meeting will cover projects to be discussed in Individual Environmental Reports 12 and 13. IER 12 discusses the Harvey and Algiers Canal levee and floodwalls located in Jefferson, Orleans, and Plaquemines Parishes. IER 13 covers the Hero Canal Levee and Eastern Terminus of the levee in Plaquemines Parish.

The public meeting begins with a Corps-staffed open house at 6 p.m. A formal presentation begins at 7 p.m. and is followed by a question and answer period. The purpose of the meeting is to allow the public an opportunity to provide input on development of the Hurricane Storm Damage and Risk Reduction System.

In addition to IERs 12 and 13, the Corps will also discuss potential areas from which borrow material may be obtained. Borrow is a specific type of clay the Corps needs to upgrade the current levee system. The Corps is investigating potential borrow source sites across the region.

Public meetings are part of the Corps' commitment to environmental compliance efforts and construction updates on the proposed 100-year storm system in the vicinity of the Westbank and Lake Pontchartrain areas. These meetings are a part of a National Environmental Policy Act alternative arrangement, and are held to provide the public the opportunity to participate in the Corps' decision making process.

The Corps encourages the public to provide written comments on IERs available for public review by mail, e-mail or by visiting www.nolaenvironmental.gov at any time throughout the environmental analysis period. Questions or comments concerning proposed hurricane storm damage reduction actions should be addressed to:

Gib Owen, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, PM-RS
P.O. Box 60267, New Orleans, LA 70160-0267
Phone: 504-862-1337; Fax; 504-862-2088 or by e-mail at:
mvnenvironmental@usace.army.mil.

For more information or to sign up for meeting notifications please visit the following web site: www.nolaenvironmental.gov.

###