



US Army Corps  
of Engineers®  
New Orleans District

# News Release

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Web brochure: **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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September 24, 2002

## Hammond Highway Bridge being closed

NEW ORLEANS – The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers said Tuesday the Hammond Highway Bridge over the 17<sup>th</sup> Street Canal will be closed **about noon Wednesday** because of the approach of Hurricane Isidore. *(Update)*

Closure is necessary so that the Corps' contractor, Gulf Group, can place sand bags for protection against a storm surge. Gulf Group is building a new, flood-proofed bridge as part of the Lake Pontchartrain and Vicinity Hurricane Protection Project. The Hammond Highway Bridge connects New Orleans and Metairie at the lakefront.

In addition, Angelo Iafrate, the contractor replacing the Filmore Avenue Bridge over the London Avenue Canal will be placing sandbags at that location in Gentilly. The Filmore Bridge has been closed since March for construction of another hurricane-protection replacement.

One block away, the Orleans Levee District will begin sandbagging the Mirabeau Avenue Bridge over the London Avenue Canal at 6 p.m. Tuesday.

Should conditions warrant, the Orleans Levee District will sandbag the Robert E. Lee Boulevard Bridge over the London Avenue Canal on Wednesday.

Hurricane flood proofing has been successfully completed on six other bridges over drainage canals – and they will remain open to traffic. The flood proofing connects the floodwall on one side of each canal to the floodwall on the other. This makes sandbagging unnecessary. The bridges are also sealed and strengthened.

The Corps of Engineers announced an additional closing on the SELA rain-flood project in New Orleans. Jourdan Road has been closed at the Dwyer Road Outfall Canal Project, in New Orleans East between Chef Menteur Highway and the lakefront.

Also on the SELA project, all temporary dams have been removed on drainage canals in east Jefferson Parish to pass storm water.

**On the Web:** <http://www.mvn.usace.army.mil/pao/RELEASES/02JAN04HURR.pdf>