ATCHAFALAYA RIVER & BAYOUS CHENE, BOEUF, AND BLACK FEASIBILITY STUDY

- **Status:**
  - -Feasibility phase initiated May 2002
  - -Sched. completion Mar 2009 (outyear funding constraints)
- **Sponsor:** Morgan City Harbor and Terminal District
- **Issues:**
  - -High O&M cost and "fluff"
  - -Low FY 03 & outyear funding
- **Last Event/Date:**
  - -FCSA Executed-May 2002
- **Next Event/Date**
  - -Continue feasibility study

Project Fact Sheet

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
New Orleans District, CEMVN-PM-M
P.O. Box 60267
New Orleans, LA 70160-0267

Date: 6 August 2003

Atchafalaya River and Bayous Chene, Boeuf, and Black, Louisiana Feasibility Study

STUDY AUTHORITY: This study was authorized by the Water Resources Development Act of 2000, Public Law 106-541 .

STUDY SPONSOR: The Morgan City Harbor and Terminal District is the sponsor for the feasibility study.

STUDY LOCATION: The study area includes the Atchafalaya River and Bayous Chene, Boeuf, and Black and adjacent areas in the vicinity of Morgan City, Louisiana, in St, Mary, Assumption, and Terrebonne Parishes in south-central Louisiana.

STUDY PURPOSE: The purpose of this study is to address the feasibility of providing deeper navigation access channels to facilities in the study area. Depths up to 35 feet are being considered. The existing Atchafalaya River and Bayous Chene, Boeuf, and Black project provides a 20-foot project depth.

STUDY FEATURES: Evaluating the benefits to existing navigation in the study area and to new traffic that could operate more efficiently in the study area with deeper channel. The benefits would accrue primarily from the fabrication of the larger offshore oil and gas platforms in the Morgan City area instead of overseas. The larger platforms are being used for the exploration and development of oil and gas fields in deeper waters in the Gulf of Mexico and other areas.

STUDY COST:

	Federal	Non-Federal	Total
Reconnaissance Study	$ 197,000	0	$ 197,000
Feasibility Study	2,200,000	2,200,000	4,400,000
Total	$2,397,000	$2,200,000	$4,597,000

STUDY BUDGET/SCHEDULE: The FCSA was executed with the Morgan City Harbor and Terminal District on 6 May 2002. FY 03 funds of $420,000 are being used to continue the Feasibility Study. The FSCA provided for a 3-year study schedule, with completion in May 2005. The schedule for study completion is March 2009, based on FY 03 and outyear target funding levels.

ISSUES: High O&M cost and “fluff”. Maintenance of the existing Atchafalaya Bar channel is very costly, partially due to flocculate clay material that collects in the navigation channel immediately following maintenance dredging. The maintenance costs and channel reliability are major hurdles to overcome in justifying a deeper channel.