



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS, NEW ORLEANS DISTRICT
7400 LEAKE AVE
NEW ORLEANS, LA 70118-3651

July 2, 2020

Operations Division
Regulatory Branch

SPECIAL PUBLIC NOTICE

**CEMVN Issues Notice of Intent in Federal Register for Development of
Environmental Impact Statement on proposed Mid-Breton Sediment Diversion Project**

PERMIT APPLICATION NUMBER: MVN-2018-1120-EOO (Section 10/404)
2019-0104 (Section 408)

APPLICANT: Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority of Louisiana

INTRODUCTION: The Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority of Louisiana (CPRA) has requested permits and permissions from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New Orleans District (CEMVN) to construct, maintain, and operate the proposed Mid-Breton Sediment Diversion Project (proposed Project) on the east bank of the Mississippi River at River Mile 68.6 above "Head of Passes" near Wills Point in Plaquemines Parish, Louisiana. To inform these decisions, CEMVN will prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and has issued a Notice of Intent (NOI) in the Federal Register on July 2, 2020 (<https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/FR-2020-07-02/pdf/2020-14031.pdf>). As part of the preparation of the EIS, NEPA requires an early and open public process for determining the scope of issues, resources, impacts, and alternatives to be addressed by the EIS; commonly referred to as "scoping". CEMVN invites all interested parties to provide input on the proposed Project, alternatives that need to be considered, and potential environmental issues that need to be evaluated in the development of the EIS. The scoping time-frame to provide comments will extend from **July 2, 2020 through August 16, 2020**.

SCOPING/PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT: To learn more about CPRA's proposed Project or CEMVN's permit and NEPA review process, visit the project webpage at the following URL: <https://www.mvn.usace.army.mil/Missions/Regulatory/Permits/Mid-Breton-Sediment-Diversion-EIS/> This webpage contains the NOI, a factsheet, visual aids, and scoping presentations.

Scoping Meetings: CEMVN will be hosting 3 scoping meetings; however due to COVID-19 safety precautions, these will be virtual meetings. The goals will be the same, to provide information about the proposed Project and the NEPA review, and to provide an opportunity for interested parties to ask questions to help clarify this information. Interested parties are encouraged to participate in one of the following three Webex virtual scoping meetings:

Virtual Scoping Meetings

Tuesday
July 14, 2020
9:00 to 10:30am

1-844-621-3956
Access code: 126 005 0147

Wednesday
July 15, 2020
2:00 to 3:30pm

1-844-621-3956
Access code: 126 841 4739

Thursday
July 16, 2020
6:00 to 7:30pm

1-844-621-3956
Access code: 126 316 9289

How to Join a Meeting: Participants will be able to join a scoping Webex meeting either by (1) clicking on the “Join Meeting” link located at the top of the project webpage and entering the password provided on that webpage or; (2) calling the phone number and entering the access code identified for each meeting (see above).

Agenda: Each scoping meeting will begin with presentations that have been pre-recorded and are currently available for viewing on the project webpage (see above.) These were conducted in English; but these presentations link to Youtube which allows for English, Vietnamese or Spanish closed-captions. Following the presentations, there will be a Q&A session that lasts for the remainder of the meeting.

Submitting Your Scoping Questions: Questions can be submitted by (1) using the Webex chat box available during the meeting; or (2) submitting from the “Submit Scoping Questions” box located on the project webpage. Interested parties participating by phone only will not be able to use the Webex chat box during the scoping meetings so please submit your questions ahead of time using the “Submit Scoping Questions” box. Participants should be aware that all questions or info submitted from the above process does not serve as your official scoping comments. Please see below for submitting your official scoping comments.

Submitting Your Official Scoping Comments: At any time during the scoping period time-frame, interested parties can provide their official scoping comments using one of the following:

- Submit comment forms (available at the project webpage) and/or letters by mail to: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New Orleans District, Attn: CEMVN-ODR-E #MVN-2018-1120-EOO, 7400 Leake Avenue, New Orleans, LA 70118.
- Submit comments by e-mail at CEMVN-Midbreton@usace.army.mil.
- Submit oral comments via the toll-free number 1-855-643-2738 OR 1-855-MID-BRET

These instructions for submitting your official scoping comments can also be found on project webpage under “Ways to Submit Official Scoping Comments.”

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION: Interested parties unable to participate in the virtual scoping meetings can access all of the scoping meeting materials on the project webpage: <https://www.mvn.usace.army.mil/Missions/Regulatory/Permits/Mid-Breton-Sediment-Diversion-EIS/>. Once video is available, the webpage will include recordings of each virtual scoping meeting. The virtual scoping meetings will be conducted in English and then posted to our website and to YouTube, where non-English speaking stakeholders can view the meeting and select the language they prefer for a closed-caption presentation.

Questions concerning the Section 10 and Section 404 permit process should be directed to Mr. Brad LaBorde at U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New Orleans District, Attn: CEMVN-ODR-E #MVN-2018-1120-EOO, 7400 Leake Avenue, New Orleans, LA 70118, or by email at CEMVN-Midbreton@usace.army.mil. Questions and comments concerning the Section 408 permission process should be directed to Mr. Jeff Varisco at U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New Orleans District, Attn: CEMVN-PM-P #2019-0104, 7400 Leake Avenue, New Orleans, LA 70118, or by email at CEMVN-Midbreton@usace.army.mil.

Martin S. Mayer
Chief, Regulatory Branch