

Glen Fleming
Assessor's Office, Plaquemines Parish

3 April 2009

Voicemail Question
From: Glen Fleming
To: Gib Owen

Hi Gib this is Glen Fleming with the assessor's office in Plaquemines Parish. I'd like to request a copy of the IER 13 documents please including any maps that may be available as well. If you would send those to the assessor's office in Plaquemines Parish: P.O Box 7129 Belle Chase, Louisiana 70037. Again my name is Glen Fleming you can reach me at 504-297-5261. I'd like a copy of the IER 13 for the Oakville area levee drawings that are included in that report. Thank you very much.

Geneva P. Grille, P.E.

Belle Chasse, LA

6 April 2009

-----Original Message-----

From: Geneva Grille

Sent: Monday, April 06, 2009 12:36 PM

To: MVN Environmental

Subject: IER # 13

Attn; Mr. Gib Owen:

I would like to be sent a copy of the Individual Environmental Report (IER) # 13, “ West Bank and Vicinity (WBV), Hero Canal Levee and Eastern Terminus, Plaquemines Parish, Louisiana “.

Sincerely,

Geneva P. Grille, P.E.

Ivo Tesvich



8 April 2009

-----Original Message-----

From: McLaughlin, Sarah N MVN-Contractor
Sent: Wednesday, April 08, 2009 8:16 AM
To: Owen, Gib A MVN
Subject: RE: Message from Owen, Gib A MVN

Ivo Tesvich
504.398.9913
Voice Mail

Unknown
mvnenvironmental@usace.army.mil
9 April 2009

-----Original Message-----

From: mvnenvironmental@usace.army.mil [mailto:mvnenvironmental@usace.army.mil]
Sent: Thursday, April 09, 2009 7:25 PM
To: MVN Environmental
Subject: NOLA Environmental Comment - Belle Chasse

I firmly believe that by building this floodgate across Highway 23, the Federal Government, The Corps of Engineers and Plaquemines Parish Government has written off the parish from Oakville south to Venice.

You have decided that this area is not worth saving and that basically is that.

Thanks to each and every one of you!

Blaine Bergeron



18 April 2009

-----Original Message-----

From: Bergeron, Blaine (BlaineBergeron) [mailto:BlaineBergeron@chevron.com]

Sent: Saturday, April 18, 2009 10:41 AM

To: MVN Environmental

Subject: Proposed project IER13

To:

Gib Owen

Project Management

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

New Orleans, LA 70118-3651

Tel. 504-862-1337

Re: Opposition to proposed project IER13

I'm contacting you to voice my opposition to USACE project IER13. As a resident of Jesuit Bend I have concerns on how IER13 will effect my community and all others that will not be inside of the proposed new levee system as it is currently planned.

Has any research and/or studies been done to determine how it will effect residences outside the system as far as:

- 1) FEMA - standard National Flood policy qualifications.
- 2) Property values.

Any information you can provide prior to the April 29th meeting in Oakville respective to my concerns would be appreciated.

Blaine Bergeron



Bryant J. Celestine
Historic Preservation Officer
Alabama-Coushatta Tribe

23 April 2009

[REDACTED]
23 April 2009

From: Don M. Tague [REDACTED]
Subject: Levee Protection Flood Gate Across Hwy 23
[REDACTED]

Date: Thursday, April 23, 2009, 9:19 PM

Dear Sir,

I am a resident in Plaquemines Parish and am receiving for the first time tonight a request for a meeting regarding levee protection ending at Oakville which is north of where I live. I as many others have great concern and am completely opposed to the flood gate ending at Oakville. I would like to know how this site was determined? I would also like to know why it is assumed that everyone living in this area does not have the right to flood protection. We all pay taxes to live in this parish and our money as well generates revenue for the parish. I also have concern that all the citizens of this parish have not had informed consent on the nature of this life altering proposal/decision. I also feel this quite compromising to receive a letter with it stating that "this project is in the final planning stages and we are in as 30-day public comment period which ends on May 4th 2009." It seems to me that a notification this late in the game is an insult to those who live here. Those who are in the line of decision making should be putting PROTECTION OF ALL at the top of their agenda.

I would also like to know WHO is funding this project? Have those in charge of accepting allocated monies thought about all the families who are living in the underlying lower part of the parish who have been through the struggle of rebuilding their lives since Hurricane Katrina. Why is it that they as well as my own family have not been selected for protection by those on the levee board? Honestly, I can think of no suitable reason. How can any portion of this parish not be on the agenda in totality? It feels as if this portion of this outstanding section of the parish is being ignored. We are vital to this community. For example, President Nungesser has on several news interviews clearly established Venice as a port for revenue especially in light of the last hurricane which impacted port Fourchon and the parishes surrounding the Houma area: Gustav. Should not all of the remaining area below Oakville be protected from harms way, or is the remainder of the land/homes below Oakville now going to be the "NEW" wetlands which will protect those inside the walls from destruction? In respect to hurricanes Betsy and Camille, environmentalists and all those involved should have been thinking 30- 40 years ago about protection of our cost line.

In light of this possibility this letter/flyer regards loss of home value? Has any governmental body prepared to shell out money to pay the remainder of peoples mortgages who live in this area since the decisions about levee protection were made after the fact of people already residing here? With this type of publicity who will buy these homes for people to move out if so chosen? Also if it is considered to leave us out does the city/parish still expect those with no protection to pay taxes which I have referenced to before supporting this parish? How about the poor of the parish? Who will give them a means to defend and protect their life long ambitions as well as personal property? Where are they going to go? Is the parish prepared to serve a strong possibility of having homeless? They cannot go and live under the Claiborne overpass with a thought of charities to put them up in housing. Local charities funds are exhausted already from the overwhelming homeless population which includes many mentally ill. Is anyone out there thinking of anyone other than their own safety and protection? The world needs to turn from being self centered and start protecting their fellow mankind as it once did. So many families suffering during these depressing economic times.....please do not consider leaving any home or family out of the the vitality and security needed by levee protection. How could a decision of this nature even be a possibility in the UNITED STATES OF AMERICA when we are citizens of this country? Our forefathers would be in grave peril to know "we the people, for the people, and by the people," have

established rights and God given graces to help all those including our brother countries in need yet we cannot help our own or least we turn our back on our own.

Gib with the Army Core of Engineers will also be emailed by me as well regarding this matter. Thank you for your time and cooperation in this matter. I am EAGER to hear your response.

Sincerely,

Denise Tague

Douglas LeBlanc

24 April 2009

-----Original Message-----

From:

Sent: Friday, April 24, 2009 9:33 AM

To: MVN Environmental

Subject: NOLA Environmental Comment - General Comment

The placing of a levee, and floodgate at Oakville is of great concern to me. What happens to the communities south of Oakville? I live in Jesuit Bend and would not be within the proposed levee system. What will happen to my insurance? Will I still be able to get flood insurance through the National Flood Insurance Program? Will my Homeowner insurance become unaffordable? What will happen to our property values? What will happen to all of the communities south of Jesuit Bend? I believe that this proposal is unfair, unreasonable, and detrimental to all of Plaquemines Parish!!!!

Douglas LeBlanc

Unknown

24 April 2009

-----Original Message-----

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: Friday, April 24, 2009 9:13 PM

To: MVN Environmental

Subject: NOLA Environmental Comment - Belle Chasse

IER 13 - Placing a levee in Oakville and isolating land south of through the Connoco Refinery is a very bad idea. You are building a wall that blocks off a large section of Plaquemines parish that is high ground and did not flood. The impact on tax revenue (Jesuit Bend) and national security (refinery) does not appear to be included in your study.

Calvin Anticich
mailto:[REDACTED]
27 April 2009

-----Original Message-----

From: Calvin Anticich [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, April 27, 2009 6:56 PM
To: MVN Environmental
Subject: Project IER13

I have reviewed the proposal regarding the IER 13 project and find the project study to be faulty in as much as it does not evidence consideration of the detrimental effects of the proposed project on any of the areas south of the proposed IER 13 project. The study does not discuss the negative effects on the areas south of the proposed project in terms of increased likelihood of flooding, decreased property values, increased cost of flood insurance, increased potential of loss of life, and increased economic loss all due to flooding of the communities south of the project as a direct result of the IER 13 project. Certainly the proposed alternative road, to be used in the advent of the closure of the proposed floodgate across highway 23, would increase evacuation times for the persons and business south of the project and be detrimental to the Oakville community itself. It is noted that the communities south of the IER 13 project represent a diverse racial and socioeconomic population. Businesses south of the project include an oil refinery which strangely enough, given our nation's stated goal toward energy independence, is not mentioned in the project study. The project focuses on a scrap yard and any potential impact without any discussion of the detrimental effects of the project on any of the many more substantial businesses in addition to the aforementioned refinery that are south of the project. Why and how the proposed location of the current project is beneficial to the Plaquemines Parish community as a whole on a cost versus benefit ratio are not included in the study. A reading of the study would lead one to believe that the areas south of the project location are primarily vacant lands, when in fact vibrant neighborhoods exceeding the size and socioeconomic diversity of Oakville exist within a short distance of the Oakville community. While I am certainly in favor of improved flood protection for all communities in southeast Louisiana, I am against the proposed IER 13 project and feel that any such project should encompass a cost versus benefit evaluation of the populated and diverse socioeconomic areas of Jesuit Bend and other areas south of project IER 13. Plaquemines parish should not be arbitrarily divided at Oakville based on past government policies and directives and the current flawed study as indicated in this communication. I would like to think and feel that government entities, policies, studies, and actions in terms of projects relative to flood control should seek to provide the often mentioned 100 year flood protection to as many citizens as possible based on reasonable and rational policies and actions. I am not aware of such flood walls being built in other parishes that would render an equivalent ratio of citizens of the parish as literal afterthoughts in terms of flood protection. I am literally shocked by the ramifications of this proposed project and if it moves forward will contact my local, state, and federal elected officials to voice my concerns and objection.

Shannon Cooke

mailto:[REDACTED]

27 April 2009

-----Original Message-----

From: Cooke, Shannon [REDACTED]

Sent: Monday, April 27, 2009 8:23 AM

To: MVN Environmental

Subject: NOLA Environmental Comment - General Comment

My father, Doug LeBlanc, forwarded your reply to his email regarding the flood gate at Oakville. I live around the corner from my parents. What I don't understand is why the levees South of Oakville are not being built BEFORE the floodgate at Oakville is put up. That's seems to be the more logical.

You stated that this project was authorized in 1985. Since 1985 there has been major residential development in South Plaquemines Parish. Homes in Jesuit Bend are currently valued at \$300,000 to over \$1 million. Was this taken into consideration or was the decision finalized back in 1985?

Thank you.

Shannon Cooke

Ava Hingle



70037

27 April 2009

AVA HINGLE

BELL 0037

April 27, 2009

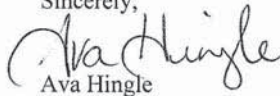
US Army Corps of Engineers
Attn: Gib Owen
P. O. Box 60267
New Orleans, LA 70160-0267

Dear Mr. Owen:

As a resident of Jesuit Bend for many years I am extremely unhappy about the Army Corp of Engineers project IER 13 for the 100 year levee protection proposal. This project will put a flood gate south of Oakville crossing LA Hwy 23 to the Mississippi River. I am against this because it would leave out the community of Jesuit Bend which is part of Belle Chasse and has many homes, the Belle Chasse Middle School, The Riverbend Nursing Home, the Becnel Citrus Farms and the Conoco Phillips Refinery on the wrong side of the wall. I would like to see the IER 13 levee and flood gate moved further south below the Conoco Phillips Refinery. Please note that my mailing address is Belle Chasse, LA 70037 but I am not included in the hurricane protection. If they put the wall up in Oakville this will have a major impact on all residents as our homes will be worthless. We will never be able to sell our houses.

Your prompt reply is appreciated as time is running out.

Sincerely,


Ava Hingle

Tara Means

27 April 2009

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Tara Means [REDACTED]
Date: Mon, Apr 27, 2009 at 10:24 AM
Subject: US Corp of Engineers IER #13
To: richardtara@bellsouth.net

To whom it may concern-

The US Army Corp of Engineers has, very quietly, proposed a project to correct the flooding issues of central Plaquemines Parish. Project Title IER #13 is a plan to build higher levees in areas where flooding has never been a concern and build a 56-foot wide flood gate across Louisiana Hwy 23 at Oakville. This flood gate would be approximately ten miles north from where the levee breaches occurred for Hurricane Gustav. This proposal would essentially flood a heavily populated area in the case of a storm. Water from northern Plaquemines Parish would be forced to build into an area with low-lying non federal levees and large subdivisions. When the entire process began to bring 100 year storm protection to everyone, I truly believed Jesuit Bend would be one of the first areas to be protected. Jesuit Bend is essential to Plaquemines Parish in terms of industry and agriculture. The pending proposal is an effort by the Corp to solve a major problem with a knee-jerk, band-aid solution that not only affects thousands of lives and property but also is detrimental to 120 acres of our cherished wetlands that have protected us in hurricanes past. As a Science teacher, I realize the monumental task of flood control in South Louisiana. What I am asking is to build 100 year storm protection for all of Plaquemines Parish and stop trying to find cost cutting solutions to a problem that is continuing to grow. My house did not flood in Hurricanes Katrina, Rita, Gustav or Ike, but if the new proposal were to become real, flooding is imminent. This is an impending reality that my tax dollars are paying for; not to mention the increase of already outrageous house insurance rates. The Corp needs to find a solutions to the issues of flood control without creating new problems. I am asking for your help in defeating the proposed Project Title IER #13. Thank you for anything you can do in regards to this matter.

Sincerely,

Tara Means

Lela Sercovich

[REDACTED]

Belle Chasse, LA 70037

[REDACTED]

27 April 2009

-----Original Message-----

From: Gary & Lela Sercovich [REDACTED]

Sent: Monday, April 27, 2009 9:43 AM

To: MVN Environmental

Subject: Hwy 23 Floodwall - Plaquemines Parish

My family lives in the community of Jesuit Bend, LA and I think that it is outrageous that the proposal to essentially "cut off" thousands of homes and businesses by building a levee floodwall system is simply not right. To just let these homes flood in the event of a major storm CAN NOT and SHOULD NOT happen. A better plan needs to be proposed, one where it is beneficial to all residents not just some.

Lela Sercovich

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Unknown

27 April 2009

-----Original Message-----

From:

Sent: Monday, April 27, 2009 10:32 PM

To: MVN Environmental

Subject: NOLA Environmental Comment - Belle Chasse

The information used in determining where the Oakville Flood Gate should be placed is almost 30 years old. There is more than cow pastures south of Oakville. Look at the tax roles for the value of the property that will be destroyed or devalued based on the placement of this gate. It should be further south after the major oil refinery.

Alaina Loup
River Bend Estates Resident
Belle Chasse, La

28 April 2009

-----Original Message-----

From: Alaina Loup [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, April 28, 2009 8:04 PM
To: MVN Environmental
Subject: Proposed floodgate hwy 23 at oakville , la

I am a citizen of the Jesuit bend community outside this proposed floodgate protection levee. I am very upset that this floodgate maybe being put here where our entire community is unprotected. Please reconsider and include us in the protection levee.

Sincerely Alaina Loup, River Bend Estates Resident, Belle Chasse, La

Sent from my iPhone

Frank and Linda Giardina

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

28 April 2009

-----Original Message-----

From: Frank Giardina [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, April 28, 2009 9:33 PM
To: MVN Environmental
Subject: "IER13" Flood Gate Across Belle Chasse Hwy. Corps of Engineers Project

Frank and Linda Giardina

[REDACTED]
Belle Chasse, LA
70037

Dear Mr. Gib Owen,

We are opposed to the Corps of Engineers project, "IER13," which proposes to build a flood gate across the Belle Chasse Hwy. at the Captain Larry's Seafood/Oakville area. Please cancel this project and consider other means of protection rather than building a flood gate across the Belle Chasse Hwy. at this location.

We live in the Jesuit Bend area, south of Belle Chasse and Oakville, LA. If there is another Katrina-type storm surge, the flood gate will trap water between the Mississippi River Levee on the east and the Back Levee on the west and the land south of there will be flooded. There are thousands of houses south of the proposed flood gate location that will be put into jeopardy if the current project proceeds as planned.

Please consider the probable property loss, probable rise in insurance rates, and many lives that could be negatively affected by the proposed flood gate project.

We implore of you to cease and decist with this project and find other means of flood protection for Oakville, rather than a flood gate at this location.

We thank you for your concern and compassion.

Frank and Linda Giardina

John H Golden
Staff Drilling Engineer, EPT-W
Shell International E&P Inc.

28 April 2009

-----Original Message-----

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, April 28, 2009 10:14 AM
To: Elizabeth_Weiner@Landrieu.Senate.Gov; Amanda_Beheydt@Melancon.House.Gov;
Rachel_Perez@Vitter.Senate.Gov; MVN Environmental

Subject: IER 13 - Opposition

I am writing in opposition to the proposed IER13 levee project that crosses LA23 at Oakville.

It is obvious to a casual observer that, as designed, the levee is yet another example of misappropriated taxpayer dollars. The levee meanders through the town of Oakville in what appears to be a politically motivated nonsensical pattern that is the epitome of wasteful spending.

I understand that the levee was designed based on population data from 20 years ago. That data is now grossly out of date.

The construction of the levee has never been adequately communicated to the population living south of the levee. The vast majority of the residences along LA Hwy 23 from the location of the proposed levee south to the Connoco Phillips refinery, did not flood during Katrina. Obviously there will be opposition from that group as to why their "high ground" is being devalued. My guess is that going forward with the project will likely have to contend with litigation originating from that group.

Additionally, the US Government should focus on protecting one of our critical refineries. The plan to federalizing the "back levee" that stretches from Oakville south to the Connoco Philips refinery is the most practical and fiscally responsible way to do that.

Upon completion of the ~10 mile "back levee" system, the Oakville levee becomes obsolete and the time and taxpayer dollars spent on the Oakville levee wasted.

Thank you for your time.

John H Golden
Staff Drilling Engineer, EPT-W
Shell International E&P Inc.

[REDACTED]

Alex Rogers

28 April 2009

-----Original Message-----

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, April 28, 2009 8:58 AM
To: MVN Environmental
Subject: NOLA Environmental Comment - Belle Chasse

Dear sirs, As a resident of Jesuit Bend, I feel that the levee and flood gate in oakdale would be ill advised. The levee located in oakdale would sacrifice one third of upper plaquemines tax base if this area is destroyed due to your placement of the levee at the current location.. It would be better to relocate it further south of B.P. refinery. This location would keep the refinery going during the energy crunch that we are now in....

Timothy J. Schotsch
General Manager
Riverside Recycling and Disposal, LLC

[REDACTED]

28 April 2009

Riverside Recycling and Disposal, LLC

[REDACTED]

A Fully Permitted Construction and Demolition Landfill Serving Greater New Orleans

April 28, 2009

Mr. Gib Owens
Department of the Army
New Orleans District, Corps of Engineers
PO Box 60267
New Orleans, LA 70160-0267

RE: Comments Regarding the Greater New Orleans Storm Damage Risk Reduction System's
Planned Levee Location West of Industrial Pipe Landfill.

Dear Mr. Owens;

We understand and support the goals of the planned levee system to protect residences and businesses in and around the Village of Oakville from hurricane and storm related damage. However, the proposed levee location from the Hero Canal to Oakview will cause needless future economic and environmental hardship. This section of the levee needs to be moved west of the LADEQ Permitted Industrial Pipe Landfill-Phase II area. (West boundary of Phase II Area is shown on the attached photo as N47 degrees 26'55"E, 1061.68 feet.)

Riverside Recycling and Disposal, LLC acquired the operational control and assumed the operations of the Industrial Pipe Type III Construction and Demolition Debris Landfill in Plaquemines Parish on April 1, 2007. The Industrial Pipe Landfill Phase II area will enable us to provide long-term, cost-effective, and environmentally safe construction and demolition waste disposal.

The Industrial Pipe Landfill-Phase II will provide landfill space for 10,000,000 cubic yards of loose C&D debris over several decades. Our customers, the builders and contractors that are responsible for our areas long-term growth, rely on the Industrial Pipe Landfill to provide continuous and uninterrupted disposal services. If the Corps of Engineers constructs the proposed levee within the LADEQ approved Phase II area, the regional economic negative impact will grossly exceed \$50,000,000 in lost revenue, lost employee wages, lost local goods and services purchased, and lost taxes. Replacing lost landfill airspace locally will be environmentally impractical and may be financially impossible.

Therefore, to best meet the goals of the Greater New Orleans Storm Damage Risk Reduction System, we strongly encourage the Corps of Engineers to re-design and re-locate the proposed levee from the Hero Canal to Oakville, directly west of the Industrial Pipe Landfill-Phase II area.

Sincerely,

Timothy J. Schotsch
General Manager

Attachments: Photograph Map of Industrial Pipe.

Kenny Stewart

28 April 2009

-----Original Message-----

From: Tina Stewart

Sent: Tuesday, April 28, 2009 2:09 PM

To: MVN Environmental

Subject: Fw:

Dear Gil:

For your information.

Kenny Stewart

INDUSTRIAL PIPE, INC.

70037

April 28, 2009

Dept of the Army
New Orleans District
Corps of Engineers
New Orleans, La. 70160
Attn: Gib Owen

Gib:

I write to you today in regards to the Oakville Levee Project in Plaquemines Parish, La. My company, Industrial Pipe, Inc. owns several businesses at 11266 Highway 23 in Belle Chasse, La. adjacent to the Hero Canal. The business that is being impacted by the construction of this levee is the Industrial Pipe, Inc. permitted C&D landfill. The intent of this letter is to voice our objection to the design location of the levee alignment.

Industrial Pipe, Inc. began the permitting process for its landfill in 1985. Over the years, as new standards for landfill operation were put into place by the State of Louisiana, my company complied with these new upgrade requirements and specific permits to keep this facility in compliance. The upgrade process was a huge undertaking for a small company such as ours. The process was constantly delayed time after time by environmental groups causing Industrial Pipe to spend ten times the normal costs in permitting, engineering and legal fees. Industrial Pipe Inc. began the process in 1986 and has continued spending time and money over the next 19 years. Industrial Pipe Inc was given its C&D landfill permit on Jan. 7, 2004. In order that Industrial Pipe Inc. could recoup this very expensive investment, we permitted the landfill operation with the State of Louisiana in two phases.

Phase I is the existing landfill operation. Phase I consists of approximately 51 ½ acres. Phase II consists of 25 acres. The Phase II operation was designed to utilize the same infrastructure which is already in place. This would help Industrial Pipe Inc. to recover some of its cost spent on the 19 year process of permitting.

The current levee alignment proposed by the Corps of Engineers will take away the entire area permitted for the Phase II landfill. A landfill business is extremely difficult to permit as I have explained. You just cannot relocate a permitted landfill as you could another business to a new location. The impact to Industrial Pipe for losing this business completely, is to lose the years of great expense it endured. This is a family owned and operated business and Phase II would continue that business for another 20 years.

The benefit of this landfill for Plaquemines Parish was demonstrated over the last 4 years during each hurricane season. Our landfill was opened the day after hurricanes and the immediate clean up of our parish could begin. This cannot be said of other landfills in this area.

The solution to this alignment is simply to move the levee back 1000 ft. The only reason this is not being considered is that the Corps does not want to impact an additional 8 acres of wetlands. The confusing issue about not impacting the additional wetlands is that they are said to be prime wetlands with hardwood bottoms. This is not the case as the Corps discovered when sending contractors in to do soil borings. It was determined that they did not need a crew to cut timbers for the right of way for the soil boring contractor to do his testing. Quite the contrary. There were very few trees in this area. The second reason that this section is not prime wetlands, is the fact that a road approximately 80 ft. wide runs through this 25 acres. This road was built from landfill trash in the 1970s. There is no doubt that this 25 acres of land is severely impacted and disturbed wetlands, disturbed low grade wetlands. Not the prime wetlands described by the Corps. The 25 acres that was disturbed by the landfill trash, played a role in the State of La.'s permitting of Phase II. Since the area adjoins an existing landfill operation and is already disturbed land, it is the sensible choice for permitting a landfill rather than permitting a site in an undisturbed area.

The reasons I have listed are more than enough evidence to relocate the levee alignment by 1000 ft. further back out of the permitted area.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Kennett Stewart". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Kennett Stewart

Tim Schotsch
Riverside Recycling and Disposal, LLC

[REDACTED]

28 April 2009

-----Original Message-----

From: Tim Schotsch [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, April 28, 2009 5:36 PM
To: MVN Environmental
Cc: avi@disposalexpress.com
Subject: Comments RE: New Orleans Storm Damage Risk Reduction System

Please see the attached copy of a comment letter that was sent via USPS certified mail to Mr. Gib Owen.

Riverside Recycling and Disposal, LLC

[REDACTED]

A Fully Permitted Construction and Demolition Landfill Serving Greater New Orleans

April 28, 2009

Mr. Gib Owens
Department of the Army
New Orleans District, Corps of Engineers
PO Box 60267
New Orleans, LA 70160-0267

**RE: Comments Regarding the Greater New Orleans Storm Damage Risk Reduction System's
Planned Levee Location West of Industrial Pipe Landfill.**

Dear Mr. Owens;

We understand and support the goals of the planned levee system to protect residences and businesses in and around the Village of Oakville from hurricane and storm related damage. However, the proposed levee location from the Hero Canal to Oakview will cause needless future economic and environmental hardship. This section of the levee needs to be moved west of the LADEQ Permitted Industrial Pipe Landfill-Phase II area. (West boundary of Phase II Area is shown on the attached photo as N47 degrees 26'55"E, 1061.68 feet.)

Riverside Recycling and Disposal, LLC acquired the operational control and assumed the operations of the Industrial Pipe Type III Construction and Demolition Debris Landfill in Plaquemines Parish on April 1, 2007. The Industrial Pipe Landfill Phase II area will enable us to provide long-term, cost-effective, and environmentally safe construction and demolition waste disposal.

The Industrial Pipe Landfill-Phase II will provide landfill space for 10,000,000 cubic yards of loose C&D debris over several decades. Our customers, the builders and contractors that are responsible for our areas long-term growth, rely on the Industrial Pipe Landfill to provide continuous and uninterrupted disposal services. If the Corps of Engineers constructs the proposed levee within the LADEQ approved Phase II

area, the regional economic negative impact will grossly exceed \$50,000,000 in lost revenue, lost employee wages, lost local goods and services purchased, and lost taxes. Replacing lost landfill airspace locally will be environmentally impractical and may be financially impossible.

Therefore, to best meet the goals of the Greater New Orleans Storm Damage Risk Reduction System, we strongly encourage the Corps of Engineers to re-design and re-locate the proposed levee from the Hero Canal to Oakville, directly west of the Industrial Pipe Landfill-Phase II area.

Sincerely,

Timothy J. Schotsch
General Manager

Attachments: Photograph Map of Industrial Pipe.

Unknown

28 April 2009

-----Original Message-----

From: tiger840@gmail.com

Sent: Tuesday, April 28, 2009 5:32 PM

To: MVN Environmental

Subject: NOLA Environmental Comment - General Comment

As a lifelong resident of Plaquemines Parish and 3 generation farmer, thios proposed floodgate goes against everything that is right about this parish.

The Corp of Engineers capriously drew "a line in the sand" and has written off the lower end of this parish.

I am totally against this action and hope you will reconsider the 1994 alternative of tying into the existing levee with the 100 year levee but NOT affect Oakville or HWY 23 and this residents below this willful and caprious "line in the sand"

Charlie Burt

29 April 2009

-----Original Message-----

From: Burt, Charlie [mailto: [REDACTED]]

Sent: Wednesday, April 29, 2009 7:35 AM

To: MVN Environmental

Subject: West bank Tie In

WE WANT A RE-EVALUATION OF THIS STUDY THAT WAS DONE 20+ YEARS AGO. WHY HAS THIS BEEN HIDDEN FOR SO LONG AND IT IS JUST NOW COMING TO LIGHT. ITS WRONG AND WE WANT OUR VOICES HEARD.

CHARLIE BURT

Derek & Claudia Nelson

29 April 2009

-----Original Message-----

From: claudianel@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, April 29, 2009 12:31 AM
To: MVN Environmental
Subject: Flood wall at Oakville, Plaquemines Parish

Dear Sirs:

Thank you for taking the time to read this e-mail.

My husband and I only found out about this meeting 2 days ago while we were at our Homeowners Assoc. meeting. Needless to say we were shocked and upset at the idea of a flood wall being placed right across the highway that would put our home on the outside of the 100-year levee system.

Our home is located in Jesuit Bend and the appraised value about 3 years ago was around \$690,000.00. As you can imagine, we are very, very concerned and upset at the possibility that after such a flood wall is erected, should we decide to sell our house, the value of our house will drop drastically because people looking to buy a house will not want to invest that amount of money on a house that is outside the hurricane protection levee. Ours is only one of the many, many houses here in the Jesuit Bend area.

We don't understand how you can just place a wall in front of us as though this will not affect the lives of so many people. My husband and I have been married for 27 years and have worked very hard to get our home. Can you imagine how upsetting it is to us to know that we can lose our life's work because of a flood wall!

The way I understand it, this flood wall is based on studies that were done back in the 1980's when this area was considered "pasture land and citrus land". Well, it is no longer pasture land and citrus land there are real people with real lives that live here with a whole lot of money invested in their homes and properties. Please take that under serious consideration.

Furthermore, about 10 minutes below Jesuit Bend is the Conoco Phillips Refinery, which is one of the largest refineries and if I understand it correctly, is one of the refineries that provide the largest amount of jet fuel for this country. If I'm mistaken, I'm sorry, but is that being taken into consideration? wouldn't you want to protect that?

We are asking that you please find another alternative to this flood wall that would put Jesuit Bend on the outside of the 100-year levee system. If not, and you go through with this, will the government pay us for the value of our homes?

Thank you for giving attention to this complaint. My e-mail address is claudianel@aol.com.

Derek & Claudia Nelson

John H Golden
Staff Drilling Engineer, EPT-W
Shell International E&P Inc.

30 April 2009

-----Original Message-----

From: john.golden@shell.com
Sent: Thursday, April 30, 2009 11:15 AM
To: MVN Environmental
Subject: IER13 Opposition

I am writing in opposition to the proposed IER13 levee project that crosses LA HYW 23 at Oakville. It is obvious to a casual observer that, as designed, the levee is yet another example of misappropriated taxpayer dollars. The levee meanders through the town of Oakville in what appears to be a politically motivated nonsensical pattern that is the epitome of wasteful spending.

Recent interviews broadcast on the nightly news raise concerns that this project is being properly managed in a fiscally responsible way.

I understand that the levee was designed based on population data from 20 years ago. That data is now grossly out of date.

The construction of the levee has never been adequately communicated to the population living south of the levee. The vast majority of the residences along LA Hwy 23 from the location of the proposed levee south to the Connoco Phillips refinery, did not flood during Katrina. Obviously there will be opposition from that group as to why their "high ground" is being devalued. My guess is that going forward, the project will likely have to contend with litigation originating from that group.

Additionally, the US Government should focus on protecting one of our critical refineries. The plan to federalize the "back levee" that stretches from Oakville south to the Connoco Philips refinery is the most practical and fiscally responsible way to do that.

Upon completion of the ~10 mile "back levee" system, the Oakville levee becomes obsolete and the time and taxpayer dollars spent on the Oakville levee wasted.

Thank you for your time

John H Golden
Staff Drilling Engineer, EPT-W
Shell International E&P Inc.

Don Heironimus

30 April 2009

-----Original Message-----

From: dheironimus@panhandle.rr.com [mailto:dheironimus@panhandle.rr.com]

Sent: Thursday, April 30, 2009 2:40 PM

To: MVN Environmental

Subject: NOLA Environmental Comment - Belle Chasse

-I have property south of the proposed location of the new levee and flood gate. I am also being told that we will no longer be considered to be in the 100 year flood zone and will subsequently lose our Federal Flood insurance.

-Is this true? If so, then we should have been notified of this long before now and not by some news article or public listing on a website that may meet minimum notification requirements, but does not actually directly notify the residents affected.

-Where is the study that shows what will happen to property values outside the wall. We all have a lot invested in our properties and we have a right to be concerned and somewhat outraged that we are being left out of the process and the protected zone! These are properties that run in the 300k range and above and we all stand to lose if this process goes through without some form of guarantee on the part of the Federal Government.

-I am at a loss as to how we could have our Flood Protection Level changed since the Corps and FEMA updated it after the Hurricane and we were still covered. Since the ground has not subsided in the last two years and the levees are better now than before the hurricane it is inconceivable to me that an arbitrary decision can be made to reverse the last survey.

-Don Heironimus

Norwood R.Kelly,Jr., O.D.

[REDACTED]

30 April 2009

----- Original Message -----

From: butch kelly <mailto:[REDACTED]>

To: mnvenvironmental@usace.army.mil

Cc: pete.stavros@plaquemines.com ; landrieu@landrieu.senate.gov ; mhoss@wwltv.com

Sent: Thursday, April 30, 2009 2:08 PM

Subject: IER 13 Hero Canal Tie In

Dear Mr. Gib Owen,

My name is Norwood R. Kelly,Jr and I live at 242 Sarah Victoria Dr. Belle Chasse,La 70037 in the Jesuit Bend area.

I attended last night's meeting in Oakville. I strongly oppose the Proposed Action: Alternative 1 as it stands now. I came away from the meeting with the following impressions.(1) The flood gate across Hwy 23 was not considered until 6 to 9 months ago.(2) No impact study has been made concerning the personal or economic problems that will occur to the people that live south of the proposed flood gate.(4) There are other proposals that have been rejected by the Army Corps of Engineers .These proposals offer the same amount of levee protection for everyone all the way down to St Jude with the cost being the same or less.(5) Flood insurance will rise dramtically.(6) Property values will decrease dramtically and the resale of homes will be extremely difficult.(7) The Corps is sacrificing everyone south of the flood gate at Oakville in Belle Chasse.

Sinsereely,

Norwood R.Kelly,Jr., O.D.

[REDACTED]

504-452-0390 cell

Douglas P. LeBlanc

[REDACTED]

30 April 2009

-----Original Message-----

From: Douglas LeBlanc [mailto:[REDACTED]]
Sent: Friday, May 01, 2009 7:24 AM
To: MVN Environmental
Subject: Floodgate

I am sending you a copy of the letter that I have sent to all the federal and state congressmen and representatives, and anyone else that I could think of to help us in this matter. As you can see, I am totally against IER 13. Also, I feel that the people of south Plaquemines were not notified properly by some obscure newspaper ad or other means which no one sees. At the very least, we should have been notified by mail! I realize that you have no control over the implementation of these plans, but I would hope that the public review period can be extended in order for us to take action. There will be many frusatrated and angry people at the May 4, 2009 meeting.

Thank you,

Douglas P. LeBlanc

April 30, 2009

Dear

On Monday, May 4, 2009, there will be a meeting at the Plaquemines Parish Auditorium to be held by the Army Corps of Engineers to discuss the Individual Environmental Report 13 Hero Canal and Eastern Tie In, which proposes (among other things) to put a floodgate across Hwy 23 at Oakville, La. in western Plaquemines Parish. The people south of this floodgate are adamantly opposed to this project. Not only will our insurance rates be raised, our property values will be dropped drastically!!!. It will be impossible to sell our homes at a fair market value. I have attended two meetings held to discuss this matter, and there were many upset people in attendance. There would have been even stronger opposition had we been properly notified sooner (but that is another matter). The corps says public involvement is key, and they want to hear from us. They say they want to hear from us for more informed decision making. Well, in the meeting I attended last night, all we heard from Mr. Gib Owen, the project director, was that this is a done deal and nothing could be done about it. Any input by property owners seemed to fall on deaf ears!

This risk reduction project was passed in Congress in 1985, it was amended in 1986 to include Oakville, La, and amended again in 1996. The parish south of Oakville has grown tremendously since then and there are other alternatives to this project that would include Jesuit Bend, the Conoco refinery and more. If this project was amended before, why can't it be amended again? There is much here now than citrus trees and cows as the 1985 proposal stated. There are definitely better ways to provide this protection and it will be using our money more wisely.

Therefore, as your constituent, I am asking you, or one of your representatives, to be in attendance at the meeting on May 4, 2009. If this is not possible, at the very least, I ask you to contact the Corps of

Engineers (Mr. Gib Owen), to discuss this matter as soon as possible! The people of south Plaquemines Parish are very angry, and need someone with more common sense and authority to help us.

Sincerely,

Douglas P. LeBlanc

A black rectangular redaction box covering the signature of Douglas P. LeBlanc.

Missy Orgeron

30 April 2009

-----Original Message-----

From: Missy Orgeron
Sent: Thursday, April 30, 2009 11:39 AM
To: MVN Environmental
Subject: NO FLOODGATE IN OAKVILLE!

MR. OWEN,

IT IS MY HOPE THAT THE MEETING THAT WAS HELD IN OAKVILLE LAST NIGHT OPENED MANY EYES.(ESPECIALLY YOURS!) JESUIT BEND IS BELLE CHASSE. MY ADDRESS STATES "BELLE CHASSE". JESUIT BEND IS NOT PASTURES AND OPEN LAND AND CITRUS GROVES. JESUIT BEND IS A RESIDENTIAL COMMUNITY WITH MANY HOMES AND BUSINESSES THAT MATTER!!!! THE FLOODGATE NEEDS TO BE MOVED FURTHER SOUTH WHERE THE POPULATION IS IN SMALLER NUMBERS! DO MORE RESEARCH. COUNT HOW MANY FAMILIES, HOMES, AND BUSINESSES WOULD BE AFFECTED BY THIS FLOODGATE!

THE PROPERTY VALUE IN THE BELLE CHASSE AREA (YES THIS MEANS JESUIT BEND TOO) IS ONE OF THE HIGHEST IN THE STATE (RESEARCH THAT SO YOU CAN SEE WHAT I MEAN). HOW CAN A FLOODGATE IN ONE OF THE MOST EXPENSIVE PLACES TO LIVE BE PERMITTED???? IT'S A NO-BRAINER, REALLY! RESEARCH THE NUMBER OF PEOPLE LIVING IN THE AREA, THE NUMBER OF CHILDREN ENROLLED IN BELLE CHASSE MIDDLE SCHOOL, THE NUMBER OF HOMES, THE NUMBER OF BUSINESSES, THEN TELL ME HOW THIS FLOODGATE CAN BE JUSTIFIED???????

PLEASE DO SOMETHING TO STOP THIS FLOODGATE FROM IT'S LOCATION NOW!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME.

SINCERELY,
MISSY ORGERON

Celeste G. Stricklin

30 April 2009

-----Original Message-----

From: Celeste G. Stricklin [mailto: [REDACTED]]
Sent: Thursday, April 30, 2009 9:26 AM
To: MVN Environmental
Subject: IER 13 100 year levee protection

Dear Mr. Owen:

After the meeting last night in Oakville, there seem to be many unanswered questions. I would like to know who approved this "Fast Track" and how we can stop it. How can you continue with putting this wall up knowing that several hundred homes will be left unprotected? It is obvious this wall was planned long before any of us bought our property or built our homes. As shown on the slide show last night what is on the south side of your proposed wall is not pasture and citrus groves. It is several hundred homes with families living in them.

Remember before signing off on the project that you will leave:

- * Several hundred homes unprotected
- * The Belle Chasse Middle School unprotected
- * The River Bend Nursing Home unprotected
- * All of the citrus groves unprotected
- * The Conoco Phillips Refinery unprotected

Note that all of the above has an address of Belle Chasse, LA 70037. Your proposal does not protect ALL of Belle Chasse. You are drawing a line and dividing Belle Chasse.

I am all for raising the levees. I am against the wall going across Hwy 23. Why not use the money to raise and federalize the levees all the way down. This is what would make sense. This would make everyone happy

I look forward to your reply.

Sincerely,

Celeste G. Stricklin

[REDACTED]

Unknown

30 April 2009

-----Original Message-----

From: pcgeekhead@cmaaccess.com

Sent: Thursday, April 30, 2009 1:45 PM

To: MVN Environmental

Subject: NOLA Environmental Comment - Belle Chasse

Please put be on the list for any upcoming projects or meetings related to the WBNFL project.

Which IER # applies to the West Bank Non-Federal Levee Project?

Unknown

30 April 2009

-----Original Message-----

From:

Sent: Thursday, April 30, 2009 2:13 PM

To: MVN Environmental

Subject: NOLA Environmental Comment - Belle Chasse

Since there was no flooding from waves in Oakville, why is the Tie-in Gate not being placed where the waves actually occurred less than 3 miles away? And, why is the presentation on the project show the gate is to prevent flooding from waves?

Unknown

30 April 2009

-----Original Message-----

From: blue2dog@aol.com

Sent: Thursday, April 30, 2009 2:30 PM

To: MVN Environmental

Subject: NOLA Environmental Comment - Belle Chasse

Re:Ier 13. I think that this project must move forward in order to adequately protect the future of the lower end of Plaquemines parish. Any further delays will just keep us vulnerable to further storm surge. The project is funded, let's go with it. Let's also put phase 2 of the levees which include Jesuit Bend and below on fasttrack.

Unknown

30 April 2009

-----Original Message-----

From: pcgeekhead@cmaaccess.com

Sent: Thursday, April 30, 2009 1:49 PM

To: MVN Environmental

Subject: NOLA Environmental Comment - Belle Chasse

OAKVILLE GATE PROJECT

Was there a study to show the effects on the communities south of Oakville if a Hurricane were to hit and the Hero Canal was blocked and the Oakville gate closed? We think levees should be reinforced behind this wall and to the south of Oakville to prevent flooding that may be caused by the wall and blocking in of Hero Canal during an event.

Unknown

30 April 2009

-----Original Message-----

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, April 30, 2009 1:50 PM
To: MVN Environmental
Subject: NOLA Environmental Comment - Belle Chasse

OAKVILLE GATE PROJECT

Why are the minority population between Jesuit Bend and ConocoPhillips Refinery not afforded the same level of protection as the minority population in Oakville.

Unknown

30 April 2009

-----Original Message-----

From:

Sent: Thursday, April 30, 2009 1:51 PM

To: MVN Environmental

Subject: NOLA Environmental Comment - Belle Chasse

In the past, most of Plaquemines Parish contained plantations. Has the Corps of Engineers determined there are no artifacts in locations south of Oakville, and how was the determination made?

Unknown

30 April 2009

-----Original Message-----

From:

Sent: Thursday, April 30, 2009 1:52 PM

To: MVN Environmental

Subject: NOLA Environmental Comment - Belle Chasse

OAKVILLE GATE - ACCESS ROAD

What type of vehicle will the access road be approved for? Horse trailers? Any trailers? School busses? Heavy equipment? Fire Trucks? Fuel Trucks? What is the weight limit of allowed vehicles?

Unknown

30 April 2009

-----Original Message-----

From:

Sent: Thursday, April 30, 2009 8:00 PM

To: MVN Environmental

Subject: NOLA Environmental Comment - General Comment

RE-IER/13

Will the Corps be planning to purchase my unsellable house? How about when we get flooded the next time? What are you people thinking? This is why I am so happy to have moved out of this unbelievably corrupt state. I just didn't think it would happen in Belle Chasse. Too bad the military folks are aware of how horrible LA is and don't want to move there. Too bad we couldn't unload our house. Thanks for nothing.

**Public Flyer
April 2009**

ANNOUNCEMENT

PUBLIC MEETING

Proposed Flood Gate across HWY 23 at Oakville

Once this wall is constructed, and you are OUTSIDE the 16' 100-year protection levee, you will NOT be eligible for flood insurance under FEMA / National Flood Insurance Program!

With no outlet to the Intercoastal Waterway, Barataria Bay will be higher than it has been in the past. You will be at a GREATER risk of flooding!

What will happen to you during the next big storm?

What will happen to your property value?

This project is in the final planning stages and we are in a 30-day Public Comment period which ends on May 4th, 2009

Come make yourself heard NOW!!

You have a VOICE!!

April 29th, 2009

Open House 6 p.m. to 7 p.m.

Presentation 7 p.m.

St. Paul's Benevolent Association Hall

128 E. St. Peter St., Oakville, LA 70037

Visit <http://www.nolaenvironmental.gov/> and look for project "IER13" for more details. Visit [www. plaquemineslevee.com](http://www.plaquemineslevee.com) to SHARE information with your neighbors to help stop this before it's too late. The site is new please feel free to publish ideas!

Chris Arbourgh

[REDACTED]

1 May 2009

-----Original Message-----

From: Arbourgh, Christopher: [REDACTED]

Sent: Friday, May 01, 2009 3:44 PM

To: Vedros, Pam MVD

Subject: Project IER-13

To whom it may concern

My name is Chris Arbourgh and I live at 155 Regina Dr. Belle Chasse La. I want to go on record that I am against the proposed location of the flood wall it should be 6 miles further down Hwy. 23. I also feel the public comment period should be extended. Many questions were not answered at the last meeting and with so many homes being affected I find it hard to believe the public comment period could not be extended. I also think the proposed pump to pump water to Ollie canal from the north side of the wall will cause flooding in my neighborhood and I would like to see the study that proves otherwise.

Thanks' Chris Arbourgh

Chris Arbourgh

Belle Chase, LA

1 May 2009

Vocicemail Comment

From: Chris Arbourgh

Phone Number: [REDACTED]

Hi. My name is Chris Arboro. I was trying to email ya. I had a address evidently it was not the correct email address cause it got kicked back. I'm a Belle Chase resident. I live at 155 Regina Drive and I will be affected by IER 13. I want to go on record to state that I am against, not the project; I'm against the location of the floodwall. I feel it should be six miles further south down the highway. That area in front of Captain Larry's is not the area for this. It affects the property values of too many homes for a little bit as six miles of levee I think that's totally ridiculous. I also think that the proposed pump that ya'll want to put back there to pump the water from the north side of the wall over into Ollie canal will cause severe flooding in my neighborhood. And I would like to see some kind of study that proves otherwise. The capacity of those pumps back there, barely do their job in keeping up with what we have now. In the last meeting ya'll said that area drains to Ollie canal now. It doesn't. I flew over it there is a levee you know. There is a levee between it. I can't see how that water, flying over it, would cause it to run that way. I am gonna take another helicopter flight again on Saturday to look at it some more. But the comments ya'll gave at that meeting I feel were wrong. I do not think that pumping that water to Ollie Canal is the correct answer. I think that's gonna cause severe flooding in my neighborhood, I want to go on record for stating that and I would also like to see the study. And also I cannot understand how this public comment period cannot be extended. There was many questions that were unanswered. And this public comment period should not end on Monday. That is I mean as many families as this proposed deal is affecting I think that's the least we can do is extend the public comment period and give us enough time to get in touch with all our elected officials and our representatives and the people that can fight on our behalf. My home number is 504-656-2929. I'm working all weekend I 'm at the alliance refinery that number is 656-3203. I am available there from six in the morning to five in the evening. Thank you very much and have a good day.

Kevin Rau



1 May 2009

-----Original Message-----

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, May 01, 2009 12:37 PM
To: MVN Environmental
Cc: Amanda_Behey@Melancon.House.Gov; Elizabeth_Weiner@Landrieu.Senate.Gov;
Rachel_Perez@Vitter.Senate.Gov
Subject: Questions for Mr. Gib Owen

To: US Army Corps of Engineers: Mr. Gib Owen; CEMVN-PM-RS; P.O. Box 60267; New Orleans, Louisiana 70160-0267
(504) 862-1337, e-mail: mvnenviro@usace.army.mil, or by fax to (504) 862-2088.

Hello Mr. Owen,

Can you please take the time and answer my questions concerning the IER13 project and its effects on people living to the south of that project.

1. What impact will this larger levee have on the vulnerability of the smaller levees to the south being topped and/or breeched during a tropical weather event?
2. What impact does this flood wall have on the property values that are not included in its protection?
3. How does this impact my flood insurance premiums?
4. If I were to sell my house would the buyer be able to get flood insurance at the same premium rate as I currently do?
5. According to the IER 13 document the authorized alignment was to end at the non federal levee. It shows this in the 2007 view and the 1st drawing in the document. What has changed to cause the levee to pierce this area and not continue south to Alliance?
6. Has the Corps ever ventured past Captain Larry's? If they did, once you have passed the two large farms and the future Idlewild Estates subdivision, you would have noticed a substantial number of residential and commercial properties that should be protected. This whole area is considered the Belle Chasse area. I do not immediately have exact facts about how much private property and dwellings are not being included within this new flood wall but I made a crude attempt to estimate this using Google Maps satellite images.

Within 1 mile south of the flood gate: 22 houses, 42 trailers, at least 3 commercial farms

From 1 mile to 2 miles south of the flood gate: 110 houses, 14 trailers, 1 store, at least 3 commercial farms

From 2 miles to 3 miles south of the flood gate: 198 houses, 30 trailers, Belle Chasse Middle School

Further south to Alliance there are numerous houses, commercial farms, and an oil refinery.

Most of these houses are greater than 2000 square feet and less than 15 years old.

7. Who is being paid off and how much, to make this decision to cut off a large population from 100 year flood protection? The scope of this levee was significantly increased just to include Oakville. I am happy for Oakville to be included but the areas just south should have been included. The more I think about it this looks like another case of reverse discrimination.

8. Explain to me why the Corps could not start the 100 year flood protection levee using the original 1994 alignment? When construction begins they could get approval to continue the 100 year flood protection levee to Alliance. The money that would have been used to build flood gates for Hwy 23 and the railroad at Oakville could be used to levee off Hwy 23 at Alliance with probably some left over to offset the cost of raising the levee between Oakville and Alliance to the appropriate height (no requirement for railroad gate). From what I read the 100 year flood protection levee will be 16 feet. Funds for the non federal levee have already been appropriated to federalize the levee and raise it to 12 feet. So work on the federalized levee could start on time and by the time all the approvals occur you would be in a position to finish the 100 year protection not much longer than the original schedule.

9. Why did the Corps use a picture of a railroad gate, Photo 3 page 21 of the IER13 document that is much smaller than the 16 foot gate that would be placed at the Oakville railroad crossing? Are you trying to be misleading?

10. I noticed in the IER13 document they talk about other options such as raising homes and businesses. Is that an option for us? Will the government either raise our homes or buy us out at current market value?

Thank You

Kevin Rau, home owner, taxpayer, and voter

Input/Output Inc.

Harahan LA 70123

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Unknown

1 May 2009

-----Original Message-----

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: Friday, May 01, 2009 11:41 AM

To: MVN Environmental

Subject: NOLA Environmental Comment - Belle Chasse

Before moving forward with construction of this project, Corps leadership should review the Fox 8 news interview from Wednesday, 4-29-09. Project Manager, Ted Carr, admitted to Val Bracy that this project was not the "best option available". It would be "criminal" to sign off on this project at this time, waisting tax payers hard earned money.

I would like to know specifically what is the projected cost of this project?

Jason Kaliszeski

Belle Chasse, LA 70037

Jason.C.Kaliszeski@conocophillips.com

2 May 2009

-----Original Message-----

From: Kaliszeski, Jason: [REDACTED]

Sent: Saturday, May 02, 2009 9:57 PM

To: MVN Environmental

Subject: Project IER-13

During the last few major storms, the Plaquemines Parish authorities built a temporary levee across highway 23 just north of the Alliance Refinery. At this point, there is an existing levee that reaches from the Mississippi river levee going west to highway 23 and then from highway 23 to the back levee behind Jesuit Bend. This location has been barricaded several times with large sandbags and mud. The gap is only as wide as the highway. It is an ideal location for a floodgate. There is existing levee from this point all the way to Oakville. There would be no need to purchase property or obtain and new right-of-ways in order to improve the existing levee to this point. It is the only common sense solution to the current problem. Please email me or call me to discuss.

Thank you.

Jason Kaliszeski

[REDACTED]

Jason Kaliszeski

Belle Chasse, LA 70037

2 May 2009

-----Original Message-----

From: jknbc@bellsouth.net

Sent: Saturday, May 02, 2009 9:54 PM

To: MVN Environmental

Subject: NOLA Environmental Comment - Belle Chasse

During the last few major storms, the Plaquemines Parish authorities built a temporary levee accross highway 23 just north of the Alliance Refinery. At this point, there is an existing levee that reaches from the Mississippi river levee going west to highway 23 and then from highway 23 to the back levee behind Jesuit Bend. This location has been barracaded several times with large sandbags and mud. The gap is only as wide as the highway. It is an ideal location for a floodgate. There is existing levee from this point all the way to Oakville. There would be no need to purchase property or obtain and new right-of-ways in order to improve the existing levee to this point. It is the only common sense solution to the current problem. Please email me or call me to discuss.

Thank you.

Jason Kaliszeski

5

Dinah Thompson

2 May 2009

-----Original Message-----

From: Roger and Dinah Thompson
Sent: Saturday, May 02, 2009 7:23 AM
To: MVN Environmental
Subject: Levee Heights
Importance: High

Dear Mr. Gib,

I noticed that the elevation of the Non-federal levees is 12 ft. and in the Corps presentation last week for the Oakville tie-in, the levee would be 10.5 ft. If we are talking this little difference in height, and the flood wall is not designed to protect from flood, why not build all levees to the 12 ft. level and forget about the wall? Am I understanding this correctly?

What is the total cost to place this non-flood protection gate and access road across Hwy. 23?
Why are we not waiting to see what the final design looks like for the Non Federal Levees? Don't we have to tie-in to those too?

I am posting this on our website. Would you reply on the website?
<http://plaquemineslevee.com/5.html>

Thanks,

Dinah Thompson

- > The Corps of Engineers has set up a public meeting on Monday, May 4,
- > 2009, Belle Chasse Auditorium, 8398 Highway 23, Belle Chasse, LA
- > 70037, Open House 6:00 p.m. - Presentation 7:00 p.m. to discuss the
- > Hurricane projects in Plaquemines Parish.
- >
- > The US Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) is working on three hurricane
- > and storm damage risk reduction projects in the Plaquemines Parish
- > area. We are actively proceeding forward with all three of these
- > projects to provide the most reliable and safest hurricane system for
- > the Plaquemines Parish area.
- >
- > The West Bank and Vicinity project is an authorized project that is
- > fully funded that has a segment that will provide 100 year level of
- > risk reduction to the Belle Chasse area. This project terminates at
- > Oakville. Our goal is to have all the construction complete for this
- > area by hurricane season 2011.
- >
- > The Corps has been authorized to spend \$671 million federalizing a
- > levee system from Oakville, South to the existing New Orleans to
- > Venice levee system (St. rose, LA). We are currently working to
- > finalize a proposed action for this project and to locate suitable
- > borrow (approximately 16 million cubic yards) to support this effort.
- > Project would be built to meet post Katrina design standards. The
- > project is authorized to incorporate the current non-Federal levee

> system into the Federal levee system (New Orleans to Venice project).
> Levees would be constructed to the New Orleans to Venice project
> authorized elevation of 12 foot (14' with overbuild). The current
> authorization is not sufficient for the Corps to construct a levee
> system to a high enough elevation that would meet the requirement for
> certification under the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP).
> Additional Congressional authority would be required to raise the
> levees to elevations that would meet the NFIP elevations. Our goal is
> to have all the construction complete for this levee by hurricane
> season 2013.

>
> The third project being worked by the Corps, is the existing New
> Orleans to Venice project that is located south of St. Rose LA. We
> are pursuing plans in this area to upgrade the existing levee to meet
> post Hurricane Katrina design standards. The elevation of the
> existing levee would remain unchanged under the current authorities,
> but the levee would be upgraded to meet the new design standards. We
> are currently working to finalize a proposed action for this project
> and to locate suitable borrow (approximately 14 million cubic yards)
> to support this effort.

>
> Gib Owen
> US Army Corps of Engineers
> Chief, Ecological Planning and Restoration Section/ HSDRRS
> Environmental Team Leader New Orleans District
> 504 862-1337

>
>
> -----Original Message-----
> From: pcgeekhead@cmaaccess.com [mailto:pcgeekhead@cmaaccess.com]
> Sent: Monday, April 27, 2009 10:32 PM
> To: MVN Environmental
> Subject: NOLA Environmental Comment - Belle Chasse

>
> The information used in determining where the Oakville Flood Gate
> should be placed is almost 30 years old. There is more than cow
> pastures south of Oakville. Look at the tax roles for the value of
> the property that will be destroyed or devalued based on the placement
> of this gate. It should be further south after the major oil
> refinery.

>

Dinah Thompson

2 May 2009

-----Original Message-----

From: Roger and Dinah Thompson [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, May 02, 2009 4:19 PM
To: MVN Environmental
Subject: Levee Materials, Assurance & Environmental Testing
Importance: High

May 1, 2009

Mr. Gib Owen
US Army Corps of Engineers
Chief, Ecological Planning and Restoration Section HSDRRS Environmental Team Leader New Orleans District
504-862-1337

Dear Mr. Gib,

Will testing be done on the dirt that will be used for the new Non-Federal levees to make sure there are no hazardous materials or environmental contaminants?

What assurance can you give residents, that the new Non-Federal levees will be built?

I am posting this on our website. Would you reply on the website?
<http://plaquemineslevee.com/5.html>

Thanks,

Dinah Thompson

Unknown

2 May 2009

-----Original Message-----

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, May 02, 2009 9:41 PM
To: MVN Environmental
Subject: NOLA Environmental Comment - Belle Chasse

I would like to know the results for the traffic or safety study that was completed for the proposed floodwall at Oakville.

Unknown

[REDACTED]

2 May 2009

-----Original Message-----

[REDACTED]

Sent: Saturday, May 02, 2009 9:43 PM

To: MVN Environmental

Subject: NOLA Environmental Comment - Belle Chasse

At a minimum, a new economic impact study must be done to include the homes in Jesuit Bend, LA.

Unknown

3 May 2009

-----Original Message-----

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Sunday, May 03, 2009 2:28 PM
To: MVN Environmental
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: floodgateoakville

i have lived in belle chasse area for 12 years,east bank area for 6 years and now in jesuit bend for 25 years. the corp wants to save belle chasse, well the right storm in the right direction can also flood that city. during betsy, the waves were topping the levee there also. we never flooded.

my husband and i are in our late 60's,on pension and love our home.
we cannot afford to leave ! we cannot run anymore we are too old with medical problems!!

we don't want a " FLOOD GATE "
WE WON'T BE ABLE TO PAY FOR FLOOD INS.

Norwood R. Kelly Jr., O.D.

[REDACTED]

Belle Chase, LA

[REDACTED]

3 May 2009

NORWOOD R. KELLY, JR., O.D.

MAY 3, 2009



GIB OWEN

PM-RS

P.O. BOX 60267

NEW ORLEANS, LA 70160-0267

REFERENCE: IER 13 HERO CANAL AND EASTERN TIE IN

DEAR MR OWEN,

I SENT YOU AN E-MAIL DATED 4/30/2009 EXPRESSING MY OPPOSITON TO IER 13. IN MY E-MAIL I EXPLAINED THAT I THOUGHT THE ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS WERE SACRIFICING THE PEOPLE THAT LIVEDSOUTH OF THE FLOOD GATE AT OAKVILLE AND THAT THERE WERE OTHER PROPOSALS THAT COULD BE IMPLEMENTED THAT WOULD PROTECT MORE PEOPLE AND BE MORE COST EFFECTIVE.I WOULD LIKE TO PROPOSE AN 8th ALTERNATIVE.

ALTERNATIVE 8 WOULD EXTEND THE WESTERN LEVEE OF ALTERNATIVE 3 FROM THE HERO CANAL AND TIE INTO THE EXISITING LEVEE AT THE OLLIE DRAINAGE CANAL. THE LEVEE FROM OLLIE TO LA REUSSITTE COULD BE RAISED TO THE 12-14 FT LEVEL AND THEN TIED INTO THE MISSISSIPPI LEVEE AT LA REUSSITE. WE ARE ONLY TALKING ABOUT A TOTAL OF NINE MILES FROM THE FLOOD GATE AT THE HERO CANAL TO LA REUSSITE SITE. THE DIRECT IMPACT AND THE INDIRECT IMPACT ON THE ENVIRONEMENT WOULD BE EQUAL TO IER 13 AT OAKVILLE. AS YOU KNOW THE SOIL BORINGS HAVE BEEM COMPLETED TO RAISE THE OLLIE CANAL LEVEE (BACK BAY LEVEE) AND ARE AT THE LAB FOR ANALYSIS.

THE RAISING OF THE OLLIE CANAL LEVEE IS ONLY A 6-8 MONTHS BEHIND THE START OF IER 13. AT THE MEETING ON APRIL 29th THE CORPS STATED THAT THE START OF IER 13 IS MONTHS AWAY. THEN WHY CAN'T THE CORPS COMBINE THE TWO PROJECTS TOGETHER? AS YOU KNOW THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE FLOOD GATE ACROSS THE HERO CANAL IS GOING BE THE LONGEST PART NO MATTER WHAT ALTERNATIVE IS USED. THEREFORE, IMPLEMENTING MY ALTERNATIVE 8 WOULD NOT INCREASE THE TIME SCHEDULE FOR PROTECTING OAKVILLE AND THE REST OF UPPER BELLE CHASSE. ON THE CONTRARY ALTERNATIVE 8 WOULD RESULT IN MORE PROTECTION THAN ALTERNATIVE 3 PROBABLY WITHIN THE SAME TIME PERIOD.

MR. GIBB, I BELIEVE THAT THE CORPS HAS OBLIGATION WHETHER IT IS A MORAL OBLIGATION, A LEGAL OBLIGATION OR A COMMON SENSE OBLIGATION TO STEP BACK AND EVALUATE MY ALTERNATIVE 8 OR ANY OTHER ALTERNATIVE THAT WILL GIVE PROTECTION TO ALL OF THE BELLE CHASSE RESIDENTS THAT LIVE SOUTH OF ALTERNATIVE 3.

YOUR CONSIDERATION WILL BE GREATLY APPRECIATED TO THOSE WHO WILL BE ADVERSLEY EFFECTED BY IER 13 ALTERNATIVE 3.

SINCERELY,

— NORWOOD R KELLY, JR



Pam Robeaux

3 May 2009

-----Original Message-----

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Sunday, May 03, 2009 9:55 PM
To: MVN Environmental
Subject: Flood Gate at Oakville, LA
Mr. Owen:

I am a resident of Jesuit Bend, LA., a community south of the proposed site of the flood gate in Oakville, LA. I'm very concerned of the consequences if this is erected.

I am fearful of the protection of my home and property during a hurricane. I'm also concerned that insurance rates will sky rocket and that property value will decrease drastically.

Please reconsider the location of this flood gate and include our area.

Thank you,

Sincerely,

Pamela A. Robeaux

Edna J Adolph

Belle Chasse, LA 70037

4 May 2009

-----Original Message-----

From: mvnenviromental@usace.army.mil [mailto:mvnenviromental@usace.army.mil]

Sent: Monday, May 04, 2009 8:57 AM

To: MVN Environmental

Subject: NOLA Environmental Comment - General Comment

As an elderly resident of Jesuit Bend, La., I am very concerned about being excluded from the 100-year levee system. The construction of a flood gate or flood wall across highway 23 in Oakville, LA. will decrease our property value and the value of all properties south of the wall.

As a senior citizen, on a fixed income, I am very concerned that my insurance rates will increase again. Please include our community in the hurricane protection system. Thank you for your consideration in this very serious matter.

Edna J Adolph

203 Sarah Victoria Drive

Belle Chasse, LA 70037

Billy Nungesser
Plaquemines Parish President



4 May 2009

Plaquemines Parish Government

BILLY NUNGESSER

Parish President

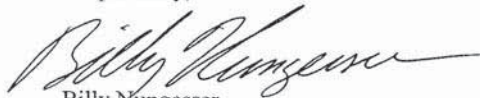
May 4, 2009

Colonel Alvin B. Lee
District Commander, District Engineer, N.O. District
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
7400 Leake Avenue
New Orleans, LA 70118

Dear Colonel Lee:

Over the last two and one-half years we have been back and forth asking you to consider tying the federal levee from West Jefferson into the federal levee heading south behind Jesuit Bend with not much success. We are here tonight to ask you to reconsider. In 2000, although the past administration gave permission for this eastern tie-in levee to be constructed, we do not feel that the Corps was made aware of the increasing value of the property and improvements that are being left out of the eastern tie-in levee. If you look at the values today, it greatly warrants being included in this 100 year protection levee system (see Attachment "A"). With the strong support this project has received over the last several weeks, I hope that the Corps will reexamine the assets together with the cost savings and the money that could be used for the improved levee going south by connecting these two levees thus eliminating the flood wall across Highway 23. We ask you to please look at this closely and we strongly urge you to consider this as a viable option to the planned project.

Respectfully,



Billy Nungesser
Parish President

BN/rve

Attachment

cc: Governor Bobby Jindal
Senator Mary Landrieu
Senator David Vitter
Congressman Steve Scalise
Congressman Charlie Melancon
Congressman Rodney Alexander

Plaquemines Parish Government



BILLY NUNGESSER
Parish President

May 1, 2009

To Whom It May Concern:

The following is a summary count and value of residential structures, additions, commercial, industrial and public improvements from Oakville to Alliance. The values listed are expressed in both assessed and fair market value. (see attached for more detail)

Residences & Residential structures

Count	Assessed Value	Fair Market Value
857	8,516,916	85,169,150

Trailers & Trailer improvements

Count	Assessed Value	Fair Market Value
232	301,525	3,015,250

Commercial Bldgs

Count	Assessed Value	Fair Market Value
24	678,865	4,525,767

Alliance/Conocophillips Refinery

AV = 112,547,540

FMV = 750,316,933

Enbridge Compressor Station

AV = 1,680,140

FMV = 6,720,056

Belle Chasse Middle School

FMV = 11,020,586

Scottville Fire House

FMV = 1,250,000

Total Improvement Fair Market Value

Oakville to Alliance, Plaquemines Parish, LA

\$ 862,018,246

Robert R. Gravolet, CLA
Assessor
Plaquemines Parish

Sources: Plaquemines Parish Assessor; Plaquemines Parish School Board, Plaquemines Parish Government

Plaquemines Parish Government

COUNCIL MEMBERS:
JOHN L. BARTHELEMY JR., DISTRICT 1
ED THERIOT, DISTRICT 2
JUDY S. HOONETT, DISTRICT 3
MIKE MUDGE, DISTRICT 4
STEVE VAUGHN, DISTRICT 5
AMOS J. CORMIER, JR., DISTRICT 6
JOHN TALIANCICH, DISTRICT 7
JANICE H. ACOSTA, DISTRICT 8
SAMUEL C. PIZZOLATO, DISTRICT 9

SUSAN T. BECNEL, SECRETARY

Mr. Clyde H. Sellers
Chief, Real Estate Division
Department of the Army
New Orleans District
Corps of Engineers
P. O. Box 60267
New Orleans, Louisiana 70160

Dear Mr. Sellers:

I am herewith enclosing two certified copies of Ordinance No. 00-28 adopted by the Plaquemines Parish Council at its meeting held on February 10, 2000, authorizing the undersigned for and on behalf of the Plaquemines Parish Council, as governing authority of the West Bank Levee District, to grant right of entry to the West Jefferson Levee District as Executive Agent for the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development and the United States Army Corps of Engineers, to a clear and unobstructed right of way for construction of the West Bank and Vicinity, New Orleans, Louisiana, Hurricane Protection Project, Hero Canal Reach 1, 1st Enlargement, rights of way, Plaquemines Parish, Louisiana, as indicated on Map File Number H-8-44522, drawings 1 through 6 of 6, dated July, 199, and drawings 1 through 6 revised February, 2000. *COE*

You are hereby granted right of entry as requested and said right of entry shall remain valid through completion of construction of the project.

Yours very truly,

Plaquemines Parish Government

Benny Roussele
Parish President

BR:sb
encls.

cc's: Mr. Jack Griffin
Land Department
Mr. Harry Cahill, III ✓
President, Board of Commissioners
West Jefferson Levee District

MISC

March 1, 2000

PLAQ ORDINANCE
usd

Parish President
BENNY ROUSSELLE

RECEIVED
MAR 8 2000

W. J. L. D.

ORDINANCE NO. 00-28

The following Ordinance was offered by Council Member Mudge who moved its adoption:

An Ordinance of the Plaquemines Parish Council, authorizing Benny Rousselle, Parish President, for and on behalf of the Plaquemines Parish Government, as the governing authority of the West Bank Levee District to grant the West Jefferson Levee District as the Executive Agent for the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development and the United States Army Corps of Engineers, a clear and unobstructed right-of-way for construction of the West Bank and Vicinity, New Orleans, La., Hurricane Protection Project, Hero Canal Levee Reach 1, 1st Enlargement.

WHEREAS, the United States Army Corps of Engineers has developed plans and specifications for the construction of the West Bank and Vicinity, New Orleans, La., Hurricane Protection Project, Hero Canal Levee Reach 1, 1st Enlargement; and

WHEREAS, the United States Army Corps of Engineers has made official request to the West Jefferson Levee District as the Executive Agent for the Louisiana Department of Transportation for right-of-entry to a clear and unobstructed right-of-way for the construction of the West Bank and Vicinity, New Orleans, La., Hurricane Protection Project, Hero Canal Levee Reach 1, 1st Enlargement, all as indicated on the United States Army Corps of Engineers' Map entitled, "West Bank and Vicinity, New Orleans, La., Hurricane Protection Project, Hero Canal Reach 1, 1st Enlargement, rights of way, Plaquemines Parish, La., File No. H-8-44522, drawings 1 through 6 of 6 dated July, 1999, drawings 1 through 6 revised February, 2000;

NOW, THEREFORE,

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE PLAQUEMINES PARISH COUNCIL THAT:

SECTION 1

It hereby authorizes and directs Benny Rousselle, Parish President, for and on behalf of the Plaquemines Parish Council, as the governing authority of the West Bank Levee District, to grant the West Jefferson Levee District as the Executive Agent for the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development and the United States Army Corps of Engineers, a clear and unobstructed right-of-way for construction of the West Bank and Vicinity, New Orleans, La., Hurricane Protection Project, Hero Canal Levee Reach 1, 1st Enlargement, all as indicated on the United States Army Corps of Engineers' Map entitled, "West Bank and Vicinity, New Orleans, La., Hurricane Protection Project, Hero Canal Reach 1, 1st Enlargement, rights-of-way, Plaquemines Parish, La., File No. H-8-44522, drawings 1 through 6 of 6, dated July, 1999, drawings 1 through 6 revised February, 2000".

WHEREUPON, in open session the above Ordinance was read and considered section by section and as a whole.

Council Member Hodnett seconded the motion to adopt the Ordinance.

The foregoing Ordinance having been submitted to a vote, the vote resulted as follows:

YEAS: Council Members Judy S. Hodnett, Mike A. Mudge, Steve Vaughn, Amos J. Cormier, Jr., John Taliandich, Janice H. Acosta and Samuel Pizzoloto

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Council Members John L. Barthelemy, Jr. and Ed Theriot

PRESENT BUT NOT VOTING: None

And the Ordinance was adopted on this the 10th day of February, 2000.

I hereby certify the above and foregoing to be a true and correct copy of an Ordinance adopted by the Plaquemines Parish Council at a meeting held at its office in the Parish of Plaquemines, Louisiana.

W. Jeff. L. D. P. 01

RESOLUTION NO. 87-373

On motion of Council Member Theriot, seconded by Council Member Acosta, and on roll call all members present and voting "Yes", the following Resolution was unanimously adopted:

A Resolution of the Plaquemines Parish Council endorsing, supporting and agreeing to be responsible for operation and maintenance of the West Bank, Hurricane Protection Project, East of Harvey Canal Alignment indicated in the Feasibility Study and Environmental Impact Statement dated August, 1994.

WHEREAS, the United States Army Corps of Engineers, through its local sponsor the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development, along with the West Jefferson Levee District and the Plaquemines Parish Government intend on constructing the West Bank, Hurricane Protection Project, East of Harvey Canal; and

WHEREAS, both the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development and the West Jefferson Levee District have participated and supported Plaquemines Parish Government's investigation to arrive at the preferred project alignment indicated in the Feasibility Study and Environmental Impact Statement dated August, 1994;

NOW, THEREFORE:

BE IT RESOLVED that the Plaquemines Parish Council endorses, supports and agrees to be responsible for operation and maintenance of the project alignment indicated in the Feasibility Study and Environmental Impact Statement dated August, 1994, for the West Bank, Hurricane Protection Project, East of Harvey Canal.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Clyde A. Giordano, Parish President, is authorized to execute any and all agreements necessary to assure the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development and the Corps of Engineers of the support of this alignment.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Plaquemines Parish Council that the Secretary of this Council is hereby authorized and directed to immediately certify and release this Resolution and that Parish employees and officials are authorized to carry out the purposes of this Resolution, both without further reading and approval by the Plaquemines Parish Council.

I hereby certify the above and foregoing to be a true and correct copy of a Resolution adopted by the Plaquemines Parish Council at a meeting held at its office in the Courthouse, Pointe à la Hache, Louisiana, on October 9, 1997.


Secretary

Pamela A Robeaux

[REDACTED]

4 May 2009

-----Original Message-----

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: Monday, May 04, 2009 8:53 AM

To: MVN Environmental

Subject: NOLA Environmental Comment - General Comment

As a resident of Jesuit Bend, La., I am very concerned about being excluded from the 100-year levee system. The construction of a flood gate or flood wall across highway 23 in Oakville, LA. will decrease our property value and the value of all properties south of the wall. Growth in our communities south of this wall will become stagnant and insurance rates, which are already unaffordable, will rise again!! Please reconsider and include our community in the 100-year levee system plan. Please---NO flood wall or gate!!! Thank you.

Pamela A Robeaux

[REDACTED]

Belle Chasse, LA 70037

Rory A Robeaux

4 May 2009

-----Original Message-----

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, May 04, 2009 9:08 AM
To: MVN Environmental
Subject: NOLA Environmental Comment - General Comment

I am a resident of Belle Chasse, LA and reside in the northern portion of Plaquemines Parish. However, my parents and grandmothers reside in the Jesuit Bend area (one owns a home and the other is a resident of Riverbend Nursing Home). I am concerned about the Flood Gate or Flood Wall that is being considered to cross Hwy 23 at Oakville, La. This construction will not include their homes and properties. Insurance rates in that area are already a burden for residents and this construction will probably increase their rates even more. People on fixed incomes will be faced with yet another expense in the rising of insurance rates. Please reconsider the building of this flood gate. Thank you.

Rory A Robeaux

Belle Chasse, LA 70037

Dinah Thompson

4 May 2009

-----Original Message-----

From: Roger and Dinah Thompson [mailto: [REDACTED]]
Sent: Monday, May 04, 2009 3:56 PM
To: MVN Environmental
Cc: Times Picayune Troncale, Terri; 60m@cbsnews.com
Subject: Assurance that Levees Will Be Built in Plaquemines
Importance: High

May 4, 2009

Mr. Gib Owen
US Army Corps of Engineers
Chief, Ecological Planning and Restoration Section HSDRRS Environmental Team Leader New Orleans District
504-862-1337

Dear Mr. Gib,

What assurance can you give residents south of Oakville, that the new Non-Federal levees will be built? Why are we not eligible for federal levees?

If the final design of the other non-federal levees is not complete, why are you not waiting for the results of that design? The non-federal levees will require another tie-in point to your proposed federal levee in Oakville.

Why does the Corps of Engineers not show any data about the larger subdivisions just 3 miles south of Oakville? Instead, you are considering us pasture land. I didn't know that the property tax of pasture land was this expensive.

I moved here 9 years ago and at that time, I was not required to have flood insurance. Now, the "federal" levee and tie-in gate that you are building in Oakville will cause me not to be able to buy insurance (or pay through the nose for it).

Why are the citizens south of Oakville being treated as though we hold a lesser value as compared to New Orleans, the Westbank, and Oakville?

Did this project include the value placed on the amount of disaster assistance paid? I would rather spend my tax money on a good flood plan, then disaster assistance. This flood gate is a disaster waiting to happen your own video shows it.

http://plaqueminlevee.com/resources/U_S_+Army+Corps+of+Engineers+New+Orleans+District+Eastern+Tie-In.mht

I am posting this on our website <http://plaqueminlevee.com/5.html>.

Thanks,

Dinah Thompson

Bobby Wilson

[REDACTED]

4 May 2009

-----Original Message-----

From: Bobby Wilson [REDACTED]

Sent: Monday, May 04, 2009 9:26 PM

To: MVN Environmental

Subject: IER 13 - I AM ON YOUR SIDE GUYS!

AS A CONCERNED CITIZEN OF BELLE CHASSE, I AM PLEADING WITH THE CORP TO STAND BY THEIR PROPOSAL TO CONSTRUCT A GATE JUST SOUTH OF THE HERO CANAL IN ORDER TO PREVENT BELLE CHASSE FROM FLOODING. PLEASE DO NOT LET THAT ANGRY MOB OF LOWER PLAQUEMINES RESIDENTS FROM CHANGING YOUR MINDS. WE (BELLE CHASSE RESIDENTS) NEED TO HAVE HURRICANE PROTECTION FROM A 100 YEAR STORM BY 2011.

THE RESIDENTS OF LOWER PLAQUEMINES HAVE WEAK ARGUMENTS. OF COURSE, THE JESUIT BEND RESIDENTS WOULD BE HAPPY IF THE GATE WAS INSTALLED JUST SOUTH OF THEM. IF THAT WERE DONE, SURE IT WOULD BE OK THEN. THEY WOULDN'T CARE ABOUT WHAT HAPPENS SOUTH OF JESUIT BEND. THE POINT IS, WHERE DOES IT STOP WITH REGARDS TO INSTALLING A GATE. WE WILL NEVER GET FULL HURRICANE PROTECTION IF THIS GETS EXTENDED.

WE HAVE BEEN WAITING 4 YEARS SINCE KATRINA TO SEE THIS HAPPEN. PLEASE DON'T LET THEM PERSUADE YOU OTHERWISE. THEY NEED TO WAIT THEIR TURN JUST LIKE WE DID. WHERE IN THE HELL WERE THEY LAST YEAR WHEN YOU FIRST STARTED HAVING MEETINGS TO DISCUSS.

Charlie Burt
Manager, Field Operations
Lagasse Inc

[REDACTED]

5 May 2009

From: Burt, Charlie [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, May 05, 2009 3:55 PM
To: MVN Environmental
Subject: Floodwall IER-13

Build the "Non-Federal Levee's" first, it is the first line to stop a potential flood. The Flood wall is a waste of money and energy and building the levees higher and stronger would be the biggest impact. What does the Corp not see if this. It is very obvious on paper that building a zig-zag wall will not reduce flooding, but merely increase it.

Charlie Burt
Manager, Field Operations
Lagasse Inc

[REDACTED]

Michael and Angela Carron

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED].com

5 May 2009

From: Angela Carron [mailto:[REDACTED]]
Sent: Tuesday, May 05, 2009 8:39 PM
To: MVN Environmental
Cc: Michael Carron
Subject: Question About the Flood Gate Project
Mr. Owen,

Please provide for the public the names of the individual landowners that will be affected by this project and what compensation was offered to them in exchange for the use of their land.

Michael and Angela Carron

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

John Golden

5 May 2009

-----Original Message-----

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, May 05, 2009 12:06 PM
To: MVN Environmental
Subject: NOLA Environmental Comment - Belle Chasse

Dear Sirs,

I attended the May 4th Public Comment Meeting in Belle Chasse regarding IER13. I understand that the hurricane protection levee is important and required by Congress. I would only ask that you seriously consider alternatives to the proposed floodwall at Oakville. Having worked as a Major Projects Manager for 20 years, it is painfully obvious that IER13 is being mismanaged. Local citizens have presented what appears to be a viable option of tying the levee into the Mississippi river system near Alliance. The project managers could not comment on this alternative. Not only did they not have a cost estimate for the Oakville tie-in, but it appears that they haven't even considered the Alliance tie-in. I ask that you consider Benny Rouselle's proposal, submitted at the meeting, in lieu of the Oakville tie-in. In addition, Col Lee should not finalize any decision on this project until his engineers have given him a competent cost analysis of both options.

Roxanne Tillotson

5 May 2009

From: Roxanne Tillotson [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, May 05, 2009 9:25 PM
To: MVN Environmental
Subject: FOR Floodgate at Oakville

Mr Owen ,

I just wanted to voice my opinion re the proposed floodgate at Oakville in Belle Chasse .

I live in Jesuit Bend and am aware of the fight most residents in this area are bringing forth to the Corps . I just would like to say that I wholeheartedly AGREE that your proposed plan is what needs to be done to protect the most homes . My husband is not a engineer , but has lived in this area for his entire life and knows these waterways/levees like the back of his hand . He agrees that even though we live south of the floodgate , this gate will NOT put us at greater risk for flooding , but will stop the water from spreading and causing total devastation if there is a flood that will flood Jesuit Bend ANYWAY .

I don't know if you visit the <http://www.plaquemineslevee.com> website , but there is a post (# 80) from a engineer that makes perfect sense .I hope you will stick to your plan and finish this project along with the project to raise the levees behind our homes . As I said , I do live in Jesuit Bend , but have a business North of the wall There is far more to lose North of the proposed wall .

Sincerely,
Roxanne Tillotson

Unknown

[REDACTED]

5 May 2009

From:

[REDACTED]

Sent: Tuesday, May 05, 2009 5:07 PM

To: MVN Environmental

Subject: NOLA Environmental Comment - General Comment

Please plan to hold a public meeting to review and comment on the IER5 document.
Please confirm via email that you have received this request for a public meeting.
Thanks.

Unknown
5 May 2009

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, May 05, 2009 1:08 PM
To: MVN Environmental
Subject: NOLA Environmental Comment - Belle Chasse

PLEASE DO NOT STOP YOUR EFFORTS IN COMPLETING THE WESTBANK AND VICINITY PROJECT AS PLANNED AND DISCUSSED IN YOUR APRIL 09 TOWN HALL MEETING. WE NEED THE GATE TO PROTECT UPPER PLAQUEMINES PARISH.

KEEP UP THE GOOD WORK AND DON'T LET THE PARISH POLITICS CHANGE YOUR DECISION.

THANKS

Unknown

[REDACTED]

5 May 2009

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: Tuesday, May 05, 2009 6:41 PM

To: MVN Environmental

Subject: NOLA Environmental Comment - General Comment

I attended an informational meeting at St Dominick's on Sept 30, 2008 attended by Corps representatives where low profile, high reliability, low maintenance pumps known as " concrete volute casing pumps" where presented, manufactured by KSB (used in Holland, England). They also reviewed the typical New Orleans pumps maintained by the Corps and they appeared archaic and unreliable with large ugly behemoth buildings like the one on I-10 at I-610. I sincerely hope as a resident of Lake Vista that the KSB designs or ones like them are chosen.

Unknown

[REDACTED]

5 May 2009

From:

[REDACTED]

Sent: Tuesday, May 05, 2009 11:07 PM

To: MVN Environmental

Subject: NOLA Environmental Comment - Belle Chasse

I have a question for the COE. If this proposed flood gate on the eastern tie-in is for the flood protection for the westbank and vicinity, what are the interim (backup) plans for this protection if there is a hurricane before the flood gate is completed?

Unknown
mvnenvironmental@usace.army.mil
5 May 2009

From: mvnenvironmental@usace.army.mil [mailto:mvnenvironmental@usace.army.mil]
Sent: Tuesday, May 05, 2009 11:23 PM
To: MVN Environmental
Subject: NOLA Environmental Comment - General Comment

There were quite a few suggestions to the current IER 13 Eastern tie-in plan that would save millions of our tax payers money and include a much larger area in the 100 year protection plan. This would prevent the induced flooding caused by the proposed flood gate.

Unknown
5 May 2009

-----Original Message-----

From: mvnenvironmental@usace.army.mil [mailto:mvnenvironmental@usace.army.mil]

Sent: Tuesday, May 05, 2009 12:08 PM

To: MVN Environmental

Subject: NOLA Environmental Comment - Belle Chasse

PLEASE DO NOT STOP YOUR EFFORTS IN COMPLETING THE WESTBANK AND VICINITY PROJECT AS PLANNED AND DISCUSSED IN YOUR APRIL 09 TOWN HALL MEETING. WE NEED THE GATE TO PROTECT UPPER PLAQUEMINES PARISH.

KEEP UP THE GOOD WORK AND DON'T LET THE PARISH POLITICS CHANGE YOUR DECISION.

THANKS

Unknown
mvnenvironmental@usace.army.mil
5 May 2009

From: mvnenvironmental@usace.army.mil [mailto:mvnenvironmental@usace.army.mil]
Sent: Tuesday, May 05, 2009 11:17 PM
To: MVN Environmental
Subject: NOLA Environmental Comment - General Comment

A revised IER would justify continuing the 100 year protection of the federalized levee down past the Conoco Philips refinery which is only seven miles south of Oakville. It doesn't make sense to sacrifice this vital section of our parish!

Dinah Thompson

6 May 2009

From: Roger and Dinah Thompson [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, May 06, 2009 12:20 AM
To: MVN Environmental
Subject: DRAFT REPORT IER 13 - EXTENSION & MEETING MINUTES
Importance: High

When and where will the minutes from the May 5, 2009, meeting in Belle Chasse be posted?

Will we have subsequent meetings? If so, how many, and where will they be held?

Thanks,

Dinah Thompson

Dinah L. Thompson
Jesuit Bend Estates



6 May 2009

From: Roger and Dinah Thompson [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, May 06, 2009 7:40 AM
To: Garland@wwl.com; Amanda_Beheytt@melancon.house.gov; Tommy@wwl.com; Elizabeth_Weiner@Landrieu.Senate.Gov; 60m@cbsnews.com; Times Picayune Troncale, Terri; MVN Environmental
Subject: COMMUNICATION OF IER REPORTS - EQUAL ACCESS FOR CITIZENS
Importance: High

The citizens being affected by all of the IER reports are not getting equal access.

Please address questions in the attached letter.

May 6, 2009

Mr. Gib Owen
US Army Corps of Engineers
Chief, Ecological Planning and Restoration Section
HSDRRS Environmental Team Leader
New Orleans District
Phone 504-862-1337 Fax (504) 862-2088
mailto:mvnenvironmental@usace.army.mil

COMMUNICATING MEETING MINUTES, VIDEO, AND SUBSEQUENT IER DRAFT REPORTS – EQUAL ACCESS TO INFORMATION

SITE WHERE REPORTS ARE BEING POSTED: <http://www.nolaenvironmental.gov/>

QUESTIONS:

1. When and where will the minutes from the May 5, 2009, IER 13 meeting in Belle Chasse be posted?
2. Since you have a video of the IER 13 meeting, will you put it on the Corps web site, so that the seeing impaired can hear it as it was spoken? After all, you've displayed video on how our community will be affected.
3. Since we have a strong Vietnamese fishing community down the road, will you give them free access to hear and see all the comments from the May 4 IER 13 meeting and subsequent meetings? Will you get a Vietnamese translator?
4. Some of the residents of Buras, Port Sulfur, and Diamond do not have computers, how will you communicate the meeting video and meeting notes from IER13 with them?

5. Your report is vividly showing graphics in color. Some people living in the fishing community down the road may not have computers that print in color. Will you provide them with paper copies of your graphic depictions in color?
6. Will we have subsequent meetings for IER 13, if so, how many, and where will they be?
7. Individual Environmental Report West Bank and Vicinity Western Tie-In Jefferson and St. Charles Parishes, Louisiana IER #16 is almost 14 MB in size and contains 354 pages. My computer locked up while I was trying to review it. My printer does not have enough memory to print it out. How will you get this to people in communities that cannot review the reports or who may not have computers? They need to see the information vividly in color.
8. If you have the reports posted and people are allowed only 30 days, why can't you start posting where these meetings will be held on the same date that you post these reports that are "Issued for Comment?"

Sincerely,

Dinah L. Thompson
Jesuit Bend Estates

[REDACTED]
Belle Chasse, LA 70037

CC: letters@timespicayune.com

CC: 60m@cbsnews.com

CC: [REDACTED]

CC: Mary Landrieu via email to: Elizabeth_Weiner@Landrieu.Senate.Gov & Fax (202)224-9735

CC: David Vitter via email to: Rachel_Perez@Vitter.Senate.Gov & Fax (202) 228-5061

CC: Charlie Melancon via email to: Amanda_Beheydt@melancon.house.gov & Fax (202) 226-3944

CC: Office of Public Liaison via website <http://www.whitehouse.gov/administration/eop/opl/>

Unknown

6 May 2009

Voicemail Comment

Phone Number: [REDACTED]

Hey, Mr. Gib. I am calling in reference to the floodwall over in Oakville. I believe that you guys should move forward with the project. It's gonna protect the west bank. I went to the meeting the other night and I understand that it's not to protect its not for what it's not gonna protect or hurt. But it's actually to protect the west bank. We definitely need protection. And I feel that this project should move forward in order for us to get the required protection further down the line. And I'm just giving you my opinion and I think that this project should move forward. I actually live below the wall and I'm for the wall.

Thank you.

Dinah Thompson

7 May 2009

From: Roger and Dinah Thompson
Sent: Thursday, May 07, 2009 9:24 PM
To: MVN Environmental
Cc: Times Picayune

Subject: Willfully Designing and Carrying out a Poor Design
Importance: High

IER #13

http://www.nolaenvironmental.gov/projects/usace_levee/IER.aspx?IERID=13

COMMENTS TO DRAFT REPORT DATED APRIL 2009

WEST BANK AND VICINITY HERO CANAL LEVEE AND EASTERN TERMINUS
PLAQUEMINES PARISH, LOUISIANA

Who can we hold responsible for damages if our homes are properties flood, like the simulation in the Corps' video and there was no wave that caused our flooding, or barge hitting a levee (because I did not see a barge in the simulation)? Who is responsible? If local contractors are building the non-federal levees and it butts right up against a federal levee, how do we determine who is responsible for the damages? Billy Nungesser did tell us in our Jesuit Bend neighborhood meeting that he wanted the back levees behind us to get going, because he was afraid they would not get done timely and he wanted local contractors to get the jobs. So who is responsible? Was the Corps ever planning for us to have a federal levee system where the parish is suggesting this non-federal levee go? Can I see and receive a copy of every insurance bond from every contractor that works on both of these levees? I want to see and understand how I can hold them accountable for my damages.

Why is the US Corps of Engineers not combining these levee systems into one federalized system to save with demobilizing and mobilizing of construction crews? It seems to me, we could save some money by having this be one project, do you agree? It also seems to me, if the Corps did

not have all these zig-zagging directions in their preferred plan, we could also save money, do you agree?

Does the government have to buy us out, since we are clearly not included in the Corps of Engineers' flood protection plan? We would really like to be in the 100 year protection plan with federal levees behind us, rather than be bought out.

Have you read all the information on how the government can hold a private engineer responsible for wrongfully engineering designs, while he knows it may cause damage? It can borderline being a criminal act with heavy jail time and fines. Would you provide me with the names and license numbers of all the engineers that have placed their stamp on the designs of IER 13?

We are not going away.

Dinah Thompson

COPY TO:

Valerie B. Jarrett, President Obama's Senior Advisor and Assist., Office of Public Liaison, Washington

Via web site: <http://www.whitehouse.gov/administration/eop/opl/>

Roger and Dinah Thompson

7 May 2009

From: Roger and Dinah Thompson [REDACTED]

Sent: Thursday, May 07, 2009 1:00 PM

To: MVN Environmental

Cc: [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Subject: POLICY QUESTION TO THE US ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS

Importance: High

COMMENTS TO IER 13, IER 16 AND ALL THE DRAFT REPORTS ON YOUR WEBSITE THAT ARE DISPLAYED FOR COMMENT TODAY, MAY 7, 2009 AT 12:00 PM AMERICAN STANDARD TIME.

Please respond to our questions in the attached letter to the President of the United States and the US Army Corps of Engineers.

Also, how have you afforded the Vietnamese speaking people of Plauemines Parish the same access/availability to review all of the IER Draft Reports currently on display at the US Army Corps of Engineers' website, when they need translators?

Also, how have you afforded the Spanish speaking people of Plauemines Parish the same access/availability to review all of the IER Draft Reports currently on display at the US Army Corps of Engineers' website, when they need translators?

How do you expect people in the community to respond to these IER Reports when they are linked on a site, and their computers are crashing due to the file sizes? They need to also see the vivid colors of your graphs to really get the picture. Will you chop your reports into sections of a smaller size so communities all across the Westbank can download the information? Why not chop the file for easier access?

Don't tell me they were available at the community meetings, when your sign-up sheet was nowhere to be found "after the meeting" when you told me I could sign it. It was not available for me to sign.

Why don't you publish the US Corps of Engineers video tapes as part of the official record, since you are taking so long to get the minutes together?

Do you not want the public to hear our outcry. They will, because ---- it's coming!

May 7, 2009

Mr. Gib Owen
US Army Corps of Engineers
Chief, Ecological Planning and Restoration Section
HSDRRS Environmental Team Leader
New Orleans District
Phone 504-862-1337 Fax (504) 862-2088
<mailto:mvnenvironmental@usace.army.mil>

IER #13 http://www.nolaenvironmental.gov/projects/usace_levee/IER.aspx?IERID=13
COMMENTS TO DRAFT REPORT DATED APRIL 2009
WEST BANK AND VICINITY HERO CANAL LEVEE AND EASTERN TERMINUS
PLAQUEMINES PARISH, LOUISIANA

RE: Policy Question

Everything that Congress authorizes has to be published in the Federal Register. Would you please provide references to where the HSDRRS, and specifically the WBV work, was authorized or was published in the Federal Register?

How can a federal levee tie into a non-federal levee? Non-federal levees do not meet the requirements for Federal Levees, and we know they don't because they might not be as high or made of the right materials. Would you consider building federal levees as far south as feasibly possible so that our population of Belle Chasse and South of Belle Chasse can be protected from a flood?

Why do I, everyone in Oakville, and everyone South of Oakville have to justify our existence in order to save the Westbank and New Orleans? Why are we being excluded from the Federal Flood Protection Plan? Why can't we have 100 year protection as far south as possible? We have buffer land here! We want our marshes built-up for flood protection. We want good pumping capacity to bail out in case we flood.

The Plaquemines Levee Group stands united. We do not want to be divided.
<http://plaqueminislevee.com/5.html> . We know it takes a community, but now we need the president.

Dinah Thompson
Jesuit Bend Estates


CC: Tommy Tucker, WWL Radio
CC: Billy Nungesser, Plaquemines Parish Government via email to: bnungesser@plaqueminisparish.com
CC: Anthony L. Buras, Jr. Council District 5, via email to: lois_lejeune@plaqueminisparish.com
CC: letters@timespicayune.com
CC: 60m@cbsnews.com
CC: Pete.stavros@plaqueminislevee.com
CC: Mary Landrieu via email to: Elizabeth_Weiner@Landrieu.Senate.Gov & Fax (202)224-9735
CC: David Vitter via email to: Rachel_Perez@Vitter.Senate.Gov & Fax (202) 228-5061
CC: Charlie Melancon via email to: Amanda_Behey@melancon.house.gov & Fax (202) 226-3944
CC: Valerie B. Jarrett, President Obama's Senior Advisor and Assist., Office of Public Liaison, Washington
Via web site: <http://www.whitehouse.gov/administration/eop/opl/>

May 7, 2009

Ms. Valerie B. Jarrett
Senior Advisor and Assistant to the President
Office of Public Liaison
The White House
Washington
Via web site: <http://www.whitehouse.gov/administration/eop/opl/>

IER #13 http://www.nolaenvironmental.gov/projects/usace_levee/IER.aspx?IERID=13
COMMENTS TO DRAFT REPORT DATED APRIL 2009
WEST BANK AND VICINITY HERO CANAL LEVEE AND EASTERN TERMINUS
PLAQUEMINES PARISH, LOUISIANA

RE: Policy Question

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Why do I, everyone in Oakville, and everyone South of Oakville have to justify our existence in order to save the Westbank and New Orleans? Why are we being excluded from the Federal Flood Protection Plan? Why can't we have the 100 year level of protection as far south as possible? We have buffer land here! We want our marshes built-up for flood protection. We want good pumping capacity.

The Plaquemines Levee Group stands united. We do not want to be divided.
<http://plaqueminislevee.com/5.html> . We know it takes a community, but now we need the president.

Dinah Thompson
Jesuit Bend Estates



CC: Tommy Tucker, WWL Radio
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CC: Anthony L. Buras, Jr. Council District 5, via email to: lois_lejeune@plaqueminisparish.com
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CC: Pete.stavros@plaqueminislevee.com
CC: Mary Landrieu via email to: Elizabeth_Weiner@Landrieu.Senate.Gov & Fax (202)224-9735
CC: David Vitter via email to: Rachel_Perez@Vitter.Senate.Gov & Fax (202) 228-5061
CC: Charlie Melancon via email to: Amanda_Behyt@melancon.house.gov & Fax (202) 226-3944
CC: Office of Public Liaison via website <http://www.whitehouse.gov/administration/eop/opl/>

Bobby Wilson

7 May 2009

-----Original Message-----

From: Wilson, Robert F [mailto:rwilson@plaquemines.gov]
Sent: Thursday, May 07, 2009 2:32 PM
To: AskTheCorps MVN
Subject: Belle Chasse Resident Concerns in NOT completing IER 13 as planned and scheduled

Colonel Lee

I've attended a number of the meetings held by the Corp for the past couple of years pertaining to IER 13 and have been looking for the day that I can tell my family that we, as residents of upper Belle Chasse (Woodland Highway area), will feel safer than ever before with the new 100 year Hurricane Protection system in place. I have geared up my family that construction will be completed by 2011 as scheduled by the Corp based on the current proposal to install a gate in Oakville. I currently feel that my hopes for this happening is slowly diminishing due to the political pressures that I am sure the Corp is faced with both from the citizens south of Oakville as well as from the local authorities. I attended the meeting in Oakville a couple of weeks ago and felt for your group there conducting the presentation. I believe that your group gave a great presentation. I don't believe however that anything said could have convinced the citizens of Jesuit Bend that help is on the way for those living south of Oakville, even though it will take place as part of another totally separate project. I left that meeting, quite frankly ill thinking that my dreams of living in a safer Belle Chasse was slowly diminishing. I didn't attend the last meeting held at the Belle Chasse auditorium because quite frankly, I didn't want to hear the screams and outrage comments coming from residents of South Plaquemines. I can understand where they are coming from, however, I will never be able to understand why the Parish Government would be willing to risk flooding all of Plaquemines Parish as compared to some of the parish.

This issue has been near and dear to the hearts of my wife, kids and I. Reason is that I moved here to Belle Chasse in November, 2005. Prior to that, I lived in St. Bernard Parish and was forced to move because we were flooded with 9 feet of water due to Katrina. We literally lost everything except the "shirts off our backs". We moved to Belle Chasse thinking that the chances of this type of devastation would be far less than staying in St. Bernard.

Please consider this memo in the next couple of weeks and keep us in mind before making a decision. We strongly encourage the Corp to maintain their current proposal of installing a gate (or levee) across Belle Chasse Highway in Oakville that ties into the Mississippi River Levee. In talking with other residents of Belle Chasse, I do not believe that the Parish Government officials have properly communicated this issue to the residents of upper Belle Chasse. I don't believe that the residents of upper Belle Chasse fully understand the significance of the decision that the Corp will be making. The Corp has communicated well however the Parish Government should have played a bigger role in communicating the issues to ALL residents of Plaquemines Parish, not just those from South Plaquemines.

Any replies back from the Corp would be greatly appreciated.

With Kind Regards

Bobby Wilson

Belle Chasse, LA

From: Roger and Dinah

Sent: Friday, May 08, 2009 3:52 AM

To: MVN Environmental

;

Dinah Thompson

via email: Tommy@wwl.com Tommy Tucker, WWL Radio

via email: letters@timespicayune.com

via email: 60m@cbsnews.com

via email: Pete.stavros@plaquemineslevee.com

via email: Mary Landrieu via email to:Elizabeth_Weiner@Landrieu.Senate.Gov
& Fax (202)224-9735

via email: David Vitter via email to: Rachel_Perez@Vitter.Senate.Gov & Fax
(202) 228-5061

via email: Charlie Melancon via email to:Amanda_Beheydt@melancon.house.gov
& Fax (202) 226-3944

via website: <http://www.whitehouse.gov/administration/eop/opl/>

Valerie B. Jarrett, President Obama's Senior Advisor and Assist., Office
of Public Liaison, Washington

Roxanne Tillotson

8 May 2009

From: Roxanne Tillotson [mailto:]
Sent: Friday, May 08, 2009 11:55 AM
To: LUKE.THERIOT@MAIL.HOUSE.GOV; RACHAL_PEREZ@VITTER.SENATE.GOV;
Wes_Kungel@landrieu.senate.gov; MVN Environmental
Subject: We DO need the Floodwall !!!!

Hi

I am a resident of Jesuit Bend La . I was at the meeting on May 4th . I want to let you know that we DO need IER13 to move forward as planned ! IT IS A GOOD THING ! The people who are protesting this do not know what they are fighting for . They are severely mis-informed ! I was disappointed that the Corps didn't properly explain WHY we will not have increased flooding due to the wall, at the last meeting . I will copy a letter that was written by an engineer (someone who really knows what is going on with this project) who also lives in Jesuit Bend . The people protesting are NOT engineers !! They have NO clue as to how this will work . All they know is that they are on the other side of a wall . ONE person who isnt even from here has started this MAYHEM !! I would just hate for ALL of us to suffer for their ignorance ! Please read this engineers perspective, with whom I wholeheartedly agree :

Great turnout at the meeting last night, it is good to see the community getting involved in the government process. I've been to three meetings on this floodwall and I really need to get a few of my thoughts off my chest, I hope I do not offend anyone as that is not my intention but I feel I need to approach this floodwall from another angle, I'm an Engineer and this is from an Engineer's perspective. Without regard to feelings or emotions I have to say that the floodwall makes perfect engineering sense in the location that is chosen, this is based upon the cost vs. The amount of homes and property it protects. The engineering solution may have some minor flaws such as the location of the 150 GPM pump station but overall it is a sound solution. The analogy of this floodwall design is the same concept of ships and submarines, we don't want to lose the entire ship if one section floods, that is why there are sealable bulkheads throughout the vessel. Elected parish officials need to weigh the importance of this project as it is a ridiculous argument not to protect the most homes and revenue at the expense of a small minority of homes, property and businesses south of this floodwall.

If this floodwall isn't constructed and a major storm hits the Houma area we (Jesuit Bend) would be wiped out with upper Belle Chasse, including the Naval Air Station and Chevron Oronite. Going back to 1992, Hurricane Andrew wiped out Homestead AFB in Florida. Based upon the severity of damage the military walked away from the base leaving the community with a huge economic loss. What do you think would happen if the Naval Air Station flooded under 6'-8' of water? It is more economically feasible to BRAC (Base Realignment And Closure) the base and turn the land back to its owner. The Federal Government does not own the land on which the air station resides; they have a long term lease agreement.

My other concern is that delaying this project will also delay any work being done on the levees behind us in Jesuit Bend and we certainly don't want that.

So, who should we be angry at? The Corps of Engineers? Congress? Local Government? FEMA? Many of us bought homes and built homes in the Jesuit Bend area and were never told about this potential floodwall, we should have been notified about this when building permits were issued, so fault lies there. We were also not told of the elevations and potential for levee failure behind Jesuit Bend on a levee system that had not been properly maintained. The current parish administration is doing the right thing by attending these meetings and giving us the information that we need to make informed decisions but they also need to ensure the safety and protection for the majority of the parishioners, this majority resides

in upper Belle Chasse.

A much easier pill to swallow would be if this project was in multiple phases; all including floodwalls so there would not be a North/South issue, we would all be in a consolidated floodwall protection system extending all the way down past Myrtle Grove.

In the interim time if our flood insurance cost increase because of this floodwall, we should be able to bring our statements to the Assessor's office and have our property tax reduced for the increased premium as well as the value of our home reassessed.

Hopefully I haven't poked the bear, as I stated above, this is not my intent. I stand to lose financially on this deal as well as everyone with the possibility of a devalued home and increased flood insurance cost. If we flood, I'm temporarily without a house, but if the Naval Air Station floods, I'm without a job. Without a job here, I have no house here!

Once again, don't take this wrong as I don't want or intend to offend anyone, I think we all share the common goal for flood protection for our area.

I've received some pretty hateful e-mails because of my posts. All I ask is if you do e-mail me with some of the distasteful comments (as some have) please leave your name. I have not hidden my views behind a false identity.

I remember coming back to the Parish after Katrina, I was with the National Guard and got back here right after the storm. Going to Port Sulphur and seeing the devastation, the muck, the smell. It haunted me that we were so close to having the same fate here in Jesuit Bend. Some of us did have flooding from the Mississippi River but a lot of homes were spared. I went to St. Bernard and saw the devastation there as well, the smell. Infrastructure ruined. This flood wall will protect a portion of Belle Chasse from the same fate, I cannot understand why anyone could be in opposition to this. I don't want to drive by a flooded Balestra's, Don's Donut Shop, OLPH Church/school, Belle Chasse High School, Baptist Church, Methodist Church, Salvo's, Lil G's, Dairy Dip, Jeanfreau's, Adam's Catfish, Dollar General, Blue Angel Bar, Tire Shack, Pivach, etc, etc, etc. It is as if the mentality is that if we in Jesuit Bend are going to flood, then everyone has to flood. This defies logic.

Sincerely
Roxanne Tillotson

Steven P. Kennedy

10 May 2009

From: *Steven P. Kennedy*

5/10/09

Senator's Landrieu, Vitter,

Congressman Melancon

US Army Corp of Eng. Gib Owen

Plaq. Parish Mr. Billy Nungesser, Councilman Buras

RE: IER13 Hwy 23 crossing.

As a resident of Jesuit Bend since 1982, a property owner, and Business owner I am writing to voice my strong opposition to construction of a flood block-aid across hwy 23.

While many projects of flood protection improvements have been undertaken with minimal direct impact to community foundation or divide, such as pump stations in New Orleans or flood walls on peters road, most pre existing or in commercial sectors. Residents understand the task the Corps is placed in the protection and manage role.

There is no doubt the walls and gate in Harvey and vicinity will force waters into pimco canal and south thus, the need to design a further defense.

I respectfully submit that a direct crossing a sluice gate/.stop log structure tying into our Back levee (which will/can be built to a higher standard) is a better design .

A wall across Hwy 23 *is unacceptable*,... pumping into Olie, which is already overburdened with the significant population growth of this area, compounding the effluent from residents with no sewer system *is unacceptable*.

Raise and widen our back levee and run the wall gate into it.

I respectfully ask that you as elected or appointed official have the opportunity to refine the design.

Steven P Kennedy

Coating Systems & Supply Inc.* Horn Island

Bobbie Stockwell



11 May 2009

Vicemail Comment

Hi Gib, this is Bobbie Stockwell. I live about 2 miles south of the proposed floodgate in Plaquemines Parish. And I'm calling out of concern of course. But Billy Nungazer just gave a proposal to the colonel about another option. And I'm encouraging ya'll to consider it and hopefully agree to it or consider giving us about a year to change the law regarding the federal levee. Please consider what I've just suggested it would be greatly appreciated. Thank you.

Michelle Weatherford

11 May 2009

From: Michelle Weatherford [mailto:ma [REDACTED]]
Sent: Monday, May 11, 2009 2:34 PM
To: MVN Environmental
Subject: Ref: IER13 Public Meetings
Importance: High

Dear Sir,

I am writing to you over my concern for this project and the impact it will have on many lives. I understand the comment period has been extended and we appreciate that, thank you. I also understand that it was broadcasted on channel 6 after the last meeting and according to information given to the parish president's office, there was suppose to be 2 more meetings held to hear more public comment. I have left several messages with your office and have contacted the parish president's office and no seems to be able to give me the information as to when these meetings will be held. Since there is only 8 days left for the duration of this public comment period, I would assume that these meetings should be held soon, but again, have not been given any information regarding this.

any assistance you can offer would be greatly appreciated.

Michelle Weatherford

Unknown

11 May 2009

From:

Sent: Monday, May 11, 2009 8:54 PM

To: MVN Environmental

Subject: NOLA Environmental Comment - Belle Chasse

I am in opposition to the proposed flood gate crossing highway 23 at Oakville in Plaquemines Parish Louisiana. I would like to see the levee tie into the non-federal levee south of Oakville and continue south past Jesuit Bend to Myrtle Grove. I would like to see the non-federal levees federalized and raised to the height of 16.5 feet. This will protect the community and will not divide Plaquemines Parish. This would protect an additional 1000 plus residents. If we can spend millions of tax dollars in foreign countries we can certainly spend these dollars to protect the people of Jesuit Bend and Myrtle Grove who have paid their taxes and built this community to what is today.

John M. Adams

12 May 2009

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: Tuesday, May 12, 2009 7:07 PM

To: MVN Environmental

Subject: NOLA Environmental Comment - General Comment

I am in opposition to the proposed flood gate crossing highway 23 at Oakville in Plaquemines Parish. I would like to see the levee tie into the non-federal levee south of Oakville and continue south past Jesuit Bend to Myrtle Grove. I would also like to see the non-federal levees to the west of Jesuit Bend area federalized and raised to the height of 16.5 feet. This will protect the community and will not divide Plaquemines Parish. This would protect an additional 1000 plus residents. If we can spend millions of tax dollars in foreign countries we can certainly spend these dollars to protect the people of Jesuit Bend and Myrtle Grove who have paid their taxes and built this community to what is today. A SAFE place to raise a family. Thank's John M. Adams

Cindy Austin
Belle Chase, LA

12 May 2009

VoiceMail

From: Cindy Austin

To: Mr. Owens

Phone Number: [REDACTED]

Hello Mr. Owens. My name is Cindy Austin and I live in Belle Chase, Louisiana. I've actually been trying to reach you all morning and the lines have been overwhelmed. I'm calling in regarding the IER13 project. I am asking you actually I am begging you to please amend the project and do not include a flood gate. We need a hundred year levee protection. Please don't divide our parish, our children, our families all need the same protection. We need equal protection for everyone. I'm sure that you can understand our plea and please keep us in your consideration. Thank You. Bye.

Heidi Rink LDN, RD
Health Educator/ Nutritionist, ACTION!
Tulane University School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine
Dept. of Biostatistics

[REDACTED]
New Orleans, LA

[REDACTED] fax [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

12 May 2009

From: Rink, Heidi M [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, May 12, 2009 1:37 PM
To: MVN Environmental
Subject: Re: IER13

Mr. Owen,

My husband recently attended the Corps meeting re: floodgate in Plaquemines parish. I was not able to attend as I was at home caring for our 2 small children. This meeting was the first time we heard about your plan; we live in the Jesuit bend area. My husband spent his entire life savings on paying for our house (I am 40 yrs old and he is 43). We do not have large retirement plans or savings accounts and feel that the value of our house is all that we own at this time. We are saddened by the lack of information that we received regarding this plan as my husband states that he would not have built our house in the Jesuit Bend area if he would have known that a flood gate was planned for that area. We feel as if our voices (and our children's voices-they are our future) are not being heard by the local government; we would have liked to have voted on this ISSUE as it will affect our lives forever if it is built.

Heidi Rink LDN, RD
Health Educator/ Nutritionist, ACTION!
Tulane University School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine
Dept. of Biostatistics

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Jamie Stavros |

[REDACTED]
12 May 2009

VoiceMail Comment

From: Jamie Stavros

To: Gib Owens

Phone Number: [REDACTED]

Yes, my name is Jamie Stavros and I'm actually calling to get the, see if I can find out what the substantive complaints how many of them that you guys are actually looking at from both meetings that we had for the Plaquemines floodgate. And also trying to figure out what happened to the website that showed all the options for where the floodgate should go in Oakville. That seems to be taken down. I'm kind of finding out why. If you could call me back that'd be fantastic. My name is again Jamie Stavros, [REDACTED] Thank you.

Cory and Stephanie Lott

[REDACTED]

Jesuit Bend, LA 70037

[REDACTED]

13 May 2009

Cory and Stephanie Lott
VIA FACSIMILE - 862-2088Army Corps of Engineers
Attn: Gigi Colston

To Whom It May Concern:

Hi, I am a resident of Plaquemines Parish, Louisiana. There is currently a plan to place a Flood Gate (IER 13) approximately 3 miles north of my home. My husband and I have been life long residents of Plaquemines Parish and moved to the Jesuit Bend area approximately 5 years ago. We currently are not in a flood zone and for Hurricanes Katrina, Rita, Gustav and Ike our home did not receive any flood damage whatsoever. We are strongly opposed to the proposed flood gate (IER 13) project. Our concern with the proposed flood gate (IER 13) is that not only will our property value be lessened, our flood insurance increased but also that a large part of our parish will be left unprotected should a future storm approach the Louisiana coast again. This unprotected area also includes the Connoco-Philip refinery and the IMT Coal Plant not to mention the many citrus groves that have provided produce to our State for over 40 years. Both Connoco-Philip Refinery and IMT Coal Plant provide products utilized throughout the United States. They are not just local expendable businesses. Both of these companies have been staples for our community and country for over 20 years. When this plan was first approved in 1986 the area south of Oakville, Louisiana was largely rural and farm land. This is no longer the case. You have a very large thriving community whom have built their dream homes in this area. This land is no longer cow pastures and expendable rural farm land. I urge you to reconsider the location of this project. I also urge you to not fast track this project and do a new thorough study of the current economic impact this will have on our entire parish. It is my understanding that yours studies are 20 years old. This project needs to be re-evaluated.

It is my further understanding that there is another flood gate also in the works which will be located on Hero Canal off of Walker Road, also in Plaquemines Parish. It is my understanding that this flood gate will protect Jefferson Parish, Louisiana, while sacrificing not only the Jesuit Bend and lower Plaquemines area but also the Lafitte /Barataria area which is located in Jefferson Parish. Both of these communities are the heart of the seafood industry and citrus industry that provides seafood and produce throughout the United States. Please don't write these areas off so easily. These are areas that have been inhabited by people who have made their livelihoods' living off of the land while providing a product and service to others. If the government blatantly allows this project to push forward with no regard for the loss so many will suffer that is unforgivable. We just want equal protection for all residents.

With all the undeserving automakers and lending institutions that have been saved by the governmental bailouts, surely there must be some bailout money available for the Corps and the Government to extend the federalized levee protection system to protect the honest hardworking citizens who have been part of the backbone of this Country and to include us in the 100 year

Cory and Stephanie Lott



Hurricane Protection Plan. To purposely shut off this area by a flood gate that will cause our area (a lot of which has **NEVER** flooded before) to flood should the unthinkable happen, would be a slap in the face when so many companies have been bailed out after they misappropriated their company's spending and offered loans to high risk buyers or extended large bonuses to executives making six figures and over a year.

One final note, I am not only a resident located below the proposed site of the flood wall but I am also a business owner with businesses located both in northern Belle Chasse and Harvey, Louisiana. Both of my business locations are located within the protected area, but I do not want these businesses protected at the expense of so many others.

I truly hope all of my concerns as well as the concerns of so many other residents of Plaquemines Parish will not fall on deaf ears.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Stephanie C. Lott".

Stephanie C. Lott

Virginia Williams

15 May 2009

VoiceMail Comment

From: Virginia Williams

Phone Number: [REDACTED]

This is Virginia Williams I live at 12540 Highway 11 in Belle Chase Louisiana. I live in the Jesuit Bend area. And I am very concerned about the 16 foot wall you want to put up down by captain larry's. cause it will be effecting many people. And I think ya'll can find a better use with the money that ya'll trying to put into that project. We do not want to be left out. We do not want a wall between our parish, dividing our parish. And if you would like to talk to me I'm available at [REDACTED] area code 504. Please take this into consideration.

Toddy and Missy Orgeron
Belle Chasse, LA

16 May 2009

From: Missy Orgeron [mailto: [REDACTED]]
Sent: Saturday, May 16, 2009 9:44 PM
To: MVN Environmental
Subject: Floodwall!

Dear Mr. Owen,

It is my hope and prayer that you have taken every word that many of the residents of Plaquemines Parish have said to you opposing this floodwall to heart. You have got to understand the negative impacts this floodwall would have on each and every one of us in Plaquemines Parish!! This is one of the most expensive places to live in the state of Louisiana (do some research and you'll see!); our assessor has said that only PART of the area that would be negatively impacted by this floodwall is valued at **OVER \$800 million dollars!!!!!!** Please help us protect our investments here!! Our property value will plummet like you've never seen before if this floodgate is built!!!!!!!!!!!!!! You have got to change this plan, sir!! We are begging you to change this plan!!!! President Nungesser has another option that makes much sense and would save our homes, businesses, AND OUR LIVES!!!!!! Please take his suggestions--void the proposed IER 13 and come up with a new plan that would protect us ALL!!! United We Stand-Divided We FLOOD!!!!

Thank you for hearing us and allowing us to voice our concerns.....NOW PLEASE DON'T LET OUR CONCERNS BE IN VAIN!!! GET RID OF THE FLOODGATE PROPOSAL, LET'S COME UP WITH A DIFFERENT PLAN THAT WORKS FOR ALL OF US!!!!

Respectfully Yours,
Toddy and Missy Orgeron
Belle Chasse, LA (aka Jesuit Bend, LA)

Geneva P. Grille, P.E.

17 May 2009

-----Original Message-----

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Sunday, May 17, 2009 12:30 PM
To: MVN Environmental
Subject: NOLA Environmental Comment - Belle Chasse

GENEVA P. GRILLE, P.E.
110 NOBLE DRIVE
BELLE CHASSE, LA 70037

May 17, 2009

Mr. Gib Owen
PM-RS
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
P.O. Box 60267
New Orleans, LA 70160-0267

RE: Draft Individual Environmental Report
West Bank and Vicinity
Hero Canal Levee and Eastern Terminus
Plaquemines Parish, Louisiana
IER #13

Dear Mr. Owen:

I am a resident of Belle Chasse and am very concerned with flooding from an open gap in the levee system south of Belle Chasse. This is a problem that has existed for far too long. I am also very concerned about FEMA de-certifying any levee system that doesn't meet its new 100 levee certification guidelines by 2011. If this happened in the Belle Chasse area, I feel that it would totally devalue my property along with the entire area.

First, I want some type of acceptable 100-year closure south of Hero Canal in place to provide closure to the West Bank and Vicinity Flood Reduction System by 2011. I am a professional civil engineer, retired from DOTD, and have over 40 years experience working on flood control, drainage and highway projects in this area. I was the DOTD engineer charged with assisting the West Jefferson Levee District (WJLD) with the federalization of the West Bank Hurricane Project in 1986 and the Post Authorization Changes for East of Harvey and Lake Cataouatche Levee. Because of the magnitude of this project in three parishes, the State of Louisiana, through DOTD, became the local funding sponsor of the project, with WJLD as the administrator.

Prior to Hurricane Katrina, the West Hurricane and Vicinity was designed by the Corps for a 300-year return frequency storm. Pre-Katrina, the area that includes Belle Chasse, English Turn and Lower Coast

Algiers was a separate polder in the East of Harvey system. All that changed post-Katrina. New hydraulic models were run and the entire project was reanalyzed. The Corps design methodologies and safety factors changed and the entire system was redesigned to conform to new flood protection elevations required for 100-year levee certification for FEMA requirements in the "Risk Reduction System". Now in order to achieve this 100 year level of protection, a new sector gate and pumping station must be built in Bayou Barataria connecting the Belle Chasse Levee into the V-line Levee. This is necessary because it is not feasible to raise the levees along the Harvey and Algiers Canals high enough. Neither is the original tie into the non-federal levee in Oakville acceptable to provide the 100 year level of protection and the southern closure must be made to the Mississippi River Levee. The separate polders north and south of the Algiers Canal and west of the Harvey Canal are now all interconnected. It appears to me that failure to provide a complete 100-year system wide level of protection to this project affects the integrity of the entire project and is not just a Belle Chasse and Oakville issue. I did not see this adequately addressed in IER #13.

On May 7, 2009, I attended the 24th Annual Workshop Conference for Levee Board Commissioners and Staff in Baton Rouge, where Mr. Gary Zimmerer of FEMA gave a presentation on levee certification. This is a very hot issue in the State of Louisiana at this time and hopefully I have a misunderstanding of this issue. It is my understanding that under the present post-Katrina FEMA guidelines, if a levee system does not meet current FEMA guidelines for a 100-year flood system, it will be de-certified and removed from the D-FIRM map. Any existing properties with existing flood insurance policies would be grandfathered in with their existing flood insurance policies and rates as long as they were kept continuously in effect, but the areas would be remapped as if no levee were in place. This would essentially put previously leveed off areas into velocity zones. Any new construction would be totally incongruous with the existing development. Could this possibly be true? I believe this certification affects the entire project as a system, not only Belle Chasse in Plaquemines Parish, but also all the areas with the confines of the West Bank and Vicinity Risk Reduction Project in Orleans and Jefferson Parishes. This really needs to be addressed in the IER by the Corps so that Plaquemines Parish Government and all stakeholders can make the most informed decisions. I did not see this adequately addressed in the IER.

Sincerely,

Geneva P. Grille, P.E.

Susan Becnel Levasseur

[REDACTED]

17 May 2009

From: Susan Levasseur [REDACTED]
Sent: Sunday, May 17, 2009 5:45 PM
To: MVN Environmental
Subject: Floodgate Hwy 23 Plaquemines Parish

United States Army Corp. of Engineers,

I am a 4th generation Plaquemines Parish resident, whose family has lived in this parish since approximately 1860. I am writing today to inform you that I am 100% against the floodwall that is proposed for Hwy 23 in the Oakville area. Not only am I proposed to this floodwall, but to any floodwall that would impact any portion of the community. That is not to say I'm against 100 year flood protection. To the contrary, there are better ways to achieve this goal than putting a barrier across a major highway that will divide a parish and ultimately sacrifice many communities.

I understand, by reading IER 13, that the Corp intends to extend 100 year flood protection by building a levee and tying that levee into 2 floodgates (one crossing Hwy 23 and another railroad floodgate) ultimately tying the levee system into the Mississippi River Levee (MRL). Furthermore, I understand that the floodgate is intended to be 16 feet in height. How is this going to solve the problem, when the MRL is only 14 feet in height? The two will not marry at the same height and will not provide the protection intended.

A better solution would be to marry the newly authorized federal levee project from Oakville to West Pointe-a-la-Hache and have those levee heights in agreement to provide the 100 year protection we all seek, thus avoiding a floodgate.

I noticed some further discrepancies in the data in IER 13 used to make the determination of the levee/floodgate placement. In one section of the document it refers to the area below the proposed floodgate as, "Adjacent areas to the south of Oakville are comprised of pasturelands and scattered citrus groves."

Has anyone from the Corp recently looked into and studied the flood side of the proposed floodgate? There is much more to protect than pasturelands and scattered citrus groves. There are communities with hundreds of homes, which house men, women and children who contribute to the success of the parish and state. Many of these homes are currently worth in excess of \$300,000. There are schools, Riverbend Nursing Home, Conoco Phillips Refinery, and yes, citrus groves. The citrus industry was devastated by Hurricane Katrina, are we going to sacrifice the remaining industry? In an article written on February 11, 2009, published in the Delta Farm Press Daily it states the following:

"According to the 2007 LSU AgCenter Louisiana Agriculture Summary, 20 citrus nursery stock growers are based in Plaquemines Parish. One hundred producers raise fruit on 500 acres and harvest more than 150,000 bushels of navel oranges, satsumas and other citrus. The gross farm value of the fruit is \$4.1 million."

The above stated assets are just too valuable to lose, just as the protected side of the proposed floodwall is too valuable to lose. Both should be protected equally and no one should be adversely impacted.

I await your reply on this very important matter that will impact the lives of hundreds of my fellow Plaquemines Parish residents.

Sincerely,
Susan Becnel Levasseur

A black rectangular redaction box covering the signature of Susan Becnel Levasseur.

Toddy Orgeron

[REDACTED]

17 May 2009

From: ORGERON, TODDY J [mailto:[REDACTED]]
Sent: Sunday, May 17, 2009 11:05 AM
To: MVN Environmental
Subject: Oakville Floodwall--No Way!

Mr. Owen,

I have been to all of the public comment meetings that have been held in the past few weeks. Many valid points have been brought forward to you. With all that you've heard, as a human being, there is no possible way you can choose to go through with the proposed Oakville floodwall. If you really have 'the people's' best interest at heart, you will come up with a different way to protect us all.

THE MOST POIGNANT COMMENT, OUT OF THE MANY THAT HAVE BEEN MADE, WAS THE ONE WHERE YOU STATED THAT YOU FOUGHT FOR US IN IRAQ. THANK YOU FOR THAT SIR. FIGHTING IN A WAR FOR ONE'S PEOPLE AND COUNTRY TAKES A BIG MAN. AS THE WOMAN WHO STOOD AT THE MICROPHONE TOLD YOU, WE NOW NEED YOU TO FIGHT FOR US!!! WE NEED YOU TO FIGHT LOCALLY FOR US; HERE AND NOW!!! THAT FLOODWALL IS OUR ENEMY FOR MANY REASONS!!!!

You must change the proposal, sir. You must. For our children, our families, our lives, our homes, our property, our investments, our businesses, our schools, and our nursing home where many of our family members live, or will live someday! We are depending on you! Please don't let us down.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,
Toddy Orgeron

[REDACTED]

Belle Chasse, LA. (PLEASE NOTE MY CITY IS BELLE CHASSE, NOT JESUIT BEND!!)

Kevin Bernard

[REDACTED]
Belle Chase, LA 70037

[REDACTED]
18 May 2009

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, May 18, 2009 2:38 AM
To: MVN Environmental
Subject: NOLA Environmental Comment - Belle Chasse

IER 13 is flawed in to many ways to mention.

the people of plaquamines parish deserve the same regard as any other area of the country. We have been discounted in this report, the only way for us to correct this is to go back to congress with the transcripts and copys of all the flaws we have documented in your reports.

we welcome the chance to take this project back to congress.

We are a busy working class people, honest and hardworking, old fashioned and we will stand up against this.

So before you go foward with this wall, make sure you read all your reports. cross your I's and t's, because we will be checking evey inch of the way.

HOW CAN ANY PERSON IN THERE RIGHT MIND DISCOUNT A WALL 16 FEET HIGH AND 700 TO 2200 FEET LONG, AS NOT HAVING ANY SIGNIFICANT IMPACT ON A COMMUNITY?

ALSO JUST A SHORT WAYS ABOVE THIS SITE THE HERO CANAL LEVEE IS ONLY ABOUT 450 FT FROM THE MISSISSIPPI RIVER.

WOULDNT THAT BE MUCH MORE COST EFFECTIVE?

THIS IS A MINIMAL PROTECTION LEVEE ACORDING TO YOUR 100 YEAR DESIGN MAP.

PLEASE RETHINK YOUR DONE DEAL.

LAST COMENT/ QUESTION

YOUR 5 MILLION DOLLAR PR FIRM NEEDS TO GO.

THEY ARE MAKING YOU AN EVEN BIGGER EMBARASMENT THAN ALL THE LEVEE FAILURES COMBINED.

THANK YOU
KEVIN BERNARD

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
will look foward to your reply

Carroll & Patricia Boudreaux
Belle Chasse, LA
18 May 2009

From: Boudreaux [mailto: [REDACTED]]
Sent: Monday, May 18, 2009 11:36 PM
To: MVN Environmental
Subject: Oakville Flood Gate

Please stop the Flood Gate-Wall at Oakville in Plaquemines Parish.

This will not only endanger my family and my home to flooding, it will decrease the value of my home and skyrocket my insurance.

Ninety percent of the people in the Jesuit Bend area formally lived in lower Plaquemines parish and have migrated North due to Hurricane Katrina and prior hurricanes to be in a safer area. Most of us have invested our life savings in our homes after losing everything we owned in the Southern area of the parish. Just when we think we are going to be safe you start planning a wall just north of us and again we will be in harms way. PLEASE RECONSIDER THIS DECISION.

If you still think the flood wall is necessary, there is a levee from east levee to the west levee separated only by Hwy 23 just above Alliance (the siphon area). This would be the most economical site since there is a levee already there to start with.

The parish built a temporary levee across the road in that spot for the last hurricane. If it must be please consider this location.

Carroll & Patricia Boudreaux
Belle Chasse, LA

Anita Conovich

[REDACTED]
18 May 2009

IER 13 Verbal Comments taken over the Phone

Anita Conovich, 5 [REDACTED] Opposes floodgate because of induced flooding to those south of the floodgate.

Judy Daigle

18 May 2009

IER 13 Verbal Comments taken over the Phone

Judy Daigle, [REDACTED] Opposes floodgate.

Joseph Futch

18 May 2009

IER 13 Verbal Comments taken over the Phone

Joseph Futch, [REDACTED] He is a business owner who lives in Jesuit Bend, he supports the floodgate because he'd rather have something protected than nothing. He is happy about the gate option instead of the ramp option that would hurt businesses. He says that the floodgate is needed to backup the southern levees because during Ike there were at least 8 breaches in the Plaquemines levee system. Better to save some of the parish if there is flooding.

Francis Glaeser
840 Jason Drive
Jesuit Bend, LA 70037
18 May 2009

IER 13 Verbal Comments taken over the Phone

Opposed to the floodgate across Hwy 23 at Oakville.

Donald Landry

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

18 May 2009

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: Monday, May 18, 2009 1:44 PM

To: MVN Environmental

Subject: IER 13 Floodgate at Oakville Proposal

Attached is my comments for the proposed floodgate at Oakville. Please read and forward to Col. Alvin Lee.

Thanks for the opportunity to comment

Donald Landry

I want to go on the record as being against the floodgate crossing Louisiana Hwy 23 in the Belle Chasse area! The Army Corps of Engineers has proposed this floodgate as a quick fix for the expedited closure of IER 13 project. This will divide our Belle Chasse community, physically, mentally, and politically. Saying that the people who have built homes below the proposed floodgate are not worth as much as the people above it. This will be the straw that breaks the camel's back. If this floodgate is built, the Belle Chasse community below it will die!!! We all want hurricane protection and don't think we should have to sacrifice 25% of our community to get it! The solution to the problem is not a floodgate that divides our community but too continue the 100 year protection for the new federalized levee at least down to where the current levee ties into the river levee at Naomi. I implore you to look into this issue. Please do not make the final decision on the floodgate by Oakville. We are just a group of citizens trying to learn how, what, & where to get someone to extend the 100 year protection to include the whole community. Our local government voted unanimously against the floodgate.

I think we sometimes get so focused on the issue at hand that we miss the larger picture. I have lived in the Belle Chasse community all my life (55 years). I would like to address the big picture first and then look at the pieces after everyone understands the overall problem.

Hurricanes have been occurring for thousands of years. Nature has a way of taking care of itself, that is, until man makes major changes that can destroy an entire ecosystem. We would not be having this discussion had we not, as a nation, caused this disaster. There would be 32 miles of healthy marsh between my community and the Gulf of Mexico. Katrina has reminded us how much protection the natural marshes once provided and now levees must provide that protection.

Don't get me wrong, I don't want to start a blame game. I think we all need to unite to correct these major issues. I'm sure no one foresaw the catastrophic impact when it was done. Louisiana has the largest environmental disaster that man has caused in this country (by a factor of 100's, maybe 1000's of times larger than any other environmental disaster like strip coal mining or cutting old growth forest, etc.). The exploration and production of cheap Louisiana oil & gas, on and offshore, has caused the loss of hundreds of square miles of marsh and land. I'm not saying that we should not have developed and used these resources, I am saying that the resources could have, and should have, been developed without cutting hundreds of pipeline canals straight across the marshes. This was just the cheaper and easier way to develop these resources. This disrupted the natural flow of fresh water that kept salt water at bay. The pipeline canals have allowed salt water through daily tidal movement to just flow directly up these canals and kill the living marsh. When the marsh dies it decomposes just like any living thing and sinks. Louisiana has the largest estuary system in the world, but is losing land faster than anywhere. Estuaries

are a delicate ecosystem where fresh water meets salt water and a rich ecosystem supports an abundance of life. Yes, it would have been a little more expensive to do it right the first time, but we can not go back, the damage is done. Now the cost to protect and repair should be financed by everyone in this country, for this country owes a large part of its overall prosperity to oil & gas that crosses Louisiana's marshes. Everyone in the United States has a better life because of energy that passes through Louisiana's marshes. Our nation grew and prospered for generations because of cheap energy from Louisiana. It is time for the nation to take responsibility & ownership and pay for the protection and rebuilding of Louisiana's marshes (estuaries).

We as a united community are working hard with Congress to expedite the second project and get the Corps authorization to continue the 100 year protection for the new Federalized levee, negating the need for a floodgate.

Thank you for your effort. Please don't divide our community.

Sincerely,
Donald Landry

A large black rectangular redaction box covering the signature and any handwritten notes or dates that might have been present.

Ned F. Malley Sr.

[REDACTED]net

18 May 2009

From: Paula Rasberry [mailto:[REDACTED]]
Sent: Monday, May 18, 2009 7:24 AM
To: MVN Environmental
Subject: flood wall

I am opposed to the building of a flood wall in the north end of Plaquemines Parish. What makes our homes so less important that we can't have the flood protection everyone else deserves. My name is Ned F. Malley Sr. My phone # is [REDACTED]

Cindy Mancuso

18 May 2009

-----Original Message-----

From: Mancuso, Cindy [mailto:[REDACTED]]
Sent: Monday, May 18, 2009 4:37 PM
To: MVN Environmental
Subject: IER #13

Attached please find a letter from Speaker Jim Tucker expressing opposition to the proposed flood wall and flood gate at Hwy. 23, north of Jesuit Bend - IER #13, West Bank Vicinity Hero Canal Levee and Eastern Terminus, Plaquemines Parish. He would like to be sure his letter is included in the public comments. Should you have any questions or have trouble opening the attached, please call ([REDACTED])



STATE OF LOUISIANA
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JIM TUCKER
SPEAKER

May 19, 2009

[REDACTED]
BATON ROUGE, LOUISIANA 70804
[REDACTED]

Colonel Alvin B. Lee
District Commander
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New Orleans District
Executive Office
P.O. Box 60267
New Orleans, LA 70160-0267

RE: IER #13, West Bank Vicinity Hero Canal Levee and Eastern Terminus, Plaquemines
Parish, Louisiana

Dear COL Lee:

I am writing to express my fierce opposition to the proposed flood wall and flood gate at
Highway 23, north of Jesuit Bend.

It obvious that the proposed project would endanger lives and residential and commercial
property to increased flooding south of the project. Since the project was authorized in the mid-
90's, residential construction expanded in this area until there is now an estimated 1,600 homes.
That will be 1,600 home denied 100-year flood protection. Not only will these residents endure
the increase risk in flooding, they will also see their insurance rates increase and their once high
property values decrease.

The Conoco-Phillips facility south of the project is also put at greater risk of flooding. Damage
at that facility would have a huge economic impact on either side of the project and the state as a
whole.

It is my understanding that your own modeling shows an increase in storm surge as a result of
this project. Again, I oppose this proposed project and I strongly urge you to reevaluate the
location of this project to afford 100-year flood protection to the residents and businesses south
of the proposed location.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Jim Tucker".
Jim Tucker
Speaker

Louisiana House of Representatives

Kevin Rau
Input/Output Inc.

18 May 2009

From: Kevin Rau [mailto:]
Sent: Monday, May 18, 2009 2:46 PM
To: MVN Environmental; Amanda_Beheydt@Melancon.House.Gov;
Elizabeth_Weiner@Landrieu.Senate.Gov; Rachel_Perez@Vitter.Senate.Gov; al.b.lee@usace.army.mil;
Lee, Alvin B SAM
Subject: IER13 Opposition - No Flood Wall

Hello,

I am opposed to a flood wall or a levee across Hwy 23 in Oakville. If the 100 year flood protection cannot be continued south, at least past the Belle Chasse Middle School, I would prefer to be bought out at current market value.

I have worked hard all my life and have tried to do the right thing in my personal and business dealings. I bought a home within my means. I make timely payments to the mortgage company but at the same time have seventy percent equity built up in the property and dwelling according to the last appraisal. I have flood insurance, while I can afford it, even though I was not required to carry flood insurance when I closed on my house. (I would have never guessed that I would have this kind of problem considering I was paying about the same amount for flood insurance as my parents who are located in Algiers.) I pay my fair share of taxes and right now I believe I am paying way too much for the benefits I receive. If the flood wall crosses Hwy 23 at Oakville, my equity in my property will drop drastically. I estimate my equity will drop to around twenty to thirty percent of what it is presently, so much for the American dream!

I realize now that part of this was in the works since 1984 and that the levee was funded to connect to the non federalized levee in the 1994 version of the plan. It seems just recently they arbitrarily chose to cross the highway at Oakville, at least encompassing the Oakville residents. However, it is very evident that the Army Corps of Engineers made the decision to cross Hwy 23 at Oakville without updating the 1984 data.

According to the IER13 document, the only thing outside of the proposed floodgate is pasture land and citrus farms. In 1984 I would believe that statement. However, as early as 1994 the area immediately south of the proposed floodwall was already being developed (Belle Chasse Middle School was already operational). I bought my lot in 1994 and built in 1995. I was one of the last on my street and the Jesuit Bend Estates subdivision was well under development with few lots left for sale and at least eighty percent of the houses already built.

Please do not allow IER13 to be completed as proposed. I believe there are other better alternatives available. If you are interested in the other alternatives I would propose I would gladly make them available to you. If IER13 must be completed as proposed, please consider giving the option to be bought out at current market value. If I would have known that EIR13 was a possibility in 1994 I would have never bought and built at this location. I would also request that somebody have the Corps respond to the questions I have sent previously.

Please get the House of Representatives and Senate to help us.

Thanks,

Kevin Rau taxpayer, voter

[REDACTED]

Input/Output Inc.

[REDACTED]

Harahan LA 70123

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Monica Senner

18 May 2009

From: Monica Senner [mailto: [REDACTED]]
Sent: Monday, May 18, 2009 12:55 PM
To: MVN Environmental
Subject: IER13
Mr. Gib Owens,

I resident of Jesuit Bend and I am opposed to the alignment of IER13. My home is excluded from the 100 year levee protection. This protection will be crucial in the affordability of insurance and sustainability of home values. We are a populated area.

What I am most appalled by, is the fact that Plaquemines parish is one of the largest suppliers of the clay needed to form these levees and is the least protected in the New Orleans area parishes. You are stripping our natural resources to protect others.

How can you justify the impact IER13 will have on our community without compensation or inclusion?

Please reconsider this alignment. The consequences form this project will be much more devastating than you realize.

Thank you,

Monica Senner

Jennifer Shelley
[REDACTED]
18 May 2009

IER 13 Verbal Comments taken over the Phone


Jennifer Shelley, [REDACTED] Lives in Jesuit Bend, she wants the Corps to continue with the IER 13 floodgate across Hwy 23. She says we should keep it up so that if there is flooding, at least some of the schools, stores, etc would remain protected.

Peter D. Stavros



18 May 2009

-----Original Message-----

From: Stavros [mailto:
Sent: Monday, May 18, 2009 11:28 AM
To: MVN Environmental
Cc: Holder, Ken MVN; Owen, Gib A MVN
Subject: SUBSTANTIVE COMMENTS on IER13
Mr. Owen,

Here are my comments on IER13.
I am asking for your full consideration of my claims/statements.
Could you please reply to this email to acknowledge receipt?

Respectfully,

Pete Stavros



*Response from Gib Owens

Mr. Stavros,
I have received your e-mail with two attachments. We will include this e-mail and the attachments as a comment to IER 13.

Gib Owen
US Army Corps of Engineers
Chief, Ecological Planning and Restoration Section/
HSDRRS Environmental Team Leader
New Orleans District
504 862-1337

May 18 , 2009

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, NE Orleans District
c/o Gib Owen, CEMVN
P.O.Box 60267
New Orleans, LA 70160

RE: Comments on the Draft Individual Environmental Report for the Hero Canal Levee and Eastern Terminus Project in Plaquemines Parish dated April 2009

Dear Mr. Owen:

Please accept and make part of the official record these comments regarding the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' Draft Individual Environmental Report for the Hero Canal Levee and Eastern Tie Terminus project in Plaquemines Parish (Draft IER #13).

Our first objection is the lack of meaningful notice and opportunity to have input at earlier stages of the proposed project. On 12 Feb 09, my wife Jamie called the USACE and spoke with Larry York and John Thompson in reference to a rumored floodgate in Plaquemines Parish. At that time, she was told that it had been mentioned in one of their meetings, but that the Corps knows that this would negatively affect a LOT of people, and that an in-depth study would be required, and that restitution would need to be paid to compensate loss of value in properties. In short, this would take years to accomplish, and was NOT in the works at that time. Other than a small public notice in the classified section of the newspaper, there has been no attempt to communicate the project to the people most affected by such a project. Nowhere was there EVER a mention in the media that a flood gate was proposed at Oakville. From Times Picayune reporting on the protection of New Orleans and vicinity, there was NEVER a mention of a flood gate as late as March 2009. This was an outreach from the Corps to the media to update the citizens on status of projects, and the proposed floodgate was not once mentioned. The Draft IER report states that specific property owners who could substantially be impacted by the project were contacted in order to discuss the project and receive their input. Those contacted included the owner of the Hero Canal who leases property along the canal to three salvage businesses; the three salvage business owners; and the owner of the Boomtown Belle which is docked in the eastern end of the canal. Little meaningful notice was provided to those immediately to the south of the project.

The second objection is to the interpretations of the ALTERNATIVE ARRANGEMENTS published in March 2007. At both of the two public hearings (29 April 09 and 4 May 09), we were told that Congress authorized the alternative arrangements, and that many items were waived. It was stated that the USACE is not obligated to do a full study because they are exempted under Alternative Arrangements. While these arrangements are intended to accelerate the process, it is NOT intended to waive the rights which protect us.

I believe that a closer inspection of the ALTERNATIVE ARRANGEMENTS is needed, particularly paragraph 4, which states that "Each IER will identify areas where data was incomplete, unavailable, and areas of potential controversy. Alternatives analysis will be based upon a geographic segment of the area that is large enough to encompass any impacts directly and indirectly attributable to the proposed action." IER13 does not evaluate enough geographic area affected to be in compliance with the ALTERNATIVE ARRANGEMENTS.

The purpose of this comment letter is to identify a number of significant and substantive flaws and omissions in the Draft IER, as set forth below:

1. USACE policy, as described in Engineer Regulation (ER) 1105-2-100, requires that the decision document display the National Economic Development (NED) plan. The NED plan is not displayed in the report. The NED costs of the project are not set forth in the report. ER 1105-2-100 also requires justification for not selecting the NED plan as the recommended alternative. A decision reached decades ago to deviate from standing policy is not sufficient. The report should display the full range of alternatives considered, display the NED costs and benefits of each alternative, identify the NED plan and explain why the NED plan was not selected.

2. ER 1105-2-100 requires that the report display the Regional Economic Development (RED) impacts of the selected alternative. No RED impacts are addressed in the report.

3. ER 1105-2-100 requires that the full range of alternatives be evaluated using a risk-based framework, and specifically requires the use of HEC-FDA, the Corps' standard risk-based analysis package for flood damage risk studies. The assumptions, data and outputs from HEC-FDA are not shown in the report.

4. ER 1105-2-100 requires that the damages caused by induced flooding be displayed and addressed. The IER makes no mention whatsoever of induced flood damages. Construction of a levee system in the area will increase the water surface profiles in the areas not protected, thus increasing flood stages across the stage-frequency curve. Simply stating that the computer model doesn't indicate there would be any induced risk is NOT enough. A thorough model of the flood risk is needed.

5. ER 1105-2-100 does not state that non-structural alternatives MAY BE considered. According to that regulation and USACE policy, non-structural alternatives MUST BE considered. The report fails to display non-structural alternatives properly. There are no costs associated with the alternatives considered, no estimated benefits, no Benefit-Cost-Ratios (BCRs) and no justification for why these alternatives were rejected. Merely stating that these alternatives fail to provide authorized levels of protection is insufficient justification.

6. Executive Order 12898 (EO 12898) dated February 11, 1994 focuses Federal attention on the environmental and human health conditions in the minority and low-income communities, and case law specifically prohibits unnecessary impacts to minority and low income communities. Public participation and access to information in this regard is critical. Agencies are specifically required to ensure that the public documents, notices and hearings relating to human health or the environment are concise, understandable and readily accessible to the public. EO 12898 calls for the prevention or avoidance of unnecessary or harmful effects on the disadvantaged, low income and minorities. The area south of and outside of the project area have both low-income and minority community members who will suffer from induced flood damages. The IER contains no discussion whatsoever of how these impacts will be addressed and does not comply with EO 12898. These induced flood damages need to be mitigated and an EIS is required.

7. The floodplain inventory is not displayed.

8. Induced risk of flooding will increase immediately south of the proposed levee. Construction of a 16-foot levee, a pumping station putting water back over the levee and floodgate across the Intracoastal Waterway will result in water no longer flowing where it has in the past. The static water level of water will be higher and there will be a dynamic stacking of water along the levee. The foreseeable result is that a tidal surge will top the 5-foot levee 2 miles south of the project. Effects due to winds pushing water against this proposed levee alignment have not been analyzed and wave actions will top the levees south of Oakville. Again, based on the need for mitigation the submission of an EIS is required.

9. Impact south of the project were addressed only for property 1 mile south of the proposed levee/gate, yet high density residential zone exists 1.7 to 7 miles south of the project. The 1-mile definition of community impact is completely arbitrary and does not address the true risk to the population. Belle Chase Middle School and a nursing home will be similarly impacted. Risk to the Alliance Refinery and its workforce were similarly not addressed.

10. The psychological effect of "driving through a flood gate" will mean a significant drop in property values. Further FEMA will most likely change the floodplain rating and raise the Base Flood Elevation (BFE). This will affect the insurability under the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). Even if rates are grandfathered in for existing construction, this will certainly affect those who have not

yet begun construction, or if policies lapse, NFIP may not be available. Over a period of storm events, due to increased flood risk, many homes will be subject to repeat claims and may be dropped for NFIP. Within the 7 miles south of the flood gate there are more than 600 homes, ranging in value from 30 thousand to 1.5 million dollars. The effects of decreased property values and significantly increased insurance rates will be to remove equity held by individual property holders and to cripple the tax base for the community.

12. ER 1105-2-100 requires that estimates of nonphysical losses be derived from specific independent economic data for the interests and properties affected. Estimates of nonphysical losses include income losses and emergency costs. Emergency costs include costs of evacuation and reoccupation; flood fighting; administration costs of disaster relief; and increased costs of police, fire or military patrol. The report contains a vague reference to altering evacuation routes for the area south of the project. The dense property residential zone, schools, nursing home and Alliance Refinery are all south of the flood gate on LA 23, which will be closed in a storm event. There is no definition of the planned evacuation route(s), and there is no discussion of the estimates of nonphysical losses.

13. The structure-to-content value ratios are not displayed.

14. Stage damage, discharge frequency, stage frequency and damage frequency curves are not displayed.

15. The recommended alternative for the project calls for impacts to prime tupelo and cypress swamps and high quality wetlands, and the report states that these impacts will require mitigation. Mitigation of impacts implies impact significance, and significant impacts require the preparation of an EIS. The need for an EIS is clear. Only one of the alternatives has little significant impacts to wetlands. Any selected alternative with wetlands impacts MUST be part of an EIS.

16. ER 1105-2-100 requires that the decision document display and address the Other Significant Effects (OSE) caused by implementation of the recommended plan. The IER fails to display or address the OSE. Specific OSE's include induced flood damages, higher insurance costs of unprotected areas and potential violation of EO 12898.

17. No documentation of independent technical review (ITR) is provided. Who, independent of the New Orleans District, reviewed the technical reports? What, if any, were their comments? Where are the ITR team's comments addressed?

The Draft IER is seriously flawed. There are substantial and substantive problems with the proposal, including, but not limited to, the fact that there is no EIS as required (even through Alternative Arrangements) and there is clear noncompliance with EO 12898 and ER 1105-2-100.

Based on the environmental, social, health, cultural, safety, economic and other impacts of the proposed project, together with the lack of economic justification for the project, it is our strong conviction that the Corps (USACE) should select the "no action" alternative and recommend that Congress align this project with the project which will federalize the levees south of Oakville proposed for Plaquemines Parish. Authorization for this second project to be brought to 100-year must be recommended and sought from Congress.

The project must be reworked to include the densely populated area south of the proposed Oakville border by hooking the Hero Levee to the existing levee(s) to the south. Your reports must contain a full examination of the cumulative impacts to the physical and human environment. We demand an EIS to address these concerns, and full compliance with EO 12898 and ER 1105-2-100.

Respectfully submitted,

Peter D. Stavros

Belle Chasse, LA 70037

FR Doc E7-4515

[Federal Register: March 13, 2007 (Volume 72, Number 48)]

[Notices]

[Page 11337-11340]

From the Federal Register Online via GPO Access [wais.access.gpo.gov]

[DOCID:fr13mr07-28]

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Department of the Army; Corps of Engineers

Adoption of Alternative Arrangements Under the National
Environmental Policy Act for New Orleans Hurricane and Storm Damage
Reduction System

AGENCY: Department of the Army, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, DoD.

ACTION: Public notice.

SUMMARY: The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), Mississippi Valley Division, New Orleans District (CEMVN) is implementing Alternative Arrangements under the provisions of the Council on Environmental Quality Regulations for Implementing the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) (40 CFR 1506.11) in order to expeditiously complete environmental analysis of major portions of a new 100-year level of Hurricane and Storm Damage Reduction effort authorized and funded by the Administration and the Congress. The proposed actions are located primarily in southern Louisiana and relate to the Federal effort to rebuild the Hurricane and Storm Damage Reduction system following Hurricanes Katrina and Rita.

The USACE consultation with the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ), as required under 40 CFR 1506.11 and the USACE Environmental Quality Procedures for Implementing the NEPA (33 CFR 230), concluded on February 23, 2007 with the CEQ approving the Alternative Arrangements. The Alternative Arrangements request was also coordinated with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, National Marine Fisheries Service, Environmental Protection Agency, Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, Department of Homeland Security-Federal Emergency Management Agency, Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, Louisiana Department of Natural Resources, Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality and the Louisiana State Historic Preservation Officer.

During the consultation, the USACE and CEQ hosted four public meetings in New Orleans metropolitan area to assess the request and gather input on the proposed Alternative Arrangements. The input received during the course of the discussions and meetings provided strong support for Alternative Arrangements that allow for expedited decisions on actions to lower the risk of floods and that restore public confidence in the hurricane storm reduction system so that the physical and economic recovery of the area can proceed as citizens return and rebuild. It was also made clear that the Alternative

Arrangements should provide the USACE a way to proceed that complements other ongoing and proposed hurricane protection and coastal restoration efforts.

These Alternative Arrangements apply to certain proposed actions included in the 100-year Hurricane and Storm Damage Reduction measures authorized under Public Law 109-234, Emergency Supplemental Appropriations Act for Defense, the Global War on Terror, and Hurricane Recovery, 2006 (4th Supplemental). The Alternative Arrangements will allow decisions on smaller groups of proposed actions to move forward sooner than under the traditional NEPA process. An in-depth analysis and consideration of potential environmental impacts will be completed and negative environmental impacts will be addressed. Detailed information on the Alternative Arrangements can be downloaded from the USACE New Orleans District Web site at:
http://www.mvn.usace.army.mil/pd/Envir_Processes_NEPA/Index.htm.

DATES: See SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION section for meeting dates.

ADDRESSES: See SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION section for meeting addresses.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Questions concerning the emergency Alternative Arrangements should be addressed to Gib Owen at U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, PM-RS, P.O. Box 60267, New Orleans, LA 70160-0267, phone (504) 862-1337, fax number (504) 862-2088 or by e-mail at mvnenvironmentalpd@mvn02.usace.army.mil.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

The Emergency Alternative Arrangement Process: In order to meet the needs of the people of southern Louisiana in a timely manner that is appropriate to the level of imminent threat, CEMVN will comply with the NEPA by using the following emergency Alternative Arrangements.

1. CEMVN is placing this public notice of the NEPA Alternative Arrangements in the Federal Register along with a description of the proposed actions that will be analyzed in Individual Environmental Reports (IERs) and a Comprehensive Environmental Document (CED).

2. Scoping Process: a. This Federal Register notice is initiating the scoping process with a thirty-day public comment period for the IERs described in this notice. CEMVN will also host a series of public scoping meetings, followed by thirty-day comment periods, in the New Orleans metropolitan area to gather public comments on the proposed actions. Additional scoping meetings may be conducted in other locales in the United States if deemed necessary.

b. Concurrent with this Federal Register notice, CEMVN is placing public notices in broadcast media, local newspapers and a newspaper with national distribution publicizing the dates and location of the public scoping meetings, describing each proposed action that will be analyzed in the IERs, and providing thirty days for written comments to be mailed, faxed, or e-mailed to a point of contact at CEMVN. The information for each proposed action will also be mailed and e-mailed to all interested stakeholders, including state and Federal resource agencies. The Corps will make its best effort to reach the citizens of New Orleans, including, to the extent feasible, persons who have relocated to other areas. The comments received will be compiled and e-mailed to appropriate Federal and state agencies for coordination.

c. CEMVN will establish and maintain a Web page that provides details for each IER and other proposed actions being investigated or projects that are being constructed in the area by the USACE. The Web site will contain a description of the Alternative Arrangements CEMVN is following to achieve NEPA compliance. Additionally, information or links from other Federal and state agencies conducting operations in the New Orleans area will be available on this Web site. This will include, where available, links to proposed actions and ongoing environmental analyses, and references and available links to environmental analyses previously conducted in the area.

d. Interagency environmental teams are being established for each IER. Federal and state agency, local governmental and tribal staff will play an integral part in the project planning and alternative analysis. Interagency teams will be integrated with USACE Project Delivery Teams to assist in the planning of each proposed action and in the description of the potential direct and indirect impacts of each proposed action that will be used in the development of any needed mitigation plans. Team members will be provided with new information concerning the proposed action as quickly as possible in order to allow for the expedient review and analysis of each proposed action. Teams will rely heavily upon hydrologic models and the best engineering judgment of CEMVN Engineering Division staff to develop appropriate mitigation plans.

e. CEMVN will hold monthly meetings with agencies to communicate overall developments and allow for agency feedback. All proposed work would be closely coordinated with the ongoing Federal and state efforts to design a coastal restoration and protection plan.

f. CEMVN will host monthly public meetings during the preparation and completion of the IERs and CED included in these Alternative Arrangements. The monthly meetings will keep the stakeholders advised of IER and CED developments and provide the public opportunities to comment during the meetings and to submit written comments after each meeting for a 30-day period. Meetings will be advertised at least one week prior to each meeting and meeting times and locations will be selected to accommodate public availability.

3. CEMVN will actively involve the Federal and state agencies, local governments, tribes, and the public in mitigation planning for unavoidable impacts at the onset of the planning process. Quantitative analysis of the acreages, by habitat type, determined to be potentially impacted directly or indirectly by each reasonable alternative will be prepared. Proposed actions to mitigate adverse environmental effects and mitigation plans will be based upon existing methodologies utilized for water resource planning and analyzed in one or more IERs that will consider reasonable mitigation alternatives, including pooling compensatory mitigation, consistent with proposed coastal restoration initiatives. It is CEMVN's intent to implement compensatory mitigation as early as possible in the process once unavoidable impacts are determined. All mitigation activities will be consistent with standards and policies established in the Clean Water Act Section 404 and the appropriate USACE policies and regulations governing this activity.

4. Prior to any decision to proceed with proposed actions, CEMVN will complete an IER that documents the decision-making process followed by the USACE, the preferred and all other reasonable alternatives, the alternatives analyses that were performed, the direct and indirect impacts of the proposed action, an initial description of the cumulative impacts of the proposal, an initial mitigation plan, and any interim decisions made by the USACE. Each IER will identify areas where data was incomplete, unavailable, and areas of potential controversy. Alternatives analysis will be based upon a geographic segment of the area that is large enough to encompass any impacts directly and indirectly attributable to the proposed action.

5. The IERs will be posted on the USACE CEMVN Alternative NEPA Arrangement Web page for a 30-day public review and comment period. A notice of availability will be mailed/e-mailed to interested parties advising them of the availability of the IER for review in addition to placing a notice in newspapers and other media selected to reach residents of New Orleans including those who have relocated to other areas. The IERs will also be made available during the monthly public meetings.

6. Public meetings to discuss a specific IER will be held if requested by the stakeholders involved in the review process. Upon completion of the comment period, and after any meetings, an IER

addendum responding to comments received will be completed and published for a 30-day public review period. Notice will be provided in newspapers and other media, posted on the Web site, and a notice of availability mailed/e-mailed to interested parties.

No sooner than 30 days after publication of the IER addendum, or an IER in the event no comments or requests for meetings are received during the public review and comment period, the District Commander will issue a decision describing how USACE will proceed.

7. At a time when sufficient information is available from IERs analyzing proposed actions in the New Orleans area, CEMVN will produce a draft Comprehensive Environmental Document (CED). The CED will

incorporate the IERs by reference and address the work completed and the work remaining to be completed on a systemwide scale and a final mitigation plan. Updated information for any IER, or IER addendum, that had incomplete or unavailable data at the time the District Commander made a decision on how to proceed will be provided and the CED will identify any new information associated with long term operations and maintenance of the approved actions analyzed in the IERs. The CED will include a discussion of how the individual IERs are integrated into a systematic planning effort. A cumulative effects analysis will analyze any indirect impacts due to altered hydrology or induced development that resulted from the actions taken by the USACE and the relationship of the proposed actions covered in the IERs with other proposed and reasonably foreseeable proposals for hurricane protection measures located within the Lake Pontchartrain and West Bank Hurricane Project areas and proposed and reasonably foreseeable proposals for hurricane protection and coastal restoration measures identified in the Louisiana Coastal Protection and Restoration Study and the Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority of Louisiana's Master Plan. An external engineering peer review of the proposed levees and floodwalls work analyzed in the IERs will be made available as soon as practicable and no later than publication of the draft CED.

8. The draft CED will be posted on the USACE web page for a 60-day public review period. A notice of availability will be posted on the Web site and mailed/e-mailed to interested parties advising them of the availability of the draft CED for review in addition to placing a notice in newspapers and other media. Public meetings would be held during the review period if requested by the stakeholders involved in the process.

9. Upon completion of the 60-day review period, all comments will be appropriately addressed in a final CED. The final CED will be published for a 30-day public review period. Notice will be provided in newspapers and other media, posted on the Web site, and a notice of availability will be mailed/e-mailed out to interested parties.

No sooner than 30 days after publication of the final CED, the District Commander will issue a decision describing how CEMVN will proceed. This decision will be made available to stakeholders by posting it to a Web site, mailing/e-mailing notices of availability, public notices in newspapers and news releases to other media such as radio and television stations.

Description of Proposed Actions: CEMVN will analyze the proposed hurricane and storm damage reduction actions for the sub-basins within the Lake Pontchartrain and Vicinity (LPV) and West Bank and Vicinity (WBV) Hurricane Protection Project areas in a series of IERs. Each IER will identify the proposed actions and will investigate alternatives, direct, indirect, cumulative impacts, and mitigation for impacts to the human environment. Exact alignments and work to be completed will be determined as a part of the NEPA process. IERs will also be prepared for proposed borrow material and mitigation plans. Further information on the IER's can be downloaded from the USACE New Orleans District Web site at: http://www.mvn.usace.army.mil/pd/Envir_Processes_NEPA/Index.htm.

IER 1: LPV, LaBranche Wetlands Levee, St. Charles Parish, LA--Proposed action: Rebuilding of 8.7 miles of earthen levees, replacement of 6,400 linear feet of floodwalls, and fronting protection to five

existing drainage structures.

IER 2: LPV, West Return Floodwall Jefferson--St. Charles Parish, LA--Proposed action: Replacement of 17,900 linear feet of floodwalls.

IER 3: LPV, Lakefront Levee Jefferson Parish, LA--Proposed action: Rebuilding of 9.5 miles of earthen levees, upgrading foreshore protection, replacement of two floodgates, and fronting protection to four pump stations.

IER 4: LPV, New Orleans Lakefront Levee, West of Inner Harbor Navigational Canal, Orleans Parish, LA--Proposed action: Rebuilding of 4.4 miles of earthen levee, replacement of 7,600 feet of floodwalls, 16 vehicle access gates, and one sector gate.

IER 5: LPV, Outfall Canal Closure Structures, 17th Street Canal, Orleans Avenue Canal and London Avenue Canal, Orleans Parish, LA--Proposed action: Construction of pump stations and closure structures on the three outfall canals.

IER 6: LPV, Citrus Lakefront Levee, Orleans Parish, LA--Proposed action: Rebuilding of 4.1 miles of earthen levees, replacement of 10,662 linear feet of floodwalls, and four floodgates.

IER 7: LPV, New Orleans East Levee, Maxent Canal to Michoud Slip, Orleans Parish, LA--Proposed action: Rebuilding of 19.1 miles of earthen levee and replacement of three floodgates.

IER 8: LPV, Bayou Bienvenue and Bayou Dupre Control Structures, St. Bernard Parish, LA--Proposed action: Replacement of 1,000 linear feet of floodwalls and two navigable floodgates.

IER 9: LPV, Caernarvon Floodwall, St. Bernard Parish, LA--Proposed action: Replacement of two floodgates, replacement of 1,500 feet of floodwall, and possible realignment of levee.

IER 10: LPV, Chalmette Loop Levee, St. Bernard Parish, LA--Proposed action: Rebuilding of 22 miles of earthen levees and the replacement of 1,500 linear feet of floodwalls.

IER 11: LPV, Inner Harbor Navigation Canal Navigable Floodgates, Orleans and St. Bernard Parishes, LA--Proposed action: Construction of gated navigable closure structures to protect the Inner Harbor Navigation Canal.

IER 12: WBV, Harvey and Algiers Canal Levee and Floodwalls, Jefferson, Orleans, and Plaquemines Parishes, LA--Proposed action: Rebuilding of 31 miles of earthen levees, replacement of 18,800 linear feet of floodwalls, modifications to 18 existing gates, and fronting protection modifications to nine pump stations.

IER 13: WBV, Hero Canal Levee and Eastern Terminus, Plaquemines Parish, LA--Proposed action: Rebuilding of 22,000 linear feet of earthen levees and construction of 1,500 linear feet of floodwalls.

IER 14: WBV, Harvey to Westwego Levee, Jefferson Parish, LA--Proposed action: Rebuilding of 12 miles of earthen levee, construction of 7,013 linear feet of floodwalls, and modifications to three pump stations.

IER 15: WBV, Lake Cataouatche Levee, Jefferson Parish, LA--Proposed action: Rebuilding of 8 miles of earthen levee and fronting protection at one pump station.

IER 16: WBV, Western Terminus Levee, Jefferson Parish, LA--Proposed action: Construction of western terminus earthen levee section.

IER 17: WBV, Company Canal Floodwall, Jefferson Parish, LA--Proposed action: Replacement of 13,442 linear feet of floodwalls and fronting protection for two pump stations.

IER 18: Borrow, Government Furnished, Multiple sites--Proposed action: Analyze information supplied from a variety of governmental sources to determine appropriate Government Furnished borrow locations. Sources could be from sites throughout southeast Louisiana.

IER 19: Borrow, Pre-Approved Contractor Furnished, Multiple sites--Proposed action: Analyze information supplied from a variety of non-governmental sources to determine appropriate Pre-Approved Contractor Furnished borrow locations. Sources could be from sites throughout the southern United States.

IER 20: LPV, Mitigation Pool--Proposed action: Analyze alternatives to determine appropriate mitigation is implemented for unavoidable impacts to the human environment.

IER 21: WBV, Mitigation Pool--Proposed action: Analyze alternatives to determine appropriate mitigation is implemented for unavoidable impacts to the human environment.

Scoping Meeting Schedule

All nine of the meetings start at 7 p.m. and are scheduled to conclude at 9 p.m. Dates and locations of the meetings are as follows:

March 27, 2007--Lake Cataouatche Sub-Basin: Lake Cataouatche/Jefferson Parish Dougie V's Restaurant--Banquet Hall, 13899 River Road, Luling, LA

March 28, 2007--Harvey-Westwego Sub-Basin: Westwego City Council Chamber, 419 Avenue A, Westwego, LA

March 29, 2007--St. Charles Parish Sub-Basin: American Legion Hall, Post 366, 12188 River Road, St. Rose, LA

April 3, 2007--Gretna-Algiers Sub-Basin: Our Lady of Holy Cross College, 4123 Woodland Drive, New Orleans, LA

April 4, 2007--Chalmette Loop Sub-Basin: 8201 West Judge Perez Road, Chalmette, LA

April 5, 2007--Jefferson East Bank Sub-Basin: Jefferson Parish Regional Library, 4747 W. Napoleon Avenue, Metairie, LA

April 10, 2007--Belle Chasse Sub-Basin: Belle Chasse Auditorium, 8398 Highway 23, Belle Chasse, LA

April 11, 2007--New Orleans East Sub-Basin: Avalon Hotel & Conference Center, 830 Conti Street, New Orleans, LA

April 12, 2007--Orleans East Bank Sub-Basin: National WWII Museum, 945 Magazine Street, New Orleans, LA

Coordination: The USACE will continue to obtain concurrence, permits, and any other authorizations necessary to be in compliance with all other environmental laws prior to the initiation of any proposed actions. This includes, but is not limited to, complying with section 7 of the Endangered Species Act, the National Historic Preservation Act, the Clean Water Act, the Coastal Zone Management Act, and the Magnuson-Stevens Act.

Dated: March 2, 2007.
Richard P. Wagenaar,
Colonel, U.S. Army, District Commander.
[FR Doc. E7-4515 Filed 3-12-07; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3710-84-P

Roxanne Tillotson

18 May 2009

IER 13 Verbal Comments taken over the Phone

Roxanne Tillotson, [REDACTED] The floodgate is a good idea although she lives in Jesuit Bend she thinks there is a lot of misinformation (height of the floodwall, overwhelming Ollie drainage canal, induced flooding) going around about impacts that are not true. She says that if the water got to Oakville that means she would already be under water from surge/flooding and doesn't think the floodgate would cause flooding. She supports the compartmentalization approach for the upper part of the parish.

Danny Trosclair

18 May 2009

IER 13 Verbal Comments taken over the Phone

Danny Trosclair, [REDACTED] He supports the project and says that protection is more important than losing property value. He says we shouldn't marry the NOV and IER 13 projects because it would leave the whole parish open to flooding/surge. He says don't listen to the complaints of a few, help the majority of the parish that lives in the north. Take both sides into consideration. Protect Plaquemines.

Lori Trosclair

18 May 2009

IER 13 Verbal Comments taken over the Phone

Lori Trosclair, [REDACTED] A resident of Jesuit Bend, she is for the floodgate. She says we should save some of the parish now and provide protection to the south as soon as we can.

Corinne Van Dalen

50 [REDACTED]

18 May 2009

Voice-mail Comment

Hi this is Corinne Van Dalen calling from the Tulane Environmental Law Clinic. You probably don't hear this a lot but want to submit comments on behalf of Oakville Community Action Group that supports basically everything that's in the draft IER. So it's going to be short were just going to agree. But I want to make sure it gets in the record and I see that I can hit the little thing that says comment. And post my comment that way to your website I guess or maybe it's an email. Or I can mail it. But what I'm most concerned about is that it makes it into the record. And want to know if I have all of today to do it. It says that the deadline it the 18th. So in other words I may you know finish it this evening and want to know if that's ok or I know sometimes the state has a deadline of like noon or something like that. If you get a chance to call me that would be great. My number [REDACTED] Thank you.

Corinne Van Dalen, La. Bar. No. 21175
Supervising Attorney

New Orleans, LA 70118

On Behalf of Counsel for Oakville Community Action Group
18 May 2009

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, May 18, 2009 9:50 PM
To: MVN Environmental
Subject: NOLA Environmental Comment - General Comment

May 18, 2009
Via Email
Mr. Gib Owen, PM-RS
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
New Orleans District
P.O. Box 60267
New Orleans, LA 70160-0267
RE: Oakville Community Action Group Comments on IER # 13

Dear Mr. Owen:

Oakville Community Action Group agrees with and supports the proposed action evaluated by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Mississippi Valley Division, New Orleans District ("the Corps") in its draft Individual Environmental Report # 13 (IER # 13).

Oakville Community Action Group is a non-profit corporation whose members live, work, own property, recreate, and enjoy the environment in and near Oakville. The purpose of the organization is to preserve, protect, and enhance the environmental, health, and safety interests of its members, the Oakville community, and its surroundings. IER # 13 evaluates the potential impacts associated with the proposed enlargement to the Hero Canal levee, and construction of the Eastern Tie In portion of the West Bank and Vicinity, Louisiana Project. The purpose of this proposed action is to provide hurricane and storm damage risk reduction to Oakville and other communities in Plaquemines Parish. Because the proposed action directly affects Oakville, Oakville Community Action Group has actively participated in several public meetings held by the Army Corps on IER # 13 where it has voiced its concerns about various levee alignments and other project details. Oakville Community Action Group is pleased that the proposed action addresses its concerns by protecting the Oakville community without requiring the relocation of its residents and by minimizing impacts to the wetlands in the area.

Specifically, Oakville Community Action Group supports the proposed project because it protects all Oakville residents by including the entire community within the levee system, while leaving all residences and community structures in place. Oakville is a community with a strong sense of unity bound by community leaders (both civic and spiritual), familial connections, and a shared history. Freed slaves from nearby plantations founded Oakville after the abolishment of slavery. Indeed, the very same subdivision layout exists today as that which its founders designed in 1871. And, many of today's

Oakville residents can trace their ancestry to those who first lived in Oakville. Because of Oakville's history and strong community ties, Oakville Community Action Group is especially pleased that the Army Corps chose an alternative that will allow the community to remain whole and protected.

In addition, Oakville Community Action Group supports the proposed project because it minimizes wetland loss. The area to the east of Oakville is a forested swamp comprised of bottomland hardwoods that offers many benefits, some of which are wildlife habitat, storm surge buffer, and flood control. Therefore, Oakville Community Action Group supports the Army Corps decision to eliminate the alternative 3 that would have resulted in the destruction of an additional 53 acres of this valuable forested swamp.

Oakville Community Action Group thanks the Army Corps for taking its concerns into consideration and proposing a project that will enhance the future of the Oakville community.

Respectfully submitted this 18th day of May, 2009 by,

TULANE ENVIRONMENTAL LAW CLINIC

/s/

Corinne Van Dalen, La. Bar. No. 21175

Supervising Attorney

[REDACTED]

New Orleans, LA [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

On Behalf of Counsel for Oakville Community Action Group

Peggy Willy
S [REDACTED]
18 May 2009

IER 13 Verbal Comments taken over the Phone

Peggy Willy, [REDACTED]: She says that levees in south Plaquemines should be done first and made higher before any floodgate should be thought of. The gate is bad, it has to be closed ahead of time which means people have to evacuate sooner and spend more on hotels and food. Upper Belle Chasse can't handle any more water but lower Belle Chasse can handle water. If the floodgate is built it will put more water on lower Belle Chasse after flooding when they open the gate to drain. Protect the whole parish, not just the top 5th.

Peggy Willy

18 May 2009

Voicemail Comment

Hi this is Peggy Willie. I'm at 5 [REDACTED]. I was calling for information about the possible floodwall in the Jesuit bend area. If there was any new news about it or if whether ya'll were still taking comments about it. The Oakville floodgate and call me whenever you get a change that's Peggy at 504-656-2394. Thank you, bye.

Unknown

18 May 2009

From:

Sent: Monday, May 18, 2009 6:49 AM

To: MVN Environmental

Subject: NOLA Environmental Comment - Belle Chasse

Please re-look at the proposed floodwall. The front line of defense is levee protection, not a flood wall. The wall is a waste of tax payer money and the money could be used to stop the real problem of flooding, the LEVEE. No WALL , NO WAY.

Geneva P. Grille, P.E.

19 May 2009

From: Geneva Grille
To: Owen, Gib A MVN
Sent: Tue May 19 13:58:26 2009
Subject: IER #13 Comment

I can't seem to send this on the web site. Please replace my previous comment letter of 5/17/09 with the revised letter of 5/19/09; I'm sorry but I left out some words in the previous letter. Should I fax or mail in a signed copy of this letter? FYI – I sent a copy of this letter to the Congressional delegation and CRPA.

Geneva P. Grille, P.E.

GENEVA P. GRILLE, P.E.
110 NOBLE DRIVE
BELLE CHASSE, LA 70037

May 17, 2009 (revised 05/19/09)

Mr. Gib Owen
PM-RS
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
P.O. Box 60267
New Orleans, LA 70160-0267

RE: Draft Individual Environmental Report
West Bank and Vicinity
Hero Canal Levee and Eastern Terminus
Plaquemines Parish, Louisiana
IER #13

Dear Mr. Owen:

I am a resident of Belle Chasse and am very concerned with flooding from an open gap in the levee system south of Belle Chasse. This is a problem that has existed for far too long. I am also very concerned about FEMA de-certifying any levee system that doesn't meet its new base flood (100-year) levee certification guidelines by 2011. If this happened in the Belle Chasse area, I feel that it would totally devalue my property along with the entire area.

First, I want some type of acceptable 100-year closure south of Hero Canal in place to provide closure to the West Bank and Vicinity Flood Reduction System by 2011. I am a professional civil engineer, retired from DOTD, and have over 40 years experience working on flood control, drainage and highway projects in this area. I was the DOTD engineer charged with assisting the West Jefferson Levee District (WJLD) with the federalization of the West Bank Hurricane Project in 1986 and the Post Authorization Changes for East of Harvey and Lake Cataouatche Levee. Because of the magnitude of this project in three

parishes, the State of Louisiana, through DOTD, became the local funding sponsor of the project, with WJLD as the administrator.

Prior to Hurricane Katrina, the West Hurricane and Vicinity was designed by the Corps for a 300-year return frequency storm. Pre-Katrina, the area that includes Belle Chasse, English Turn and Lower Coast Algiers was a separate polder in the East of Harvey system. All that changed post-Katrina. New hydraulic models were run and the entire project was reanalyzed. The Corps design methodologies and safety factors changed and the entire system was redesigned to conform to new flood protection elevations required for 100-year levee certification for FEMA requirements in the "Risk Reduction System". Now in order to achieve this 100 year level of protection, a new sector gate and pumping station must be built in Bayou Barataria connecting the Belle Chasse Levee into the V-line Levee. This is necessary because it is not feasible to raise the levees along the Harvey and Algiers Canals high enough. Neither is the original tie into the non-federal levee in Oakville acceptable to provide the 100 year level of protection and the southern closure must be made to the Mississippi River Levee. The separate polders north and south of the Algiers Canal and west of the Harvey Canal are now all interconnected. It appears to me that failure to provide a complete 100-year system wide level of protection to this project affects the integrity of the entire project and is not just a Belle Chasse and Oakville issue. I did not see this adequately addressed in IER #13.

On May 7, 2009, I attended the 24th Annual Workshop Conference for Levee Board Commissioners and Staff in Baton Rouge, where Mr. Gary Zimmerer of FEMA gave a presentation on levee certification. This is a very hot issue in the State of Louisiana at this time and hopefully I have a misunderstanding of this issue. It is my understanding that under the present post-Katrina FEMA guidelines, if a levee system does not meet current FEMA guidelines for a 100-year flood system, it will be de-certified and removed from the D-FIRM map. Any existing properties with existing flood insurance policies would be grandfathered in with their existing flood insurance policies and rates as long as they were kept continuously in effect, but the areas would be remapped as if no levee were in place. This would essentially put previously leveed off areas into velocity zones. Any new construction would be totally incongruous with the existing development. Could this possibly be true? I believe this certification affects the entire project as a system, not only Belle Chasse in Plaquemines Parish, but also all the areas with the confines of the West Bank and Vicinity Risk Reduction Project in Orleans and Jefferson Parishes. This really needs to be addressed in the IER by the Corps so that Plaquemines Parish Government and all stakeholders can make the most informed decisions. I did not see this adequately addressed in the IER.

Sincerely,

Geneva P. Grille, P.E.

Roxanne Tillotson

19 May 2009

From: Roxanne Tillotson [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, May 19, 2009 8:16 PM
To: MVN Environmental
Subject: Please FWD to Col Alvin Lee : RE The Floodgate

Hi Mr Owen,

Can you Please forward this email , which I sent to Senators Vitter and Landrieu and also sent to Charlie Melacon To Col Alvin Lee .

Thanks

Hello

I am a resident of Jesuit Bend in Belle Chasse La . I would like to comment on the floodwall that is being proposed by the Army Corps of Engineers . Although most of my neighbors are fighting AGAINST the floodwall ,I am here to comment that I think the floodwall is a GOOD THING . I do NOT believe that this wall will cause us to flood. I will be on the south side of the wall but I understand how things work and feel confident that this floodgate will PROTECT the majority of Plaquemines parish if our levees are breached or topped. In that case we would flood ANYWAY However,the floodgate will stop the water from going into Belle Chasse where 95% of our businesses and schools are. Of course, I do not want my home to flood. But I also do NOT want to lose our entire infrastructure like much of St Bernard and Orleans parish did after hurricane Katrina. I realize that this floodwall will prevent us from losing our infrastructure in case our levees fail . I would like you to support the Army Corps of Engineers proposal FOR the floodgate at Oakville . This project is also tied in with the project to federalize the levees behind my home in Jesuit Bend. I fear that if this project is changed or delayed, so will the increased protection of lower Plaquemines Parish be delayed. Please SUPPORT the Corps in this project. Thank You.

Roxanne Tillotson

Unknown

5

19 May 2009

Voicemail Comment

Hi Mr. Owen I am calling to see if the public comment period for the floodgate at Oakville has been extended. I heard that it was extended to June 1st. But I don't know if that is just a rumor or not. So I am calling about that. And While I have your voicemail I'll go ahead and leave a comment. I'll leave my comment with Gigi on yesterday. But I just wanted to let you know. That I live in Jesuit bend and I am not against the floodgate. I do think that it is a good thing. And I think that it's something that needs to be done at that location and also possibly later on down the road another gate at the alliance would be a good idea. I do understand the reasoning behind the gate. And that if our levees are breached it will, we will flood anyway but the whole parish will not flood and I certainly do not want my home to flood but I don't think that the gate is gonna cause us to flood. And if it's something that is gonna save the parish the rest of the parish then I am in agreement with that. But if you could call me back please to let me know if the public comment period has been extended or if that is just a rumor. I would appreciate it. My number is 6 [REDACTED] Thank you bye-bye. Oh and if I don't answer there you can try my cell which is [REDACTED] thank you bye-bye.

Kevin Pedeaux

20 May 2009

From: [REDACTED] **On Behalf Of** Kevin Pedeaux
Sent: Wednesday, May 20, 2009 3:09 PM
To: MVN Environmental
Subject: IER13

Hi, I'm Kevin Pedeaux with the Plaquemines Gazette. I'm looking for your media guy, I think his name is Ken. I'm just looking for comment on the current status of IER13.

Thanks

Kevin

Bobby Wilson

[REDACTED] m|
20 May 2009

-----Original Message-----

From: Bobby Wilson [mailto:[REDACTED]]
Sent: Wednesday, May 20, 2009 9:44 PM
To: MVN Environmental
Subject: PLEASE FINISH THE EASTERN TIE-IN AS SCHEDULED!!!!
Gib

Please express to the Corp that we, the residents of Belle Chasse and English Turn, want the Corp to complete the Eastern Tie-In as planned and scheduled. We can't afford to wait beyond 2011.

Don't let the local politics get in the way of completing what the Corp is known for, providing public safety.

We need the GATE. Don't disappoint us!

An acknowledgement of this email and even the smallest hint that the Corp will not change their minds would be greatly appreciated.

Regards,
Bobby Wilson

Unknown

[REDACTED]

20 May 2009

-----Original Message-----

From: In the Bend [REDACTED]

Sent: Wednesday, May 20, 2009 5:59 AM

To: MVN Environmental

Subject: Post directed to Pete Stavros

Mr Owen,

Please see below a email/post that was posted by me to Pete Stavros on his forum about the floodgate . Please enter this as my comment re the floodgate at Oakville and please fwd to Col Lee . Thanks Jesuit Bend resident

I am a resident of Jesuit Bend. I have sat back and watched how all of this has unfolded and am very disgusted and disappointed with the amount of false information that you are putting out there. Most of you dont even know what you are fighting for!

First..When you say that the residents of Oakville were opposed to the levee .You are not telling the whole story. Did you know that the first plans were that the Corps was going to build the levee just as they are now , but instead of a floodgate , they were going to put a levee across Hwy 23 with an overpass going OVER the levee. Whether its a floodwall, or a levee , both ideas would have crossed hwy 23 to tie into the Miss river levee. The residents were opposed to the overpass over that levee for various reasons. The Corps then changed it to a floodgate across the highway instead. In my opinion this is a much better solution as this can be opened and closed when needed.

2nd... the floodgate will NOT be 16 ft tall. The land where the proposed gate sits is 5-6 feet above sea level. The floodgate will be 16 ft above sea level , therefore the floodgate will be 10- 10.5 ft high .So I think your sign needs to be changed.

Next .. I have heard that our property values are going down already because of this floodgate. That is so untrue. Property prices are going down due to the ECONOMY. Check the prices of houses in Springwood . They are SIGNIFICANTLY lower than they were 1-2 yrs ago. And they are not selling . Its the economy . I sat in the meeting and heard how a JB resident claimed that his home was put on the market at a lower price due to the floodgate. This same JB resident claimed he just found out about the floodgate 2 weeks prior , yet his home was put on the market in MARCH . How then was his home put on the market for a lesser value (his words that Bonnie Buras told him) due to the floodgate , when he just learned about the floodgate 2 weeks ago?? Hmmmmm

Now most importantly , the floodgate . I have been reading the posts by engineer Mike Scorsone and wholeheartedly agree with the design of the wall and that it will NOT "cause" us to flood. The floodgate is designed as added protection in CASE there is a levee breach , which if that were to happen , Jesuit Bend would flood ANYWAY . The floodgate would just prevent the water from spreading all the way through north Belle Chasse which would cause our entire infrastructure to be GONE . Are you guys THAT selfish to say that if *I* floodso should the rest of Belle Chasse, English Turn ect ?? Of course , like everyone else ,I do not want my home to flood . If I thought the wall would INDUCE flooding , then

I would understand the "fight". Please educate yourselves and listen to the experts (engineers) on this project . Go back and re read Mikes posts . He gave some very good analogies using the ship .

Most of the spearheads of this "fight" are not from here . I will venture to say that they do not know the waterways here . For if they did , they will KNOW that you cannot just build a levee from the North all the way to south Plaq. and that will be the solution . Sure , it sounds great , but what happens when a part of that levee fails ? What happens when a Katrina event comes a little more west and hits us directly ? Do you think that ANY levee will be high enough to protect us ? There absolutely SHOULD be stopping points at various locations to prevent TOTAL DEVASTATION . I believe that the floodgate at the proposed location is a good idea. I believe a second floodgate at Alliance should be erected .I also believe that the levees should be built up to 100 yr protection for ALL of us . I also believe that Coastal restoration is THE KEY to saving our parish. ALL of this needs to happen . But by you guys fighting for something that you dont even understand , you will ruin this for ALL of us ! Please educate yourselves and KNOW what you are fighting for ! STOP putting false information out there . This floodgate will not hurt us . Its only a added protection to prevent total devastation in a catastropic event . I am not that selfish to believe that if I flood , so should my childs school, the grocery store I visit a few times a week , the many businesses I support in this parish , the base that protects us , the church I belong to ect ect. Wake up people ! Thank You

Unknown

k

21 May 2009

-----Original Message-----

From: [REDACTED] m [ma [REDACTED]

Sent: Thursday, May 21, 2009 7:56 PM

To: MVN Environmental

Subject: NOLA Environmental Comment - Belle Chasse

Please make sure this project is completed. We need this Flood Gate to maintain the value of our property. This is going to help homes in Belle Chasse and English Turn. we definitely this project to complete our 100 year plan.

Unknown

c

21 May 2009

-----Original Message-----

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: Thursday, May 21, 2009 8:06 PM

To: MVN Environmental

Subject: NOLA Environmental Comment - General Comment

If Plaquemines Parish misses getting included with hundred year protection through IER13 now we won't see this opportunity again in our or our children's lifetimes.

Nobody wants to see lower property values and make it impossible to get Flood Insurance. By not supporting IER13 that is what we are saying we want? Are we really so ignorant?

Unknown

21 May 2009

-----Original Message-----

From:

Sent: Thursday, May 21, 2009 8:00 PM

To: MVN Environmental

Subject: NOLA Environmental Comment - General Comment

Anyone opposed to this has not read it in all its details. This is win-win for Plaquemines Parish especiaally in our current economy with the ongoing federal spending. Now is the time to get on board or we will miss out completely just as we did with Gaming. We let Mississippi beat us then. Are we going to lead in our area or allow the uninformed to mislead us?

We need IER13 and have a chance to get on board NOW!

Unknown

25 May 2009

-----Original Message-----

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, May 25, 2009 2:26 PM
To: MVN Environmental
Subject: NOLA Environmental Comment - Belle Chasse

BUILD THE FLOODGATE! Those South of the Gate have been wiped out three times in my lifetime and three times others bore the brunt of rebuilding. This is madness. And now they want to stop a floodgate protecting Belle Chasse only because they don't want anyone living on safer ground to have better protection than they have. Spite and nonsense.

Build the floodgate. Do what can be done for the lower end of the parish but not at a half million dollars or so per person down there.

And, re-flood the marsh. If not, we are ultimately doomed anyway. The Corps should stop the delaying tactics and institute massive muddy water flow into the marshes, letting it flow where it will. The Corps starved the marshes and it is immoral and dishonest not to un-do the damage the Corps has done. You need a definite change in policy.

Unknown

25 May 2009

-----Original Message-----

From:

Sent: Monday, May 25, 2009 8:06 AM

To: MVN Environmental

Subject: NOLA Environmental Comment - Belle Chasse

Not supporting IER 13 would be like allowing our child to drown without putting any rescue tools anywhere near the pool. IER 13 contains many alternatives any one of which is agreeable. No support is stupid. We MUST decide which alternative and move forward. "NO ACTION" is not an alternative.

Guerrera

LA 70037

com

28 May 2009

MAY 28, 2009
PAGE 1 OF 2

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
RE: IER-13 Project

To whom it may concern,

My husband AND I ARE VERY MUCH AGAINST THIS IER-13 flood wall. Our MAJOR CONCERNS ARE INCREASING RISK OF FLOODING, INCREASED FLOOD AND HOME INSURANCE AND DECREASING HOME VALUES.

This project is outdated AND NEEDS TO BE RECONSIDERED. THERE ARE NO LONGER PASTURELANDS AND CITRUS GROOVES, BUT PEOPLE, HOMES, BUSINESSES AND A BEAUTIFUL PROPEROUS PARISH TO PROTECT!

THE GOVERNMENT MAKES MILLIONS JUST FROM OAKVILLE TO ALLIANCE AND THERE ARE MUCH HISTORICAL VALUE FURTHER SOUTH, LIKE OAKVILLE, AND ALSO ALL THE WONDERFUL CITRUS AND CREOLE TOMATOES THAT IS PRODUCED BECAUSE OF THE SPECIAL SOIL THAT ONLY OUR PARISH HAS. WHERE WILL ALL THE PEOPLE THAT HARVEST ALL THE WONDERFUL SEAFOOD, THAT YOU EAT, BE ABLE TO LIVE!?

THERE ARE TOO MANY GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS, ALSO, AGAINST THIS FLOOD WALL, FOR ONE OF MANY, LOUISIANA STATE SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE TIM TUCKER, WHO WROTE A LETTER TO COL. AL LEE OPPOSING THIS FLOOD WALL PROJECT.

WE NEED TO GO BACK AND DO THIS PROJECT RIGHT THE FIRST TIME AND PROTECT ALL THE PEOPLE!!

CONT. →

PAGE 2

WE ALL DESERVE AND EXPECT TO BE
100 PERCENT PROTECTED!!

PLEASE WORK TO A BETTER PROJECT TO BETTER
PROTECT US ALL!! THANK YOU.

CONCERNED BELLE CHASSE RESIDENT.

JEAN GUERRERA
Frank Guerrero

JEAN & FRANK GUERRERA



Christie Lauff

28 May 2009

-----Original Message-----

From: Cmlauff [REDACTED]

Sent: Tuesday, April 28, 2009 9:37 PM

To: MVN Environmental

Subject: Re: Oakville levee/gate of the USACE Westbank & Vicinity Project

The Westbank & Vicinity Project developed by the US Army Corps of Engineers is projected to begin soon. The final day for public comment is May 4, 2009. The planning objective of the proposed action is to provide 100-year level of risk reduction to the IER #13 project area, part of the Westbank & Vicinity hurricane and storm damage risk reduction system. Reading through the report, "Areas south of the Hero Canal near the GIWW (Gulf Intracoastal Waterway) consist primarily of marsh habitat." "Adjacent areas to the south of Oakville are comprised of pasturelands and scattered citrus groves." This may have been true in 1986 when the USACE District Engineer completed a Feasibility Report and EIS entitled, "West Bank of the Mississippi River in the Vicinity of New Orleans, La." However, 2.1 miles south of the proposed levee site is 3 large subdivisions of homes, with homes distributed within this 2.1 miles. We are very concerned about the impact of this flood levee and gate to our communities, families and home and property values. We are aware of another project to raise our levees along, but are extremely concerned about our increased risk of flooding between the differing finish dates of both of these projects. For the most part, residents were unaware of this project. There have been multiple meetings but none involved Jesuit Bend and surrounding areas below "Historic Oakville." Please look at our website, www.plaquemineslevee.com <<http://www.plaquemineslevee.com/>> , for more information regarding this project and help us in any way possible to protect our homes and families. The video under the MAPS link is extremely upsetting to all who have viewed it.

The Corps of Engineers has set up a public meeting on Monday, May 4, 2009, Belle Chasse Auditorium, 8398 Highway 23, Belle Chasse, LA 70037, Open House 6:00 p.m. - Presentation 7:00 p.m. to discuss the Hurricane projects in Plaquemines Parish.

Jesuit Bend Resident,

Christie Lauff

Gerald Raynal Jr, CMSgt , LA ANG

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

28 May 2009

-----Original Message-----

From: Raynal, Gerald CMSgt USAF ANG 159 AMXS/LG [REDACTED]

Sent: Tuesday, April 28, 2009 12:12 PM

To: MVN Environmental

Subject: Plaquemines Parish Levee Proposal IER13

Mr. Owen,

My name is Gerald Raynal Jr. I reside at 150 River Bend Dr. Belle Chasse La. I am opposed to the seven current options being discussed pertaining to IER13. It is my understanding that the environmental study is based on mid 1980s data. Much has changed in the Jesuit Bend area since that time. This area has seen extensive growth during the last 25 years. I ask that the proposal include additional options which incorporate the protection of the Jesuit Bend community, the River Bend Nursing Home, and Belle Chasse Middle School.

Thank you for your time and consideration. I can be reached at [REDACTED]

Gerald Raynal Jr, CMSgt , LA ANG

[REDACTED]

Monica Senner

[REDACTED]

Belle Chasse, LA 70037

[REDACTED]

28 May 2009

To: Mr Gib Owen
504-862-2088

From: Monica Senner
[REDACTED]

Re: IER13

May 28, 2009

Mr. Gib Owen
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

Mr. Owen,

I am a resident of Jesuit Bend and I am opposed to the location of IER13 at Oakville. I drive Highway 23 daily. One of the most congested areas south of the Navy base is the area around Captain Larry's.

There are many distractions around this area. 18 wheelers, cars, trucks/SUVs pulling boats, and pedestrian traffic come in and out of their parking lot. I have personally seen cars swerve into the median or off the shoulder to avoid an accident. Unfortunately, there have been some serious accidents and even some fatalities in this area. Now they will have a floodwall near the highway to contend with.

I don't understand why you would build such a large structure straddling a busy traffic area. Will it obstruct the view we now have when traveling down Highway 23? Will we have enough time to react to a pedestrian who is obstructed from our view by this floodwall? Will it cause further congestion? What exactly are your plans?

Pedestrian traffic will continue to cross the highway. The people living across Hwy 23 from Capt. Larry's who do not have transportation have no choice but to shop there for essentials. It is their way of life. 18 wheelers will continue to park along the shoulder and use it to gain speed before they enter traffic on Hwy.23. Fishermen will continue to purchase bait and supplies for their fishing trips. They have a hard enough time maneuvering a trailer in and out of the parking lot. These are just some of the distractions already placed in this area.

I think a floodwall at this location will be a safety hazard. This alignment for IER13 needs serious reconsideration. The safety of the citizens you are trying to protect will be at a greater risk with this alignment.
Thanks, Monica Senner 115 Nancy Ct. Belle Chasse-

[REDACTED]

LA 70037

[REDACTED]

29 May 2009

Stricklin

5

P.1

CELESTE G. STRICKLIN

May 29, 2009

US Army Corps of Engineers
Attn: Gib Owen
P. O. Box 60267
New Orleans, LA 70160-0267

Dear Mr. Owen:

VIA FAX

I am a resident in Jesuit Bend and would like to express my concern for the location of the proposed floodgate in Oakville.

I am worried that if I am below this gate my insurance will be unaffordable. I will support this concern with a statement made by Julie Vignes in the January 8, 2009 meeting. She says "The Corps is authorized to build a system to be certified. If we do not get this system built and authorized it would inhibit the people from getting affordable insurance. The urgency behind the 2011 deadline is for insurance reasons. Congress appropriated the money to improve the system but it is not going to be equal to be certified for risk reduction." This is telling me that if you are not included in the 100 year protection your insurance will be unaffordable.

What about the fact that the wall will induce flooding. I saw an interview Channel 6 did about the tie in and they talked to several people about what happens. Billy Marchal an engineer with The Flood Protection Alliance said "Wherever you have a barrier, water is going to stack up against that barrier. Anybody outside of that barrier is going to be affected somewhat ..." This is telling me that we would probably have more water than if there were no wall.

At the January 8, 2009 meeting several people expressed their concerns for the proposed flood gate, many are on the record asking why the levees couldn't be raised all the way south. Has any of this been considered?

I would still like to know how such a project can go forward based on old data. Data that states everything adjacent to the wall is pasture and scattered citrus. At the time of the study this may have been correct but 20 years after the fact it is not. Not all the proper testing has been done. For this project to move forward would be criminal.

This needs to be revisited. We the people of Jesuit Bend have brought up many very good issues and I have yet to hear them be addressed. Please make the right decision.

Sincerely,

Celeste G. Stricklin

Leander H. Perez, III



31 May 2009

From: LHPerez3
To: alvin.b.lee.col@usace.army.mil
CC: gib.a.owen@usace.army.mil
Sent: 5/31/2009 4:58:24 P.M. Central Daylight Time
Subj: IER 13

Colonel Lee,

My name is Leander H. Perez, III. My wife and I reside at 11422 Highway 23, Belle Chasse, Louisiana 70037. Our property is "Ground Zero," the first piece on the south side of the proposed IER 13 alignment crossing Hwy. 23. This is the side the Corps frighteningly labels "The Flood Side."

We have attended all the public meetings hosted by the Corps. We also have listened to the public's suggestions, concerns and fears. There is not much more we could add for they are all legitimate.

At one of the hosted meetings, I recall a lady standing up and addressing the audience and the Corps saying, "When I am asked where is Plaquemines Parish, I tell them Plaquemines is south of New Orleans and is the boot that extends out into the Gulf of Mexico." She went on to say that if IER 13 alignment is implemented, years from now there will no longer be a boot and Venice would be located at Oakville.

This also hits home in a different twist. My son is a river pilot. His run is from New Orleans to Pilot Town, south of Venice, and back. If there were no longer a east or west side of Plaquemines, what would happen to shipping and other related traffic on the Mississippi River? If the river is impaired, the United States and the world will be affected.

Coastal restoration is also a vital part of the equation to protect the River and Plaquemines Parish.

I am very aware of the two projects and their differences. I know I can speak for the whole parish in asking the Corps to consider suggesting to Congress to scrape the IER 13 segment and tie the 100 Year Protection Levee into the Non-Federal Levee at Oakville and continue it to run south past the Alliance Refinery. The reasons have been stated in the past hosted meetings and numerous public correspondences with the Corps and Congress. A frightening concern I have with the Non-Federal Levee project is the following. For over a year the Parish Government and the public have been led to believe from the Corps that the Non-Federal Levee from Oakville south would be 12 to 12.5 feet high. At the last meeting in Oakville, a Corps representative stated he was not sure how high the levee would be. That led people to believe the Non-Federal Levee (Back Levee) could be much less than 12.5 feet high. This would definitely wash away the lower portion of the parish starting at Oakville.

My family has been living in Plaquemines Parish in the Oakville area and below for generations. For the past 70 years, my family has been instrumental in building this parish to where the citizens still say, "This is God's country and I am proud to live here."

Colonel Lee, you and the Corps' representatives have heard and seen this first hand. Please help our citizens to continue their proud heritage and convince Congress to scrape IER 13 and run the 100 Year Protection Levee further south of Oakville.

It is difficult to express to you my heritage and family's history in a short letter. Kindly do not let their hard work and dedication go to waste.

Please help me and our citizens in protecting our future existence and convince Congress to implement an alternative solution than IER 13.

Thank you for your time and understanding.

Leander H. Perez, III

Sydney Perez

[REDACTED]

31 May 2009

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Sunday, May 31, 2009 9:32 PM
To: Lee, Alvin B COL MVN
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Flood Wall at Oakville

Dear Colonel Lee,

My name is Sydney Perez and I am a resident of Plaquemines Parish.

After attending all of the Corps meetings in regards to IER 13, we are both well aware of how the residents of Plaquemines Parish feel about this issue. Plaquemines Parish is a key element not only to Louisiana but to the entire United States. As a citizen, I plead to you, the Corps, and the Congress of our great Nation to keep us from disappearing. The impact of knowing in advance we will lose our homes is devastating, and there is nothing we can do to stop it.

I realize Congress made this decision but you are the sole man in charge who can do something about changing it. Please do whatever you can to help the residents of Plaquemines Parish.

Thank you kindly,

Sydney Perez

Jeffrey Robichaux

31 May 2009

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Sunday, May 31, 2009 8:18 AM
To: MVN Environmental
Subject: IER 13

I agree with Congressman Charles Melancon in that "We need to do this right the first time and find a solution that will provide the highest level of protection to the greatest number of people possible, without causing further delays and obstacles."

Please afford all of Plaquemines this increased level of storm protection. The plan as it is currently proposed segregates Belle Chasse as well as Plaquemines Parish.

Dionne & Armand Daigle

1 June 2009

-----Original Message-----

From: Dionne Daigle [mailto: [REDACTED]]
Sent: Monday, June 01, 2009 9:52 PM
To: MVN Environmental
Subject: FLOODGATE

We would appreciate it if you would consider tying in the Hero Canal levees with the levees south of Oakville (New Orleans to Venice project) to give 100-year protection for everyone, eliminating the need for the floodgate at Oakville. Below seems to say that it is possible to make changes to the projects. Thanks for your consideration.

From the Summary of the Louisiana Coastal Protection and Restoration (LACPR) Technical Report (March 09 DRAFT, page 31): To the extent possible, a comprehensive plan for coastal protection and restoration should be implemented through coordinated use of existing authorities. In some cases, the authorities will need to be modified to ensure consistency among similar projects and across the coast. Additionally, since the success of plan development depends on the ability to compare like metrics among individual projects, and some existing authorities' do not afford the ability to conduct investigations to inform those metrics under normal policy (which in many cases uses dollars as the only metric), it therefore may be necessary to modify the authority to allow multi-criteria evaluation similar to LACPR.

In general, if authorization exists, the USACE is allowed implementation of the recommended plan with such modifications as the Chief of Engineers may deem advisable in the interest of the purposes specified.

Procedures for adoption of proposed project changes differ depending on whether they may be approved by the Chief of Engineers using such delegated discretionary authority or must be submitted to Congress for consideration and legislative modification of the existing authorization.

Where proposed changes are significant, they must be documented in a Post Authorization Change Report submitted to USACE Headquarters coupled with supplemental environmental documentation to address any changes in impacts, expansion of the impact area, and consideration of cumulative effects. If it is determined after review that the proposed changes are not within delegated authority but are of sufficient importance to warrant a recommendation for modification of the project authorization, procedures and further reporting requirements for processing such a recommendation to the Congress would be selected as best suits that specific case.

The basis for the possible use of an existing authority seems appropriate whenever there are proposed LACPR features such as levees and/or control structures that are common to plan features outlined in the existing project authority or there is a shared goal under the authority and the LACPR plans to provide risk reduction to an area. The authorities listed below correspond to alternatives in the final array that could be employed to implement those alternatives through the Post Authorization Change report process:

Flood control projects:

- Pearl River Basin, St. Tammany Parish
- Mississippi River and Tributaries
- Atchafalaya Basin
- Southeast Louisiana Urban Flood Control

Hurricane and storm surge risk reduction projects:

- Lake Pontchartrain and Vicinity
- West Bank and Vicinity

- New Orleans to Venice
- Grand Isle and Vicinity
- Larose to Golden Meadow
- Morganza to the Gulf of Mexico
- Morgan City and Vicinity

Coastal restoration projects:

- Louisiana Coastal Area
- Coastal Wetlands Planning, Protection and Restoration Act

Studies:

- Donaldsonville to the Gulf (multi-purpose)
- Southwest Coastal Louisiana Feasibility Study (multi-purpose)
- West Shore Lake Pontchartrain Study (flood control, hurricane risk reduction)
- Lower Atchafalaya Basin Reevaluation Study (hurricane risk reduction)
- Louisiana Coastal Area Comprehensive Plan (coastal restoration)

A comprehensive review of all existing authorities will be needed to determine the applicability of each authority to investigating LACPR planning objectives. In view of the age of many of the authorities, it will be necessary to reexamine the objectives of the authorities and evaluate how well the supporting designs accomplish those objectives when analyzed using the latest available engineering technologies and statistical results.

Dionne & Armand Daigle

Edmond H. Fitzmaurice, III
Trustee, CKCC Trusts

1 June 2009

From: ehfiii@aol.com
To: Lee, Alvin B COL MVN
Sent: Mon Jun 01 14:31:11 2009
Subject: IER 13 Alignment

Dear Colonel Lee,

I am the trustee of the CKCC Trusts which own a portion of Live Oak Plantation. This portion is 4 arpents in width by 40 arpents in depth fronting Highway 23, immediately south of that property owned by Patrick Becnel. This property is located in Section 1: *Hero to La Reussite* in the Plaquemines Parish Non-Federal Levee proposals.

In my view, your project should certainly extend south past the Alliance Refinery.

When this project was envisioned the demographics of the area were inadequately described. Today, the data is completely outdated. Many of the farmlands and citrus orchards have been replaced by subdivisions and expensive homes. The effects of urban sprawl have come to Plaquemines Parish.

Were you to attempt to protect what was intended to be protected when this project was envisioned many years ago, you would include all of the developments upriver from, and including, the Alliance Refinery. Just because a project seemed to make sense many years ago does not mean that it makes sense today.

I have heard you say on television that this proposal is not a "done deal." Please consider my views in reaching your decision.

Very Truly Yours,


Edmond H. Fitzmaurice, III
Trustee, CKCC Trusts

Nadine Parker



1 June 2009

-----Original Message-----

From: Nadine Parker [mailto:
Sent: Monday, June 01, 2009 7:31 PM
To: MVN Environmental
Subject: Project IER 13 - Oakville Floodgate

I am writing regarding the Army Corp of Engineers' proposal to build a floodgate south of Oakville, LA as part of Project IER13.

I have many concerns to include potential increased risk of flooding & cost of insurance. However, I am most concerned with the very real fact that Hwy 23 provides the only way in and out of Plaquemines Parish south of the proposed floodgate. Traffic will be directed to go around the floodgate via a route which utilizes the Mississippi River Levee. Not only will this impair the flow of traffic for evacuees, it will also inhibit the ability for emergency vehicles to pass. I am concerned if saturated, the Mississippi River Levee, will not be able to withstand this type of stress, therefore impacting the safety of the citizens of Plaquemines Parish.

I would appreciate a response to let me know how this issue will be addressed within the project.

Thank you,
Nadine Parker



Belle Chasse, LA 70037



Sydney Perez
1 June 2009

From: SYD PEREZ
To: Lee, Alvin B COL MVN
Sent: Mon Jun 01 10:50:36 2009
Subject: Fwd: Flood Wall at Oakville

Dear Colonel Lee,

My name is Sydney Perez and I am a resident of Plaquemines Parish.

After attending all of the Corps meetings in regards to IER 13, we are both well aware of how the residents of Plaquemines Parish feel about this issue. Plaquemines Parish is a key element not only to Louisiana but to the entire United States. As a citizen, I plead to you, the Corps, and the Congress of our great Nation to keep us from disappearing. The impact of knowing in advance we will lose our homes is devastating, and there is nothing we can do to stop it.

I realize Congress made this decision but you are the sole man in charge who can do something about changing it. Please do whatever you can to help the residents of Plaquemines Parish.

Thank you kindly,

Sydney Perez

Gerald Raynal Jr

g

1 June 2009

-----Original Message-----

From: gerald raynal

Sent: Monday, June 01, 2009 5:53 PM

To: MVN Environmental

Subject: IER 13

To whom it may concern<

Please reconsider IER 13 to encompass all levees between Oakville and Venice. It appears that ther
USACOE has the option to change course from the dated study data to provide 100 yr flood protection to
include all westbank Plaquemeines Parish residents.

Thanks for your time and consideration

Gerald Raynal Jr

Peter Stavros

1 June 2009

-----Original Message-----

From: Stavros [mailto:████████████████████]
Sent: Monday, June 01, 2009 11:41 PM
To: 'Stavros'; MVN Environmental
Cc: Holder, Ken MVN; Owen, Gib A MVN
Subject: SUBSTANTIVE COMMENTS on IER13
Mr. Owen,

Here are several new comments on IER13.
I am asking for your full consideration of my claims/statements.
Could you please reply to this email to acknowledge receipt?

Respectfully,

Pete Stavros
████████████████████

1 Jun 09

Col Lee,
Here are three comments on IER13 that I feel are substantive, and warrant thorough consideration.

Respectfully submitted,

Pete Stavros
████████████████████

(1) The IER is incomplete and does not analyze the environment affected by the project. Specifically, no effects of the project and the ENTIRE Greater New Orleans HSDRRS, have been addressed concerning the environment (and the inadequate levees which protects it) immediately south of Hero Canal Levee. This is not in keeping with the Alternative Arrangements for the IER process, which is designed to protect us, not force a project through without consideration.

From the alternative arrangements for the IER PROCESS:

"The Emergency Alternative Arrangement Process: In order to meet the needs of the people of southern Louisiana in a timely manner that is appropriate to the level of imminent threat, CEMVN will comply with the NEPA by using the following emergency Alternative Arrangements....

4. Prior to any decision to proceed with proposed actions, CEMVN will complete an IER that documents the decision-making process followed by the USACE, the preferred and all other reasonable alternatives, the alternatives analyses that were performed, the direct and indirect

impacts of the proposed action, an initial description of the cumulative impacts of the proposal, an initial mitigation plan, and any interim decisions made by the USACE. **Each IER will identify areas where data was incomplete, unavailable, and areas of potential controversy. Alternatives analysis will be based upon a geographic segment of the area that is large enough to encompass any impacts directly and indirectly attributable to the proposed action."**

REFERENCE: FR Doc E7-4515

[Federal Register: March 13, 2007 (Volume 72, Number 48)]

[Notices]

[Page 11337-11340]

From the Federal Register Online via GPO Access [wais.access.gpo.gov]

[DOCID:fr13mr07-28]

(2) The induced flood risk is not addressed in IER13. Verbally hydrologists acknowledge that there will be a 2-3 inch static water rise, but full storm surge modeling would indicate that wind pressure against the HSDRRS levee system will increase the risk of water topping of the levees south of Oakville.

ADCIRC (ADvanced CIRCulation) modeling of the entire system of hurricane protection, as shown in the Louisiana Coastal Protection and Restoration (LACPR) Technical Report (March 2009), indicate that storm surge will be higher along the proposed IER13 project than if the system was not in place. [See Louisiana Coastal Protection And Restoration Technical Report Evaluation Results Appendix, Planning Unit 2, pages 17-19]

(3) The environment has changed over the lifetime of this authority. Modification of the Authority is needed to maintain consistency of these projects across the coast. Recommend POST-AUTHORIZATION CHANGE REPORT be submitted.

"Existing USACE Authorities Available to Support Implementation

The USACE does not envision the need for a new, broad authority to implement the alternatives contained in this report. To the extent possible, a comprehensive plan for coastal protection and restoration should be implemented through coordinated use of existing authorities. In some cases, the authorities will need to be modified to ensure consistency among similar projects and across the coast. Additionally, since the success of plan development depends on the ability to compare like metrics among individual projects, and some existing authorities' do not afford the ability to conduct investigations to inform those metrics under normal policy (which in many cases uses dollars as the only metric), it therefore may be necessary to modify the authority to allow multi-criteria evaluation similar to LACPR.

In general, if authorization exists, the USACE is allowed implementation of the recommended plan with such modifications as the Chief of Engineers may deem advisable in the interest of the purposes specified. Procedures for adoption of proposed project changes differ depending on whether they may be approved by the Chief of Engineers using such delegated discretionary authority or must be submitted to Congress for consideration and legislative modification of the existing authorization. Where proposed changes are significant, they must be documented in a Post Authorization Change Report submitted to USACE Headquarters coupled with supplemental environmental documentation to address any changes in impacts, expansion of the impact area, and consideration of cumulative effects. If it is determined after review that the proposed changes are not within delegated authority but are of sufficient importance to warrant a recommendation for modification of the project authorization, procedures and further reporting requirements for processing such a recommendation to the Congress would be selected as best suits that specific case. The basis for the possible use of an existing authority seems appropriate whenever there are proposed LACPR features such as levees and/or control structures that are common to plan features outlined in the existing project authority or there is a shared goal under the authority and

the LACPR plans to provide risk reduction to an area." (LACPR Draft Summary Report, Mar 09, p 31)


"A comprehensive review of all existing authorities will be needed to determine the applicability of each authority to investigating LACPR planning objectives. **In view of the age of many of the authorities,** it will be necessary to reexamine the objectives of the authorities and evaluate how well the supporting designs accomplish those objectives when analyzed using the latest available engineering technologies and statistical results." (LACPR Draft Summary Report, Mar 09, p 32)

Celeste G. Stricklin

Belle Chasse, LA 70037

1 June 2009

-----Original Message-----

From: Celeste G. Stricklin [mailto:
Sent: Monday, June 01, 2009 4:56 PM
To: MVN Environmental
Subject: letter to the Army Corps-5-29-09

celeste g. stricklin


Belle Chasse, LA 70037


May 29, 2009

US Army Corps of Engineers
Attn: Gib Owen
P. O. Box 60267
New Orleans, LA 70160-0267

Dear Mr. Owen:

I am a resident in Jesuit Bend and would like to express my concern for the location of the proposed floodgate in Oakville.

I am worried that if I am below this gate my insurance will be unaffordable. I will support this concern with a statement made by Julie Vignes in the January 8, 2009 meeting. She says "The Corps is authorized to build a system to be certified. If we do not get this system built and authorized it would inhibit the people from getting affordable insurance. The urgency behind the 2011 deadline is for insurance reasons. Congress appropriated the money to improve the system but it is not going to be equal to be certified for risk reduction." This is telling me that if you are not included in the 100 year protection your insurance will be unaffordable.

What about the fact that the wall will induce flooding. I saw an interview Channel 6 did about the tie in and they talked to several people about what happens. Billy Marchal an engineer with The Flood Protection Alliance said "Wherever you have a barrier, water is going to stack up against that barrier. Anybody outside of that barrier is going to be affected somewhat ..." This is telling me that we would probably have more water than if there were no wall.

At the January 8, 2009 meeting several people expressed their concerns for the proposed flood gate, many are on the record asking why the levees couldn't be raised all the way south. Has any of this been considered?

I would still like to know how such a project can go forward based on old data. Data that states everything adjacent to the wall is pasture and scattered citrus. At the time of the study this may have been correct but 20 years after the fact it is not. Not all the proper testing has been done. For this project to move forward would be criminal.

This needs to be revisited. We the people of Jesuit Bend have brought up many very good issues and I have yet to hear them be addressed. Please make the right decision.

Sincerely,

Celeste G. Stricklin

Chris Arbourgh

Jesuit Bend, LA

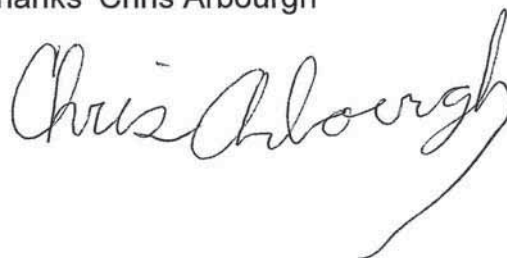
Hi my name is Chris Arbourgh I live at [REDACTED] in Jesuit Bend. After Katrina we were asked to come back rebuild and invest in our community and my family did without hesitation. If I would have been told to come back to pay these ridiculously high insurance premiums, be divided from the rest of my family and community by a 16 foot high wall and watch my property values get slashed I am not sure I would have returned. With that being said I would like to go on record that I am for the improvement of our levees but against the proposed location of the flood gate in Oakville.

First I would like to know if a study has been done to show the effects your project will have on the Ollie canal drainage system. Currently the North side does not drain into our drainage system. What's going to happen when you pump the water over the wall to Ollie canal a system already at capacity?

Second I would like to know if a proper study has been completed on the effects your floodgate will have on the safety of Hwy. 23 an already dangerous and congested area. I had a family member killed their in an accident when a vehicle towing a boat pulled out of Capt. Larry's parking lot. Also I personally on two occasions had to drive off the highway onto the neutral ground to avoid an accident. Once to avoid a child and dog crossing the highway to go to the store and another time to miss a beer truck pulling out of Capt. Larry's parking lot. Thank God a floodgate was not their either time. Or maybe I would not be talking to you tonight. Your proposed location is highly congested, poorly lit, has a lot of pedestrian traffic crossing from one side of the highway to the other, and prone to heavy fog. A floodgate across Hwy. 23 at Oakville is not safe and asking for trouble.

Last I would like you to extend the public comment period. Our representatives have not had time to review our request and I do not feel you have satisfactory answered all off our questions. With a potential to affect so many families there is no reason why any reasonable person would not extend it.

Thanks' Chris Arbourgh

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Chris Arbourgh". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long, sweeping underline that extends to the right.

Nicholas Arbourgh

[REDACTED]

Belle Chase, LA 70037

[REDACTED]

NICHOLAS ARBOURGH
[REDACTED]
BELLE CHASSE, LA 70037
[REDACTED]

HELLO, MY NAME IS NICHOLAS ARBOURGH, AND I LIVE AT [REDACTED] IN JESUIT BEND. I AM A STUDENT AT BELLE CHASSE MIDDLE SCHOOL, WHICH IS THE ONLY ONE OF THREE BELLE CHASSE PUBLIC SCHOOLS BEING LEFT OUT OF THE 100 YEAR PROTECTION.

FOR THE RECORD, I AM FOR THE IMPROVEMENT OF OUR LEVEES, BUT AGAINST THE PROPOSED LOCATION OF THE FLOOD GATE. ALL LAST WEEK AFTER I COMPLETED MY HOMEWORK, I READ THROUGH THE 100 PLUS PAGES OF THE IER #13 AND ALSO DID RESEARCH ON THE INTERNET. I AM ONLY 14 YRS OLD AND I FEEL *that* IT IS A SHAME THAT I CAN SEE THAT THERE ARE BETTER ALTERNATIVES THAN WHAT IS BEING PROPOSED THAT WOULD EFFECT LESS FAMILIES IN MY COMMUNITY.

THANK YOU.

Mrs. A.W. Austin

Belle Chase, LA 70037

Individual Environmental Report
Public Comment

Comments: Before the decision to put up a flood gate, did you consider the children of the parish? How do you think they will feel being on the wrong side of the wall? It's morally wrong to put a child in that position. What about their self esteem and their well being? When children lose stability and consistency in their lives it spells TROUBLE. It also creates mental anguish for the parents and grandparents who are devoted to their families. What if they were YOUR children? Please give all the children the same protection. NO FLOOD GATE but better levee protection!

Name Mrs. A.W. Austin (Cindy) Affiliation _____

Environmental Documents Available at www.nolaenvironmental.gov

Andrew P. Boudreaux

Individual Environmental Report
Public Comment

Comments: I am Against Flood Wall. My Request is to move Flood Gate South of
Hera Canal use Hera Canals Gate Harbor for Boats During Storm. My Second Request
is to Put Flood levee Across Road, put road over levee like in Diamond LA.
My Third Request is to Move Flood Levee South of Tronton LA. That
is The Only Road Hwy 23 That Floods for High water

My Work is in the newer end of Parish for last Hurricane
Gustave + Ike Water was over Road for Weeks Many Companies
and Workers, Had to relocate to other States, and have
not Came Back to Plaquemines, [Live with Flood levee, Not Floodwall]

Name Andrew P. Boudreaux Affiliation Life long Resident

Melinda Boudreaux

Julie Vignes has no clue. Do a study. Have her read up on it,
Stop misleading our people and our youth. listen to us.

Individual Environmental Report
Public Comment

Comments: "Congress Intent" would be different if they knew # of
residents, elderly, public school, & refinery are where they think citrus trees
& cows exists
Economic impact study should be mandatory. We need flooding impact study.
Include 7 more miles of levee now; more cost effective, reduces
future flooding of homes, nursing home, refinery, & public school
& businesses & churches. No guarantee that non-federal levee will be built
1996 Act was amended - this can be too; Put NEPA to work on this!
Feedback from Jan 8th meeting resulted in change, this can too
Upcoming meeting dates do not include non-federal levee; no wall until
non-federal levees are raised or compensation for property values going
down & buyouts.

Name Melinda Boudreaux

Affiliation Resident

Dana Castoe



Individual Environmental Report
Public Comment

Comments: 1 If a flood gate were put into
effect, who would be in control
of opening or closing it
Parish - State - Fed - etc

Name Dana Castoe Affiliation

Street

City, St 2

E-mail

www.nolaenvironmental.gov

Liz Jackson



Dear Sirs,

I attended the May 4th Public Comment Meeting in Belle Chasse regarding IER13. I understand that the hurricane protection levee is important and required by Congress. I would only ask that you seriously consider alternatives to the proposed floodwall at Oakville. Having worked as a Major Projects Manager for 20 years, it is painfully obvious that IER13 is being mismanaged. Local citizens have presented what appears to be a viable option of tying the levee into the Mississippi river system near Alliance. The project managers could not comment on this alternative. Not only did they not have a cost estimate for the Oakville tie-in, but it appears that they haven't even considered the Alliance tie-in. I ask that you consider Benny Rouselle's proposal, submitted at the meeting, in lieu of the Oakville tie-in. In addition, Col Lee should not finalize any decision on this project until his engineers have given him a competent cost analysis of both options.

Liz Jackson



Springfield, VA 22153
UNITED STATES

Parishes: Plaquemines

Type: Notice of Availability

Specific notice type(s): Environmental Assessments, Alternative NEPA Arrangements, Environmental Impact Statements, Public Notice

Email notification: Yes



Wendy W. Keating

Belle Chase,

I am a very concerned resident of Jesuit Bend, Louisiana regarding this IER13 Project. From all the information I have received from elected officials, reports and research, this FLOOD GATE is not in the best interest of the Plaquemine Parish residents especially those that reside SOUTH of that flood gate including myself. Furthermore, this will cause an economic loss to the State of Louisiana.

The basis of this project is from twenty (20) year old data. The COE confirmed in the report that their study finds only pastures and farm land one mile south of the potential gate site. THIS IS ABSOLUTELY FALSE!!!! If the COE would have completed their impact study, you would have found that just 1.5 miles south in Jesuit Bend and the surrounding areas there are approximately 4278 people that will be affected both financially and psychologically. Our community also consists of Belle Chasse Public Middle School, Scottville Fire House, Riverbend Nursing Home, churches, Enbridge Compressor Station, Alliance/ConocoPhillips Refinery that produces 25% of the nation's jet fuel, 75-80% of Plaquemines citrus industry which produces 16-20 million dollars to the local and state economies and, farming crops, agricultural land, gas stations and convenient stores. This information was given to me by Councilman, Anthony Buras (District 5) and I would like you to enter this document* as evidence.

This flood gate will negatively impact our property values. Who will want to drive over a sixteen foot flood gate to get to their home? Tax Assessor, Robert Gravolet has detailed that the TOTAL IMPROVEMENT FAIR MARKET VALUE of all residences, residential structures, trailer, trailer improvements, commercial buildings from Oakville to Alliance/ConocoPhillips including Alliance/ConocoPhillips Refinery, Enbridge Compressor Station, Belle Chasse Middle School and the Scottville Fire House exceeds over \$862,000,000. I would like to enter this document** into evidence as well.

Another concern that the property owners SOUTH of Oakville have is the future availability of Flood and Homeowner Insurance and the cost of such insurance once this gate is built. Where in the Individual Environmental Report #13 did you address the OTHER SIGNIFICANT EFFECTS (OES) specific to induced flood damages and higher insurance costs of unprotected areas?

At the last public meeting held in Oakville, we were told by the FEMA representative that our flood insurance would not be affected. He further added that once OUR LEVEES are raised, our rates **should** go down. In my 25 + years in the insurance industry, I cannot recall a situation where "community rates" in a coastal area were REDUCED. If anything rates continue to increase far above inflation. Just since KATRINA, NFIP raised their rates; May 2006, May 2007 and May 2008 in certain zones. AND GUESS WHAT, I have confirmed that there will be another rate increase Oct 2009!!!! Granted, maybe not all of us were affected by these rate increases every time, but the fact remains that rates were increased!

Under the NFIP **current rules**, if your property is located in a B, C, or X zone and you are insured under the Preferred Risk Policy (PRP) and the property suffers 2 or more losses that paid out over \$1000 each within a 10 year period, regardless of ownership you

will no longer qualify for the PRP. This means that YOUR RATES WILL INCREASE. Another fact regarding flood insurance is that within a ten year period if your property suffers 4 or more separate claim payments of \$5,000 each (including building and content payments) or 2 or more separate claim payments (building payments only) where the total of the payments exceeds the current value of the property, you will no longer qualify for the standard flood program. You will be put into the SEVERE REPETITIVE LOSS PROGRAM. Again, these rates will be much higher than the standard rates.

A concerned resident asked at the last public meeting about FEMA assistance. Well, let me just share this information, yes FEMA may come in after a natural disaster and possibly provide you with financial assistance, but in order to receive this assistance, you must agree to purchase flood and or hazard insurance. This also is true for SBA loans.

The FEMA representative from the last meeting mentioned to the same resident that her flood policy provides an ICC (Increased Cost Compliance) endorsement. Did you realize that under the current guidelines, this amount is only for \$30,000 to bring a flood-damaged, insured building into compliance with state or local floodplain management laws or ordinances. CAN YOU GUARANTEE US THAT \$30,000 WILL BE ENOUGH TO ACCOMPLISH THIS? I think not!

Currently, NFIP guidelines allow for zones to be grandfathered and policies to be assigned to new buyers but keep in mind that since NFIP is run by the government, ^{and they} can change the rules INCLUDING THE GRANDFATHER RULES AT ANYTIME!!! CAN YOU GUARANTEE US THAT THE CURRENT RULES AND RATES WILL REMAIN FOREVER? I didn't think so.

Can you guarantee us in writing that once this flood gate goes up; our local floodplain management people will not change our flood zones, rates and grandfather rules. I didn't think so, **therefore, I am very concerned about the availability and/or the affordability of FLOOD INSURANCE in the future!!!**

I would like to submit documents*** from NFIP's flood manual as evidence to support my findings.

NOW LETS ADDRESS HOMEOWNER INSURANCE: Since Katrina, some insurance companies have ceased writing Homeowner insurance or even cancelled Homeowner insurance based on current risk factors that include but are not limited to major waterways and levee protection. Some companies have also set new guidelines not to insure new properties located less than a mile from a major waterway. Who can guarantee us that once this Flood Gate is built, insurance companies WILL NOT RAISE OUR RATES OR NON-RENEW OUR POLICIES based on the new risk factors. NO ONE CAN!!!!!! Sure, if we lose our major insurance company, we can always turn to LA CITIZENS FAIR PLAN for insurance. But let me assure you, these rates are between 30-40% higher than the normal market. And if a company decides after this flood gate goes up, that everyone SOUTH is considered COASTAL, then our rates could

increase even higher. Remember an insurance company is a BUSINESS and like any business wants to turn a profit.

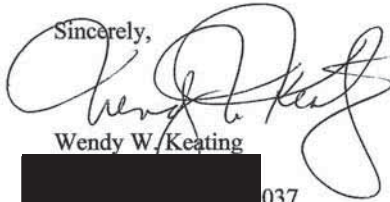
No one can predict the future.....not even the government. Look at the situation we are currently in with all the BAILOUT MONIES!! Would we have ever guessed we would be bailing out banks, car factories, and insurance companies?

I am not opposed to the elevation of the levee system, but we DO NOT NEED A FLOOD GATE DIVIDING OUR PARISH!!!

PLEASE SAVE OUR COMMUNITY AND DO NOT PUT UP A FLOOD GATE!!!!

THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME!

Sincerely,



Wendy W. Keating

037

/wwk

Encls: DOC 1: Email from Anthony Buras*
DOC 2: Letter from Robert Gravolet**
DOC 3: Three pages from NFIP Manual***

Wendy W Keating

Document #1

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, May 02, 2009 10:40 AM
To: Wendy W Keating
Subject: FW: alliance/oakville
Attachments: Public.doc

Wendy,

The attachment is information I received from Bobby Gravolet late yesterday afternoon. I believe it contains everything you are looking for. I also compiled the following that I think may help.

actual retail businesses in area we believe to be 5

citrus industry 25-30 growers/nursery (families)
16-20 million dollars per year economic impact
75-80% of Pla. citrus industry in this area

population yr 2000 3,059 March 08 est. 4,278

If you need anything else, please let me know.

Anthony Buras

----- Forwarded Message: -----
From: [REDACTED]
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: FW: alliance/oakville
Date: Fri, 01 May 2009 21:34:43 +0000

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, May 01, 2009 4:31 PM
To: Lois LeJeune
Subject: alliance/oakville

Lois
Attached is the information you requested
Ann Fox

5/4/2009

Document # 2

May 4, 2009

To Whom It May Concern:

The following is a summary count and value of residential structures, additions, commercial, industrial and public improvements from Oakville to Alliance. The values listed are expressed in both assessed and fair market value. (see attached for more detail)

Residences & Residential structures

Count	Assessed Value	Fair Market Value
857	8,516,916	85,169,150

Trailers & Trailer improvements

Count	Assessed Value	Fair Market Value
232	301,525	3,015,250

Commercial Bldgs

Count	Assessed Value	Fair Market Value
24	678,865	4,525,767

Alliance/Conocophillips Refinery

AV = 112,547,540

FMV = 750,316,933

Enbridge Compressor Station

AV = 1,680,140

FMV = 6,720,056

Belle Chasse Middle School

FMV = 11,020,586

Scottville Fire House

FMV = 1,250,000

Total Improvement Fair Market Value

Oakville to Alliance, Plaquemines Parish, LA

\$ 862,018,246

Robert R. Gravolet, CLA

Assessor

Plaquemines Parish

Sources: Plaquemines Parish Assessor; Plaquemines Parish School Board, Plaquemines Parish Government

P:\ppadoc\apf09doc\Public

Document # 3

Pg 1 of 3

PREFERRED RISK POLICY

I. GENERAL DESCRIPTION

The Preferred Risk Policy (PRP) offers low-cost coverage to owners and tenants of eligible buildings located in the moderate-risk **B, C, and X Zones** in NFIP Regular Program communities.

For residential properties, the maximum coverage combination is \$250,000 building and \$100,000 contents. Up to \$100,000 contents-only coverage is available.

For non-residential properties, the maximum coverage combination is \$500,000 building and \$500,000 contents. Up to \$500,000 contents-only coverage is available.

Only one building can be insured per policy, and only one policy can be written on each building.

II. ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

A. Flood Zone

To be eligible for building/contents coverage or contents-only coverage under the PRP, the building must be in a B, C, or X Zone on the effective date of the policy. However, for the purpose of determining the flood zone, the agent may use the FIRM in effect at the time of application and presentment of premium. The flood map available at the time of the renewal offer determines a building's continued eligibility for the PRP. (See V. RENEWAL.) NFIP map grandfathering rules do not apply to the PRP.

B. Occupancy

Combined building/contents amounts of insurance are available for owners of all eligible occupancy types—one- to four-family properties (including individual condominium units in

condominium buildings), other residential properties, and non-residential properties.

Contents-only coverage is available for tenants and owners of all eligible occupancies, except when contents are located entirely in a basement.

C. Loss History

A building's eligibility for the PRP is based on the preceding requirements and on the building's flood loss history. If one of the following conditions exists within any 10-year period, regardless of any change(s) in ownership of the building, then the building is **not eligible** for the PRP:

- 2 flood insurance claim payments, each more than \$1,000; or
- 3 or more flood insurance claim payments, regardless of amount; or
- 2 Federal flood disaster relief payments (including loans and grants), each more than \$1,000; or
- 3 Federal flood disaster relief payments (including loans and grants), regardless of amount; or
- 1 flood insurance claim payment and 1 Federal flood disaster relief payment (including loans and grants), each more than \$1,000.

In reviewing a building's flood loss history for PRP eligibility, be aware that:

- A flood insurance claim payment (building and/or contents) and a Federal flood disaster relief payment (including loans and grants) for the same loss are considered a single payment.
- Federal flood disaster relief payments (including loans and grants) are considered only if the building sustained flood damage.

THE PRP AT A GLANCE

COVERAGE TYPE	MAXIMUM LIMITS BY OCCUPANCY TYPE		
	1-4 Family	Other Residential	Non-Residential
Combined Building/ Contents	\$250,000/ \$100,000	\$250,000/ \$100,000	\$500,000/ \$500,000
Contents Only	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$500,000

Page 2 of 3

GUIDANCE FOR SEVERE REPETITIVE LOSS PROPERTIES

I. GENERAL DESCRIPTION

The primary objective of the severe repetitive loss (SRL) properties strategy is to eliminate or reduce the damage to property and the disruption to life caused by repeated flooding. Approximately 8,000 insured properties have been identified with a high frequency of losses or a high value of claims. As these policies come up for renewal, they will be transferred to the NFIP Servicing Agent's Special Direct Facility (SDF).

The close supervision the SDF provides the group of policies, and the attention the group of properties receives when mitigation decisions are made, contribute to attaining the strategy's primary objective. The SRL group consists of any NFIP-insured residential property that has met at least one of the following paid flood loss criteria since 1978, regardless of ownership:

1. Four or more separate claim payments of more than \$5,000 each (including building and contents payments); or
2. Two or more separate claim payments (building payments only) where the total of the payments exceeds the current value of the property.

In either case, two of the claim payments must have occurred within 10 years of each other. Multiple losses at the same location within 10 days of each other are counted as one loss, with the payment amounts added together.

The loss history includes all ownership of the property since 1978 or since the building's construction if built after 1978.

Severe repetitive loss properties with renewal dates of January 1, 2007, and later will be afforded coverage (new business or renewal) only through the SDF.

The agent of record will remain in that capacity while the policy is in the SDF. The NFIP Servicing Agent will pay the agent of record the standard 15 percent commission that is paid on all NFIP Direct business.

II. NOTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS

Policies that renew on or after January 1, 2007, and meet the criteria for severe repetitive loss will be transferred to the SDF for policy issuance.

Any policy that meets the SRL criteria during the current term will be transferred to the SDF with the subsequent renewal. As requests for review (discussed in "III. Dispute Resolution" below) are successful, and FEMA or its designee approves properties for mitigation, policies will be transferred out of the SDF.

When policies are to be transferred to the SDF, the NFIP Bureau and Statistical Agent will notify WYO companies and the NFIP Servicing Agent at least 150 days prior to the expiration date. The companies will notify the affected policyholders, their agents, and their lenders 90 days before expiration of the policy. This notice will explain that the policies are ineligible for coverage outside of the SDF. (See agent, lender, and policyholder SDF Notification Letters on pages SRL 3-8.) Offers to renew will be issued by the SDF approximately 45 days prior to the expiration date.

III. DISPUTE RESOLUTION

The designation of a property as SRL is based on the data on file with the NFIP. If the policyholder believes the claims history is inaccurate, or if the property has already been mitigated to reduce future flooding, the designation may be challenged.

When a policyholder has documentation that the NFIP-insured property has not sustained the losses reported, a request for review may be presented, *in writing*, to the NFIP Bureau and Statistical Agent. All documentation to substantiate the review must be included with the request letter. The policy will remain in the SDF during the review.

The policyholder and agent will be notified of the results of the review. If the policyholder's request for review is successful, and the policyholder requests that the policy be returned to the previous carrier, the SDF policy will be canceled and the full premium will be returned to the former carrier. Otherwise, the policy will be set up for release from the SDF at its next renewal. The carrier will write the policy using the SDF's effective dates. If, however, a loss occurs both in the current term and before the policy can be returned to the former carrier, the SDF will continue to service the claim and will return the policy at the next renewal cycle, unless the new claim qualifies the property for the SDF.

Pg 3 of 3

storm or hurricane event will begin the watch for possible single adjuster response. When the storm is 48 hours from landfall, this will initiate FEMA's approval of the SAP response.

During that time, the NFIP Bureau and Statistical Agent's General Adjusters will be deployed to strategic areas close to where the storm is predicted to strike. At landfall, they will be able to immediately assess the damage impact from the storm. No later than 24 hours after landfall, the WYO Companies will be advised by telephone, fax, or e-mail through their designated Single Adjuster Liaison, as to the areas and state(s) that will be activated. At that point, the WYO Companies will be asked to immediately notify their agents of the SAP procedures in reporting the claims.

The NFIP Bureau and Statistical Agent will notify the WYO Companies by telephone, fax, or e-mail to have their agency staff submit all flood losses that are reasonably believed to involve wind and flood damage to the State Coastal Plans (i.e., Windpool, Fairplan, Beachplan).

The NFIP will notify all SAP Liaisons of the Claims Coordinating Office's (CCO) location, telephone number, fax number, and address, if the CCO does not co-locate with the State Coastal Plans.

When the CCO is operational, the WYO companies will be notified of all assigned claims. Notice of losses reflecting the assigned adjusting firms will be faxed each day. Once the assignment is made and communicated to each company, the WYO Company will manage its own loss adjustment. However, the Catastrophe CCO will ensure that the adjuster receives a copy of the loss assignments, the name of the WYO Company, and the SAP Liaison telephone number.

B. Training

The NFIP Bureau and Statistical Agent Claims Coordinator and FEMA will annually conduct coordination training sessions, both pre- and post-event, in conjunction with the State Coastal Plans, adjusters, state and local officials, and insurers to train all participants. These training sessions will include regional issues, the State Coastal Plans' procedures, confirmation of coverages for SAP losses, closed without payment (CWOP) procedures, adjuster resources, and duplicate assignments, etc.

The NFIP Bureau and Statistical Agent will continue to provide training for specific problems

and situations that may arise during a catastrophe event. FEMA suggests that within the first 48 hours, or whenever applicable, an adjuster briefing should be conducted for all SAP adjusters and adjusting firms to ensure that they understand program procedures.

Guidelines contained in the NFIP *Adjuster Claims Manual* provide details to address particular claims issues. The manual can be accessed at <http://www.fema.gov/business/nfip/claimsadj.shtml> under "Information for Claims Adjusters."

C. Producer Responsibilities

1. When directed by FEMA, the producer will have no authority to assign any losses involving a flood policy when there is a reasonable belief that there is flood and wind damage, and will report the losses on the *combined Wind/Flood* loss notice to the Stationary CCO, with wind coverage information.
2. NFIP/WYO insurers insuring both the flood and the wind loss should not report the combined loss to the CCO, but will assign their own single adjuster.
3. The producers will report their flood losses via fax to the established CCO, along with wind coverage information in every instance except those mentioned above. In all cases the producer should send a copy of the loss notice to the insurer.
4. All separate wind losses insured by a WYO company where a flood policy exists will be reported to the CCO for assignment to qualified adjusting firms at the CCO.
5. Upon loss assignment, the insurer will be advised of the assigned adjusting firm by modem transfer, fax, or mail.
6. These procedures relate to assignment of claims only. Insurers may perform other procedures in accordance with their standard business practices.

IV. INCREASED COST OF COMPLIANCE (ICC) CLAIMS

The NFIP policy will pay a qualified policyholder up to \$30,000 of Increased Cost of Compliance (ICC) benefits to bring a flood-damaged, insured building into compliance with state or local floodplain management laws or ordinances. To adequately advise clients at policy inception, and to assist them in the event of a claim, the producer should become familiar with ICC.

[REDACTED]

LA 70037

[REDACTED]

Army Corps of Engineers
Re: IER13 Westbank & Vicinity Project

To whom it may concern,

I've attached copies of meeting summary's for this project and an article from WDSU. I've highlighted the area pertinent to my comment for you to read and refer to.

In the May 08 meeting, Ms. Vignes says that area south of the proposed Oakville gate would be flooded and be "storage...all the way to the Gulf of Mexico." "The water has tens of thousands of acres of land to be dispersed over as opposed to the narrow canal." This tells me that Jesuit Bend and below will flood due to the proposed gate in Oakville. The video on the IER-13 webpage gave me a good interpretation of this as well.

She is then contradicted in the Recap of Previous Public Meetings from 04 May 09, when Response 2 states "The Westbank and Vicinity Project, including the Eastern Tie In floodgate, would not create additional flood risk to Plaquemines south of Oakville when the Plaquemines Parish Non-Federal Levees are completed." As we were also shown on page 11 of this presentation, the Non-Federal Levee construction is due to begin in 2011 and complete in 2013. The proposed Oakville floodgate is due to be complete in 2011. From this information, I gather that there is a two year time frame that my home in Jesuit Bend will be at an increased risk of flooding.

This leads me to the 08 Jan 09 Public Meeting Summary in which Julie Vignes says "If we do not get this system built and authorized it would inhibit the people from getting affordable insurance." Since my home is in Jesuit Bend, outside of the proposed floodgate and 100-year risk reduction system, I understand this to tell me that I will not be able to get affordable insurance. Who is going to help me pay for this "unaffordable insurance," of which I never expected when I built my home 7 years ago? As I had no knowledge of a flood barrier to be constructed 2 miles before my home. Who am I going to turn to for assistance when my home floods and I potentially can not continue to obtain this insurance?

I would lastly like to mention a comment from Mr. Billy Marchal, an engineer with the Flood Protection Alliance, in an article on www.wdsu.com entitled Massive Corps Project to Address West Bank Flooding Construction On West Closure Complex To Begin Soon. He states, "Wherever you have a barrier, water is going to stack up against that barrier. Anybody outside of that barrier is going to [be] affected somewhat ..."

This is very upsetting; as we all know insurance rates have steadily risen over the years, especially after Hurricane Katrina. I have yet to flood and feel as though I will be extremely vulnerable if this floodgate is constructed. I would appreciate your consideration for my home and family as well as others in the area south of the proposed floodgate. Thank-you for accepting my comment.

Jesuit Bend resident,
Christie Lauff

Christie Lauff



Public Meeting Summary

Response 37. Ted Carr: The whole thing is about 4.5 miles with no set cost because we are still in the design phase.

Comment 38. Dewell Walker: If you build the levee down in lower Plaquemines Parish you would not need the one here. We need to put our money and concerns on the beach. We need to think about these beaches and quite with these small projects. We live in the great state of Louisiana and do not want to go through this again.

Response 38. Rene Poche: This is not to put fear into anyone but this is a reality. Tell me something absolute in life? Coastal Restoration and the current projects can help to reduce risk but we can not say we can provide 100 percent of your protection. Listen to your public officials when they tell you to evacuate the area and leave when a storm is approaching.

Question 39. Danny Trosclair: I suggest you strongly consider a flood gate to eliminate 100 percent of what we are talking about here tonight. It would be a lower cost than the ramp being proposed. The time frame would be reduced by putting a floodgate and we could work together to make the impacts less for businesses, community, safety and traffic. Traffic needs to be considered in this location. Do you have a projected start date? Do you have a projected time for bidding? What is the projected time frame for construction?

Response 39. Ted Carr: There are some caveats. Work needs to be done to get real estate and right of way. We are looking to have design plans in the August timeframe. After this time, the real estate can begin. To make the 2011 timeframe these projects are moving quick but does not mean we are not going to have the required work done to get to where we want to be.

Question 40. Danny Trosclair: I know the Plaquemines Parish Non-Federal Levee project is a few years behind and you are shooting to make the 2011 deadline. Is there any consideration for the Non-Federal Levee to be federalized in a couple of years?

Response 40. Julie Vignes: The Corps is authorized to build a system to be certified. If we do not get this system built and authorized it would inhibit the people from getting affordable insurance. The urgency behind the 2011 deadline is for insurance reasons. Congress appropriated money to improve the system but it is not going to be equal to be certified for risk reduction.

Question 41. Danny Trosclair: Seems like a lot of money to spend going to build something across the highway when it could go south, all the way down.

Response 41. Julie Vignes: There is another team working on the Non-Federal Levee system. The issue is certification of the system. Things are still on the table but a lot of people were against flood gates. The DOTD will look at traffic and liability on this large high speed highway. There are adverse impacts to putting a floodgate. As we get more input and look at the impacts

The following notes were recorded by USACE contractors. These notes are intended to provide an overview of the presentations and public questions and comments, and are not intended to provide a complete or verbatim account of the meeting. This account is not intended to be a legal document.



Recap of Previous Public Meetings

Request 1. Extend comment period on Individual Environmental Report 13, Eastern Tie In

Response 1. Granted, IER 13 comment period will now end May 18, 2009

Comment 2. Floodgate proposed on Hwy 23 will flood Plaquemines south of Oakville

Response 2. The Westbank and Vicinity Project, including the Eastern Tie In floodgate, would not create additional flood risk to Plaquemines south of Oakville when the Plaquemines Parish Non-Federal Levees are completed



Plaquemines Parish Non-Federal Levee The Path Ahead

- Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (SEIS) in development - three public meetings to date, your comments count
- Draft SEIS ready for public review this summer
- Record of Decision (ROD) this fall
- Project Partnering Agreement
- Acquisition of Right of Way
- Construction Begins 2011
- Construction Complete in 2013

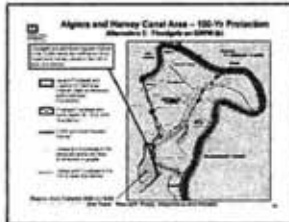
Public Meeting Summary

Response 30a. Connell: All of it was taken into consideration. The numerical models have determined the hydraulic conditions and decided that the storage capacity here fills up extraordinary rapidly.

Response 30b: Maj. Kurgan: Like I said, it is like a cup that needs to fill up. Once you fill that cup up the safe elevation of water is mimicked by the gate and so the factor of the gate here on these levels does not change. The models still shows it needs to be elevation 14 for 100-year protection in 2057.

Question 31. Margie Leclere: And you can't go below the wetlands because the soils are unstable in the wetlands?

Response 31. Connell: Well this is just a natural point of convergence. Where we have the existing Hero Canal Levee, there is a short narrow part. This project takes out about 41 percent of the levees of the whole Westbank project. When you put this structure here [pointing] you take out 27 miles of levees and you take out the uncertainty. A relative reliability analysis was done and there will be a further risk analysis done by experts in the field. They've concluded this on a relative scale that compared to parallel protection this is a more reliable way to provide protection.



Question 32. Margie Leclere: If it was placed lower, it wouldn't be stable enough because that levee is low and not rising any further than what it is currently?

Response 32a. Vignes: If it was put any lower then we would have to build more to tie into it.

Response 32b. Connell: It has been modeled and the model shows that it does not have the effect of pushing water higher.

Question 33. Margie Leclere: So does a floodgate make Oakville more vulnerable?

Response 33. Maj. Kurgan: The floodgate would not increase the risk to Oakville.

Question 34. Man: The more you block there, the more build up you would have below?

Response 34. Maj. Kurgan: It has a negligible impact. If you look at the land mass there verses the land mass south of there, it is miniscule.

Question 35. Man: The land mass south of there would fill up because you stopped the flow and then it would build up from Oakville south?

The following notes were recorded by USACE contractors. These notes are intended to provide an overview of the presentations and public questions and comments, and are not intended to provide a complete or verbatim account of the meeting. This account is not intended to be a legal document.

WDSU.com

Massive Corps Project To Address West Bank Flooding

Construction On West Closure Complex To Begin Soon

POSTED: 2:11 pm CDT May 20, 2009
UPDATED: 6:10 pm CDT May 20, 2009

NEW ORLEANS -- Hurricanes Gustav and Ike proved that the west bank is vulnerable to flooding, but a \$1 billion federal flood protection project hopes to change that.

Also:
Is 100-Year Flood Protection Enough?
Inner Harbor Navigational Canal Project Under Way

Related To Story



Video: Project Aims To Address West Bank Storm Flooding

Flood protection experts are waiting and watching as the West Closure Complex -- one of the largest projects ever undertaken by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers -- has yet to start construction.

"Of course we would like to have had all that work done in the first year," said Bobby Turner with the Flood Protection Authority East. It is a tremendous amount of work ... it is moving forward."

The West Closure Complex will be built on the west bank, south of the juncture of the Algiers and Harvey canals, across the Intracoastal Waterway.

"(They're) building one of the world's largest pumping stations -- 20,000 cubic feet per second -- in a 225-foot navigation gate," said Billy Marchal, an engineer with the Flood Protection Alliance.

The idea is to protect more than 245,000 residents on the west bank of the Mississippi River from hurricane storm surge.

"All the hydraulic modeling in that area shows us the best solution for surge protection is to put in a surge barrier," said Army Corps spokeswoman Karen Durham-Aguilera. "So it'll be two gates similar to the (Inner Harbor Navigational Canal) as the best way to keep water from coming into that area, instead of trying to do things like raise the flood walls further at the Harvey and Algiers canals."

The fully funded project is expected to run between \$600 million and \$1 billion. Marchal said it could have been done for less than that many years ago.

"In 1994 they decided that instead of building that pumping station, down south of the junction of the Harvey and Algiers canal ... they went up and built the flood gate at Lapalco. So here we are 15 years later, doing it correctly," Marchal said.

The Corps of Engineers just awarded the construction contracts to four firms. Construction is expected to begin in June.

The Corps will try to limit the impact on environmentally sensitive areas like Bayou Aux Carpes and Jean Lafitte National Park. But the West Closure Complex is not without its critics.

"In the west bank project, Lafitte has a concern about it," Marchal said. "Wherever you have a barrier, water is going to stack up against that barrier. Anybody outside of that barrier is going to be affected somewhat ... It may raise the water levels in Lafitte a foot or two, but you'd already have 10 feet of water in Lafitte. So if 12 feet is that much worse, then I don't know."

And Turner, along with Levees.org founder Sandy Rosenthal, says that the project still only provides 100-year flood protection, which is not enough.

"In a 50-year period, there is a 40 percent chance of flooding, which is too high," Rosenthal said. "We should be asking for 500-year or 1,000-year protection."

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Ned F. Malley Sr.

[REDACTED]

-----Original Message-----

From: Paula Rasberry [REDACTED]

Sent: Monday, May 18, 2009 6:24 AM

To: MVN Environmental

Subject: flood wall

I am opposed to the building of a flood wall in the north end of Plaquemines Parish. What makes our homes so less important that we can't have the flood protection everyone else deserves. My name is Ned F. Malley Sr. My phone # is 5 [REDACTED]

Claudia Nelson (sp?)

[REDACTED]

Belle Chase, LA 70037

[REDACTED]

This is my house located @

[REDACTED] Belli Chase, LA 70037

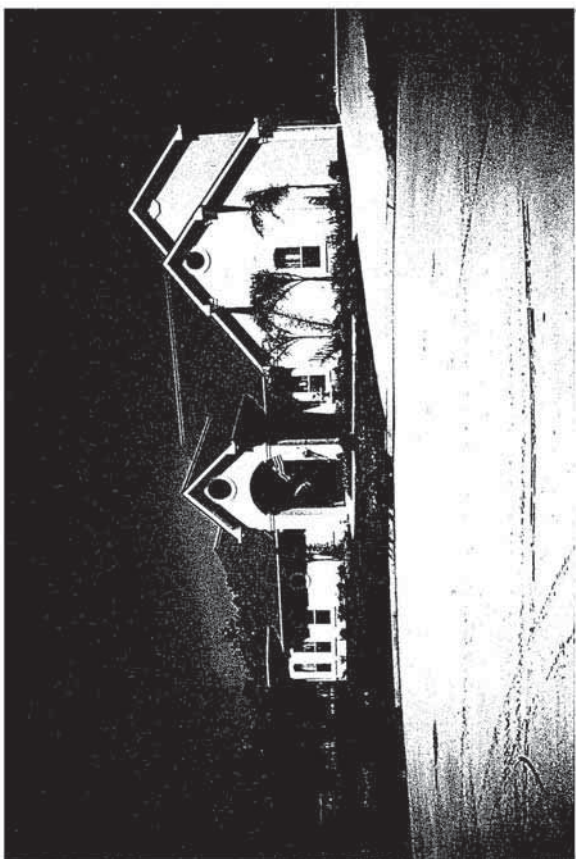
(Giant Bird)

This is what I want to
protect and what I'm fighting
for

Claudia

[REDACTED]

email: claudia@redal.com



Mario Popich

Belle Chase, LA 70037

Individual Environmental Report
Public Comment

Comments: "IER 13", FLOOD GATE ACROSS HWY 23
SHOULD BE MOVED FURTHER SOUTH TO CONOCO PHILLIPS
REFINERY AREA TO INCLUDE "JESUIT BEND"
OR IT SHOULD NOT BE CONSTRUCTED AT ALL.
UPDATE YOUR STUDIES

Name MARIO POPICH

Affiliation

Street

City, St

E-mail

Environmental Documents Available at www.nolaenvironmental.gov

Pamela Robeaux

Belle Chase, LA 70037

Individual Environmental Report
Public Comment

Comments: As a resident of Jesuit Bend, La. I am very concerned about being excluded from the 100-year levee system. The construction of a flood gate or flood wall across Highway 23 in Oakville, La. will decrease our property value & all properties south of the wall. Growth in our community will become stagnant and insurance rates, which are already unaffordable, will rise again. Please consider include our community in the 100-year levee system plan. Please ~~NO~~ Flood wall or gate! Thank you!

Name Pamela Robeaux Affiliation

Street

City, St

E-mail

Environmental Documents Available at www.nolaenvironmental.gov

Bobby Stockwell

[REDACTED]

A message was passed onto me last night from a resident, Bobbie Stockwell (phone [REDACTED] wanting to know if a decision had been made about the floodgate in IER 13.

Please give her a call.

Thank you,

Stacy
Stacy Mendoza
Public Affairs Contractor
Hurricane Protection Office
7400 Leake Ave
New Orleans, LA 70118
Office [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Tiffany Vickneer



Voicemail Comment

Hi my name is Tiffany Vickneer and I am for the floodwall. Thank you.

Ty Zigner



Voicemail Comment

Hey my name is Ty Zigner. Just calling to say that I have some property off of barrier road and I'm for the floodwall. Thank you.

Unknown

Individual Environmental Report
Public Comment

Comments: I You'll want to protect Belle Chasse, well during Betsy the water was splashing over the levee. The right hurricane coming up the river will also flood Belle Chasse. We need the 100 year protection levee's. I've lived in Plaquemine parish most of my life & never went under water, except we got water for Katrina. It came & it went. My grandparents were here for the 1927 hurricane. They were farmers & help build this parish

Name Parish Residents Affiliation _____
Street _____ Phone _____
City, St Zip _____ Fax _____
E-mail _____

Environmental Documents Available at www.nolaenvironmental.gov

Unknown

Individual Environmental Report Public Comment

Comments: Why BELIEVE The Corps. you DYNAMITED CARNARVON when
IT WAS NOT NECESSARY. you BUILT MARGO AGAINST THE WISHES OF VIRTUALLY
ALL OF ST. BERNARD AND IT PROVED TO BE USELESS BECAUSE ACCESS TO THE
RIVER WAS LIMITED BY OUTDATED LOCKS WHICH SHOULD HAVE BEEN UPDATED FIRST.
NOW you WANT TO BLOCK OFF MORE THAN HALF OF OUR PARISH. you
TELL US WE WON'T FLOOD BECAUSE OF THE LEVEES + LOCKS you HAVE BUILT
WHERE DO you THINK ALL THIS TRAPPED WATER WILL GO?

Name Parish Resident Affiliation _____
Street _____ Phone _____
City, St Zip _____ Fax _____
E-mail _____

Environmental Documents Available at www.nolaenvironmental.gov

Petition Signatures Against IER 13

3. AGAINST: X School Dist
4. AGAINST: Michael Mott
5. AGAINST: Melinda Boudreau
6. AGAINST: Stanley Ruder
7. AGAINST: Leroy Kounad
8. AGAINST: Danif Arthur Jr
9. AGAINST: Ju Ju
10. AGAINST: Karen Bellay
11. AGAINST: Simon Rongicillo
12. AGAINST: Synda Inu
13. AGAINST: JWA
14. AGAINST: Melaria Zito
15. AGAINST: Joseph Zito
16. AGAINST: Michelle B Platt
17. AGAINST: Nadene Parker
18. AGAINST: Michael Scott
19. AGAINST: Dale Weln

24. AGAINST: Paul Helm
25. AGAINST: Mark Dine
26. AGAINST: Alfred Gross
27. AGAINST: Edith Gross
28. AGAINST: Ralph H. Hannon
29. AGAINST: Henry White
30. AGAINST: Harlene White
31. AGAINST: James J. Jorgensen
32. AGAINST: Robert J. Jorgensen
33. AGAINST: John J. Jorgensen
34. AGAINST: Rae Nell Houston
35. AGAINST: Reggie Whitworth
36. AGAINST: Thyller W. Widd
37. AGAINST: Susan E. Horney
38. AGAINST: Long Baudry Jr.
39. AGAINST: Matt Zurch
40. AGAINST: Robin Zurch

44. AGAINST: Budgt. Christopher
45. AGAINST: Senna R. Holard
46. AGAINST: Timothy D. Holard
47. AGAINST: Marc J. Holard
48. AGAINST: Timothy D. Holard
49. AGAINST: David J. Holard Jr.
50. AGAINST: David J. Holard Jr.
51. AGAINST: David J. Holard
52. AGAINST: David J. Holard
53. AGAINST: David J. Holard
54. AGAINST: David J. Holard
55. AGAINST: Tim W. Suvorich
56. AGAINST: Tim W. Suvorich
57. AGAINST: Tim W. Suvorich
58. AGAINST: Tim W. Suvorich
59. AGAINST: Tim W. Suvorich
60. AGAINST: Cynthia Austin

65. AGAINST: Kendy R. Katz
66. AGAINST: Cheryl Dawson
67. AGAINST: Penny Lasquet
68. AGAINST: Amelia Light
69. AGAINST: PO STAVES
70. AGAINST: Samie Starn
71. AGAINST: Starn J. Festrut
72. AGAINST: Brian Postuit
73. AGAINST: Mary A. Quinn
74. AGAINST: Shannon Frankorch
75. AGAINST: anthy. Jh
76. AGAINST: Natasha Martin
77. AGAINST: Melanie Hinkel
78. AGAINST: Mark C. Hinkel
79. AGAINST: Grace Palmisano.
80. AGAINST: DWAYNE PALMISANO
81. AGAINST: Becky Kalesigole

85. AGAINST: Kene Murphy
86. AGAINST: Cathy Murphy
87. AGAINST: Chla
88. AGAINST: Ken Ra
89. AGAINST: John M. Adams
90. AGAINST: Blaine Bergeron
91. AGAINST: Lori R. Adams
92. AGAINST: Anna Zappa
93. AGAINST: John Brooker
94. AGAINST: Ryan Matting
95. AGAINST: Herald Raynal
96. AGAINST: Marie Brooker
97. AGAINST: Dan Musmanno
98. AGAINST: Lona Musmanno
99. AGAINST: Marie Rehner
100. AGAINST: Rudolph Rehner
101. AGAINST: Mari Kutor

106. AGAINST: Joseph E. Connolly
107. AGAINST: Bernadette Courcelle
108. AGAINST: Thank & Help
109. AGAINST: Tony Oates
110. AGAINST: Janet Motherhead
111. AGAINST: Jan Motherhead
112. AGAINST: Edith Sercovich
113. AGAINST: May Sercovich
114. AGAINST: Amy Sercovich Jr.
115. AGAINST: Douglas De Rosa
116. AGAINST: Mary Logan
117. AGAINST: James Logan
118. AGAINST: Gill DeHert
119. AGAINST: Dodd DeHert
120. AGAINST: Jeff Sam
121. AGAINST: Priscilla Ruse
122. AGAINST: Bonnie Tate

126. AGAINST: Mary Jane Scanlon
127. AGAINST: Donald Scanlon
128. AGAINST: Kevin Scanlon
129. AGAINST: Alister B. Strickland
130. AGAINST: Anita Garac Cognovich
131. AGAINST: Dinah L. Thompson
132. AGAINST: Ross Thompson
133. AGAINST: Laurie D. Sale
134. AGAINST: John C. Sale
135. AGAINST: Arvin James A
136. AGAINST: Arvin James CJT.
137. AGAINST: Karen Ingolda
138. AGAINST: Erin Ingolda
139. AGAINST: Jane Stepps
140. AGAINST: Timothy Stepps
141. AGAINST: Brenton Leui
142. AGAINST: Gary Fawell

147. AGAINST: Chad Burt
148. AGAINST: Evan Aloek
149. AGAINST: Nola Kibart
150. AGAINST: Joseph Kibart Jr. M.H.
151. AGAINST: Kevin Barthelmy Jr.
152. AGAINST: Monique Barthely
153. AGAINST: William O'Kute
154. AGAINST: Marion C. Boatman
155. AGAINST: Shirley Boatman
156. AGAINST: David Murr
157. AGAINST: Tammy Murr
158. AGAINST: Marta Murr Jr.
159. AGAINST: Chelsea Paul
160. AGAINST: Theera Sany
161. AGAINST: Christopher C. Blappert
162. AGAINST: Rebecca Deal
163. AGAINST: Raquel Fisher

167. AGAINST: Calvin Hunt
168. AGAINST: Vanessa Hunt
169. AGAINST: Robert A. Smith
170. AGAINST: Donna D. Smith
171. AGAINST: Elizabeth Gille
172. AGAINST: Gene Gille
173. AGAINST: Andrea Green
174. AGAINST: Damon Green
175. AGAINST: Michael Robey
176. AGAINST: Rose La Robey
177. AGAINST: Freda Adolph
178. AGAINST: Jennie Gaudin
179. AGAINST: Randa Gaudin
180. AGAINST: Helen Martin
181. AGAINST: Lillian Kelly
182. AGAINST: NORWOOD Kelly Jr.
183. AGAINST: Chuck Kelly III

188. AGAINST: Vickie Tierney
189. AGAINST: Raven Chantier
190. AGAINST: Gene R Bures
191. AGAINST: Nancy C Smith
192. AGAINST: Stu 7V/2
193. AGAINST: Anna Vaughn
194. AGAINST: Leslie S Rollo
195. AGAINST: Wayne A Rollo
196. AGAINST: Michelle Benoit
197. AGAINST: D. E. B. L.
198. AGAINST: Michael T. Conner Jr
199. AGAINST: Tammy Comauce
200. AGAINST: Ray L. G.
201. AGAINST: Leah Mistich
202. AGAINST: Glenn Mistich
203. AGAINST: Doree Burt
204. AGAINST: Chas Burt

208. AGAINST: Rahit Trest III
209. AGAINST: Pam Prest
210. AGAINST: Donna Prest
211. AGAINST: Kyle Prest
212. AGAINST: Dani Leigh Prest
213. AGAINST: Heli R. Prest
214. AGAINST: John Bruskotter
215. AGAINST: Donna Bruskotter
216. AGAINST: Denick Dybeck
217. AGAINST: Dorey Hobert
218. AGAINST: Jamesia Regas
219. AGAINST: Rolanna Regas
220. AGAINST: Joni Cornier
221. AGAINST: Deise S. Smith
222. AGAINST: Courtney Mier
223. AGAINST: Jay Robbins
224. AGAINST: Shoni Hines

229. AGAINST: Jilton Hanny
230. AGAINST: Sam Little Hanny
231. AGAINST: B. Lavel
232. AGAINST: Arvis Hannon
233. AGAINST: Para V. Hanne
234. AGAINST: Juanita Brooks
235. AGAINST: Clifford J. Brooks
236. AGAINST: Robert Quake
237. AGAINST: Robert Va. Metter
238. AGAINST: Clement J. Parker Jr
239. AGAINST: Emory C. Proctor
240. AGAINST: Nicky Lopez
241. AGAINST: Lita Cennedy
242. AGAINST: Booth Carrasells
243. AGAINST: Art Lloyd - ANTHONY LLOYD
244. AGAINST: Dan Rella
245. AGAINST: Jean Laiff

249. AGAINST: Kathy Johnson
250. AGAINST: Anthony Johnson
251. AGAINST: Mike
252. AGAINST: GRACE W. NEWMAN
253. AGAINST: Judith & Charles Hutzler ← 2 NAMES
254. AGAINST: Allen & Charlene Martin ← 2 NAMES
255. AGAINST: Bryan & Vanessa Fisher ← 2 NAMES
256. AGAINST: Chelene R. Martin
257. AGAINST: Elizabeth Plaisance
258. AGAINST: Nomi Plaisance
259. AGAINST: Ming Crosby
260. AGAINST: Charles Mendley III
261. AGAINST: Chris Mayfield
262. AGAINST: Kyle Hancock
263. AGAINST: Bridgett Hancock
264. AGAINST: OSCAR & KAREN V. BROOKS ← 2 NAMES
265. AGAINST: J.P. Milse

270. AGAINST: Janna Melton
271. AGAINST: Mona Pawajbo
272. AGAINST: Mouca Dexner
273. AGAINST: Andrea Burk
274. AGAINST: Guanita Ross
275. AGAINST: Lin Letell
276. AGAINST: Mal R Keely
277. AGAINST: Joy Vaughn
278. AGAINST: Ralph G. Vaughn
279. AGAINST: Deborah Escalade
280. AGAINST: Lester Escalade
281. AGAINST: Funell Ky
282. AGAINST: Hughes Sanders
283. AGAINST: Pamela Black
284. AGAINST: Barbara Winder
285. AGAINST: Oscar K. Anderson
286. AGAINST: Mrs. Mrs. Jules Anderson Jr. \triangleq 2 NAMES

290. AGAINST: Georgina A. Rose
291. AGAINST: Russell Hainey, Sr.
292. AGAINST: Carolyn Hainey
293. AGAINST: Russell Hainey, Jr.
294. AGAINST: Ron Hainey
295. AGAINST: David Gault
296. AGAINST: Angelina Gault
297. AGAINST: Maie Landry Means
298. AGAINST: Tom Means
299. AGAINST: Kim R. Means
300. AGAINST: Brian Means
301. AGAINST: Billy Means
302. AGAINST: Danai Kennair
303. AGAINST: To Do Kennair
304. AGAINST: Sette Kennair
305. AGAINST: To Do LLOYD
306. AGAINST: Juliana Carroll

311. AGAINST: Alex E. Rozen
312. AGAINST: Patsy H. Rozen
313. AGAINST: Suey B. Raynal
314. AGAINST: 6-67
315. AGAINST: Doraci D. Reed
316. AGAINST: Yunah B. Reulle
317. AGAINST: Leon J. Reulle Jr.
318. AGAINST: Stephane Lett
319. AGAINST: Cay Lett
320. AGAINST: Samuel Quinich
321. AGAINST: Frank Quinich
322. AGAINST: Charles Kapp
323. AGAINST: Deborah Kapp
324. AGAINST: Melina Rodriguez
325. AGAINST: James Rodriguez
326. AGAINST: Joshua Rodriguez
327. AGAINST: Derek Nelson

331. AGAINST: Denise Jague
332. AGAINST: Frank P. Legendre
333. AGAINST: Linda Legendre
334. AGAINST: D. [unclear]
335. AGAINST: A. [unclear]
336. AGAINST: Mary K. Gie
337. AGAINST: Nick Mithun
338. AGAINST: Sam A. De-
339. AGAINST: Ronnie A. De-
340. AGAINST: Melinda Roubel
341. AGAINST: Norman C. Roubel
342. AGAINST: Carl Muth
343. AGAINST: Pt P. G.
344. AGAINST: Marv B. D.
345. AGAINST: Christie Lauff
346. AGAINST: Kim Lauff
347. AGAINST: Haligh S Jones

352. AGAINST: Brady Miller
353. AGAINST: Grace Miller
354. AGAINST: Tracy Miller
355. AGAINST: Lenny Miller
356. AGAINST: Whondy Wheeler
357. AGAINST: Larintia Burren
358. AGAINST: Evelyn Stricklin
359. AGAINST: Jean Crawford
360. AGAINST: Joan Rehner
361. AGAINST: Becky Rehner
362. AGAINST: Canell Boudreau
363. AGAINST: DM LaRosa
364. AGAINST: Emily LaMar
365. AGAINST: Shoeme Anderson
366. AGAINST: Les Galt
367. AGAINST: Doreen Galt
368. AGAINST: Lis Landry

372. AGAINST: Francis W. Martin
373. AGAINST: Abner Poych
374. AGAINST: Tihara Dragobadun
375. AGAINST: James Bunn
376. AGAINST: Jens Matheson
377. AGAINST: Grace Parker
378. AGAINST: Clement Parker
379. AGAINST: Mikela Moses
380. AGAINST: Christopher Moses
381. AGAINST: Vicki Parks
382. AGAINST: Vashona Woodside
383. AGAINST: Molly LaFrance
384. AGAINST: Sam Price
385. AGAINST: John P. McGinn
386. AGAINST: Lucia McGinn
387. AGAINST: Gerold Reynal Skye
388. AGAINST: Brenda Williamson

393. AGAINST: RAY JOHNSON
394. AGAINST: Kathy Halden
395. AGAINST: Christ Halden
396. AGAINST: Paula A Johnson
397. AGAINST: Leisa Johnson
398. AGAINST: Lita Johnson
399. AGAINST: Ryann Johnson
400. AGAINST: Lisa Johnson
401. AGAINST: Karen Johnson
402. AGAINST: Kristy Johnson
403. AGAINST: John E. Johnson
404. AGAINST: Mandor M. Johnson
405. AGAINST: Robert R. Johnson
406. AGAINST: Lore Johnson
407. AGAINST: William Heger
408. AGAINST: James Heger
409. AGAINST: Chris Roberts

616. AGAINST: Jeffrey Irvine

617. AGAINST: James A. Hebert

618. AGAINST: John D. Blaser

619. AGAINST: Leonard Johnson Charles Johnson ← 2 votes

620. AGAINST: Monica Vogt-Hertz

621. AGAINST: Gaynell Ott

622. AGAINST: Susan Broussard

623. AGAINST: Kathy Busan

624. AGAINST: Robin Vogt

625. AGAINST: Patricia Basco

626. AGAINST: William J. Basco

627. AGAINST: Philip Simmons

628. AGAINST: Patty Vogt

629. AGAINST: Joseph LeBoeuf

630. AGAINST: John J. Vogt III

631. AGAINST: Joseph Neal

632. AGAINST:

633. AGAINST: Lloyd Off

634. AGAINST: Jody Sh's

635. AGAINST: John Bue

636. AGAINST: Ann Vairon

637. AGAINST: B. H. K.

638. AGAINST: Harry H.

639. AGAINST: Charmoir Cosse

640. AGAINST: Earl Armstrong

641. AGAINST: Lynne Armstrong

642. AGAINST: Lester Taylor

643. AGAINST: Chris Deal

644. AGAINST: Marah Jones

645. AGAINST: Patricia Jones

646. AGAINST: Andrew Jones

647. AGAINST: Lilliania Riley

648. AGAINST: Wade Paul
649. AGAINST: Wade Paul
650. AGAINST: Richard J. Lasso
651. AGAINST: Michael Boudry
652. AGAINST: Mel Fortmayer
653. AGAINST: Norm Placine
654. AGAINST: Don McInerney
655. AGAINST: Keith A. Tambone
656. AGAINST: Mark Breland
657. AGAINST: William Bartholomew
658. AGAINST: Don L. Suller
659. AGAINST: Anthony D. Feltus
660. AGAINST: Tavin D. Feltus
661. AGAINST: Greg D. Feltus
662. AGAINST: John R. Rini
663. AGAINST: Ken R. Rini

664. AGAINST: James J.
665. AGAINST: C. Paulson
666. AGAINST: D. J. Hume
667. AGAINST: Donny Collins
668. AGAINST: Carlos J. Encalade
669. AGAINST: Joshua Adams
670. AGAINST: W. J. Hume
671. AGAINST: Mitka Van Meter
672. AGAINST: Marque R. Bycher
673. AGAINST: Bruce Polich
674. AGAINST: Allen Devolte Jr.
675. AGAINST: Leonard J. Jambor
676. AGAINST: D. C. Albert
677. AGAINST: S. Bennett
678. AGAINST: L. Francis Jr.
679. AGAINST: Ronnie Kinnaird

680. AGAINST: Wm. J. [unclear]
681. AGAINST: Michael J. Brasel
682. AGAINST: B. K. W. M.
683. AGAINST: Phil Landry
684. AGAINST: Har. [unclear]
685. AGAINST: P. J. [unclear]
686. AGAINST: Gerald Kimble L.
687. AGAINST: J. B. Hebert
688. AGAINST: Rola Hebert
689. AGAINST: Art. [unclear]
690. AGAINST: Jeanne Comeney
691. AGAINST: Lorrey Adams
692. AGAINST: Carl Dermanley
693. AGAINST: Jose Hermuley
694. AGAINST: Cindy Schmitt
695. AGAINST: Polina Adams

697. AGAINST: De [unclear]
698. AGAINST: Paula Sussner
699. AGAINST: Michael Wilkins
700. AGAINST: Cody Brockhert
701. AGAINST: Mimi Smith
702. AGAINST: Jane Wathen
703. AGAINST: Alice Higgins
704. AGAINST: John Cheney
705. AGAINST: Robert Brown
706. AGAINST: Christina Fredinick
707. AGAINST: E Vale Landy Jr
708. AGAINST: Junior H. H. H.
709. AGAINST: Kirk Mowery
710. AGAINST: Martha Riddle
711. AGAINST: William Riddle

713. AGAINST:

James Branton

714. AGAINST:

Cheryl Kanatza

715. AGAINST:

C. Lator

716. AGAINST:

P. Calabrese

717. AGAINST:

Blais

718. AGAINST:

Chelsea Sinclair

719. AGAINST:

Elaine Mayfield

720. AGAINST:

Alton Salvendy

721. AGAINST:

Larry Samson

722. AGAINST:

[Signature]

723. AGAINST:

Thermon

724. AGAINST:

[Signature]

725. AGAINST:

Donna Devance

726. AGAINST:

Leslie Bartholomew

727. AGAINST:

Gary Bartholomew

729. AGAINST: Sharon Fritz
730. AGAINST: Vickery Aivist
731. AGAINST: Rickey Barthelmy
732. AGAINST: Ann Reels
733. AGAINST: Mary Prout
734. AGAINST: Monara Riley
735. AGAINST: Larry Sumner
736. AGAINST: Ed A. Balda
737. AGAINST: Brigitte Balda
738. AGAINST: Elke Raga
739. AGAINST: Matthew Wallace III
740. AGAINST: Carl Ward
741. AGAINST: Troy Easton
742. AGAINST: Stylby Sylva
743. AGAINST: Ronda Marlene

745. AGAINST: Leslie Hyatt
746. AGAINST: Buddy Hyatt
747. AGAINST: Jacqueline Hyatt
748. AGAINST: Garret Hyatt
749. AGAINST: Natalie Cesse'
750. AGAINST: Rynn Cesse'
751. AGAINST: Don Mills Jr.
752. AGAINST: Layton Coco Jr
753. AGAINST: Don Mills
754. AGAINST: Tim H
755. AGAINST: C. KANCEWICK
756. AGAINST: R. KANCEWICK
757. AGAINST: A. KANCEWICK
758. AGAINST: C. Decker
759. AGAINST: John Canyonborn

760. AGAINST: Theresa Ware
761. AGAINST: Contrina Turner
762. AGAINST: Steven Mitchell
763. AGAINST: Andre Turner
764. AGAINST: Dwayne Brown
765. AGAINST: Wayne Brown
766. AGAINST: Gail Martin
767. AGAINST: John Ware
768. AGAINST: Theresa Ware
769. AGAINST: Ruby T. Marks
770. AGAINST: Daniel Marks
771. AGAINST: Genevieve Theriot
772. AGAINST: Steven Zegura
773. AGAINST: Terri Corty
774. AGAINST: Sonny Corty
775. AGAINST: Reginald D. Osborne

776. AGAINST: 1/1/1
777. AGAINST: Glenn W. Scheffnyder
778. AGAINST: Barbara L. Scheffnyder
779. AGAINST: [Signature]
780. AGAINST: Barbara Furbush
781. AGAINST: Susan Reagan
782. AGAINST: Wren Reagan
783. AGAINST: NO
784. AGAINST: Bird Reagan
785. AGAINST: Amy Dornith
786. AGAINST: Gregory Dornith Jr.
787. AGAINST: James D. Frost
788. AGAINST: Paul J. Frost
789. AGAINST: Peggy Adams
790. AGAINST: Alan Adams
791. AGAINST: Sony Adams

792. AGAINST: STANLEY M. KIRKMAN

793. AGAINST: SMH

794. AGAINST: Maria Spangola

795. AGAINST: Angela

796. AGAINST: Kouyou

797. AGAINST: Bianca

798. AGAINST: Joy Dyer

799. AGAINST: R.P.

800. AGAINST: Kit Lamm

801. AGAINST: Bernadette Walker

802. AGAINST: John Walker

803. AGAINST: Joe Hicks

804. AGAINST: Pat Hicks

805. AGAINST: Gene Strode

806. AGAINST: Edith Strode

807. AGAINST: Dorrie Wadsworth

808. AGAINST: William D. D'Amico

809. AGAINST: George W. Walsh

810. AGAINST: William D. D'Amico

811. AGAINST: Burgandy Mulkey

812. AGAINST: Adam Mulkey

813. AGAINST: Lucille J. Andron

814. AGAINST: Harold Sanders

815. AGAINST: Nacique

816. AGAINST: James J. Ruesch

817. AGAINST: Robert Dangle

818. AGAINST: James P. Anderson Sr.

819. AGAINST: Salon L. Beemel Jr.

820. AGAINST: Salon L. Beemel Sr.

821. AGAINST: Carole Beemel

822. AGAINST: Matthew B. Beemel

823. AGAINST: Paul M. Mankia

824. AGAINST: Robert L. Beemel
825. AGAINST: Ernest R. Beemel III
826. AGAINST: Stephen W. R. Beemel
827. AGAINST: David A. Beemel
828. AGAINST: [Signature]
829. AGAINST: Susan Beemel
830. AGAINST: Loren Stiles
831. AGAINST: April Antoine
832. AGAINST: Wilfred Antoine Jr.
833. AGAINST: Judy Rogers
834. AGAINST: Mark Jenkins
835. AGAINST: Gloria Jenkins
836. AGAINST: Steve
837. AGAINST: William
838. AGAINST: Phil Fra DeMolle
839. AGAINST: Lizzie Williams

2. AGAINST: Howard Harvey
3. AGAINST: Ivy Harvey
4. AGAINST: Jarvis Harvey
5. AGAINST: Jamie Harvey
6. AGAINST: Lea W. Harvey
7. AGAINST: Kim Harvey
8. AGAINST: Dionne Landry
9. AGAINST: Debbie Landry
10. AGAINST: Darinda Landry
11. AGAINST: Rose Hneac
12. AGAINST: Allison Sylve
13. AGAINST: Myra Sylve
14. AGAINST: Louis Reddick
15. AGAINST: Kerwin Davis
16. AGAINST: Mrs. Warner
17. AGAINST: Ray D. Warner

52. AGAINST: Timothy Bartholomew Sr
53. AGAINST: Terren Ann Bartholomew
54. AGAINST: Kahinda Bartholomew
55. AGAINST: Briana Bartholomew
56. AGAINST: Delance Garrison
57. AGAINST: Alvernia Bartholomew
58. AGAINST: Drucilla Ancar
59. AGAINST: Patrick Ancar
60. AGAINST: Lalia Ancar
61. AGAINST: Lynce Ancar
62. AGAINST: Aleta Garrison
63. AGAINST: James Garrison
64. AGAINST: Jamie Garrison
65. AGAINST: Tanaka Clark
66. AGAINST: Martha Ragas
67. AGAINST: Antoine Ragas

69. AGAINST: Reasia Shanker
70. AGAINST: Antel Jason
71. AGAINST: Shelly Jason
72. AGAINST: Jonett Wils
73. AGAINST: Marie Wilson
74. AGAINST: Sharon Everage
75. AGAINST: Chris Everage
76. AGAINST: Creedence Wallace
77. AGAINST: Daniel Turner
78. AGAINST: Sheila Freeman
79. AGAINST: Kath Kef
80. AGAINST: Lollie Kef
81. AGAINST: Amanda Lagas
82. AGAINST: Cedric Lagas
83. AGAINST: Malinda Barthelmy
84. AGAINST: Johnny Williams

86. AGAINST: Barbara Kraetz
87. AGAINST: Cathy Williams
88. AGAINST: Roxe Baptiste
89. AGAINST: Natalie' Uwa
90. AGAINST: Norma Sylve
91. AGAINST: Melvin Sylve
92. AGAINST: Shelle Sylve
93. AGAINST: Nia Sylve
94. AGAINST: Cynthia M. Rojas
95. AGAINST: Ricky D. Rojas
96. AGAINST: Henry J. Inman
97. AGAINST: Ira A. Reddick
98. AGAINST: Karey Bartholomew
99. AGAINST: Nanessa Bartholomew
100. AGAINST: Jeffrey Bartholomew
101. AGAINST: Lisa W. Dove

103. AGAINST: Shermy Borden
104. AGAINST: Jamie Borden
105. AGAINST: Piero Tognasso
106. AGAINST: Georgan Phillips
107. AGAINST: Ronald Encalade
108. AGAINST: Georgiana Sylve
109. AGAINST: Jiffany Phillips
110. AGAINST: Georgette Mackey
111. AGAINST: Garnio Mackey
112. AGAINST: Denise Labont
113. AGAINST: Robert Labr
114. AGAINST: Brandon McCain
115. AGAINST: Dan [Signature]
116. AGAINST: Shannon Roshto
117. AGAINST: Celste J. Green
118. AGAINST: Ailena McDonaldson

120. AGAINST: Leimerick Page

121. AGAINST: Mary Gibson

122. AGAINST: Rosp Mackey

123. AGAINST: Bill Mackey

124. AGAINST: Felicia Allen

125. AGAINST: Shannon Allen

126. AGAINST: Adele Gallet

127. AGAINST: Ray Gallet

128. AGAINST: Neil Gallet

129. AGAINST: Natalie Touchet

130. AGAINST: Christie Barrois

131. AGAINST: Terrod Barrois


132. AGAINST: Joyce Clark

133. AGAINST: Joseph Clark

134. AGAINST: Prane Clark

135. AGAINST: Isabelle Ellis

Against: Manuel J. Treadway R

137. AGAINST: Merletha Merrick
138. AGAINST: Emma Rigaud
139. AGAINST: Lisa Kelso
140. AGAINST: Wesley Kelso
141. AGAINST: Alecia Kelso
142. AGAINST: Calvin Riggs
143. AGAINST: Otto Rigaud
144. AGAINST: Joshua LeFrance
145. AGAINST: Lewis A Reddick SR
146. AGAINST: Danielle Duncan
147. AGAINST: Harold Sylve, Jr.
148. AGAINST: Erin Hobbs
149. AGAINST: Barbara Sylve
150. AGAINST: Rachel Sylve
151. AGAINST: [Signature] 
152. AGAINST: [Signature]

154. AGAINST: Joseph Smith
155. AGAINST: Deborah Denville
156. AGAINST: Dendula Haines
157. AGAINST: mel u. Hunt
158. AGAINST: Henry Williams
159. AGAINST: Percy Parker
160. AGAINST: Anita Henry
161. AGAINST: Conditia Duplessis
162. AGAINST: Caprice Henry
163. AGAINST: Delmar D Reddick
164. AGAINST: James Kelly
165. AGAINST: Shelley Phillips
166. AGAINST: Hele Williams
167. AGAINST: Joseph B. ^{with 7 kids} Borchers
168. AGAINST: Matthew Kelly
169. AGAINST: Michael Davis

171. AGAINST: Rachel Keapler
172. AGAINST: Floyd G. Hingle Jr
173. AGAINST: Zuliana B. Phillips
174. AGAINST: Jason J. Wise
175. AGAINST: Stephen C. Wise
176. AGAINST: Marianne Turner
177. AGAINST: Wendell Turner
178. AGAINST: Rose B. Thuri
179. AGAINST: Julie Dydmar
180. AGAINST: Donald B. DeMuth
181. AGAINST: John S. France #1
182. AGAINST: James Brown Sr
183. AGAINST: Mark H. C
184. AGAINST: Steve J. Linn
185. AGAINST: Connie R. Ireadway
186. AGAINST: Melba C. Ireadway

188. AGAINST: Tracy H. Ken
189. AGAINST: Nita Lago
190. AGAINST: Mary Lou Gueray
191. AGAINST: Wayne Gueray
192. AGAINST: Kevin Fomin
193. AGAINST: Sharon Wallace
194. AGAINST: Dianna Tiser
195. AGAINST: Sarah Ylles
196. AGAINST: Ellen Ylles
197. AGAINST: Ronda Ylles
198. AGAINST: Tommy Lindy
199. AGAINST: Debbie Reynolds
200. AGAINST: Bernice Williams
201. AGAINST: James M. Johnson
202. AGAINST: Felix H. H. H.
203. AGAINST: Jim Billeod

203 - Mary Hapkin

204 Juanita Bantley

207 Mary Ancan

208 Amy Peoples 504-75

5

205. AGAINST: Kristina Donaldson
206. AGAINST: Martha Harvey
207. AGAINST: Paul Harvey
208. AGAINST: Connie Williams
209. AGAINST: Wale Williams
210. AGAINST: Shelly Henry
211. AGAINST: Peggy Priest
212. AGAINST: Mark H. -
213. AGAINST: Adolph Arcan
214. AGAINST: Alice Arcan
215. AGAINST: Jozette Arcan
216. AGAINST: Norman Espadero
217. AGAINST: Shirley Barthelemy
218. AGAINST: Geneva Barthelemy
219. AGAINST: Gracelia Barthelemy
220. AGAINST: Shirley Barthelemy

222. AGAINST: Karl Bartholomew
223. AGAINST: Heselle Lyke
224. AGAINST: Stephen Jefferson
225. AGAINST: Wallace Piccut
226. AGAINST: Janique Piquet
227. AGAINST: Cheryl Bartholomew
228. AGAINST: Lita Phillips
229. AGAINST: Ivy Bartholomew
230. AGAINST: Jessica Mackey
231. AGAINST: Elroy Mackey
232. AGAINST: Andrea Gonzales
233. AGAINST: Akeia Ables
234. AGAINST: Barry Ables
235. AGAINST: Aline Cosse
236. AGAINST: Jimmy Cosse
237. AGAINST: Holly Ables

239. AGAINST: Douglas Edwards Jr.
240. AGAINST: Allen Barthelmy
241. AGAINST: Wanda Barthelmy
242. AGAINST: Stephanie Barthelmy
243. AGAINST: Joannie Miller
244. AGAINST: Ron Miller
245. AGAINST: Wayne Antone
246. AGAINST: Wilfred Antone Sr
247. AGAINST: Ronda Antone
248. AGAINST: Kimberly Antone
249. AGAINST: Nellie Antone
250. AGAINST: Verissa Antone
251. AGAINST: Danna Duplessis
252. AGAINST: Tony Duplessis
253. AGAINST: Madhava Sanyal
254. AGAINST: Vinay Sanyal

256. AGAINST: Mae Liner
257. AGAINST: Kendra Espadron
258. AGAINST: Penny Turner
259. AGAINST: Carl Ancar
260. AGAINST: Christen Williamson
261. AGAINST: Linda Espadron
262. AGAINST: Jeffrey Espadron
263. AGAINST: Dennis Espadron
264. AGAINST: Megan Barthelmy
265. AGAINST: Constance Barthelmy
266. AGAINST: Sandra Barthelmy
267. AGAINST: Hayle Lefrance
268. AGAINST: Olen Barthelmy
269. AGAINST: Stephanie Barthelmy
270. AGAINST: Dominique Barthelmy
271. AGAINST: Felix Barthelmy

273. AGAINST: Ken Davis
274. AGAINST: Desiree Mackay
275. AGAINST: Wanda Mackay
276. AGAINST: Kendra Murch
277. AGAINST: Cordera Mackay
278. AGAINST: Brycen Casbon
279. AGAINST: Peggy Lytell
280. AGAINST: James Lytell
281. AGAINST: Patrick Sylva Jr
282. AGAINST: Rachel Sylva
283. AGAINST: Kenneth Sylva
284. AGAINST: Joyce Brooks
285. AGAINST: Jawana Brooks
286. AGAINST: Deoye Brooks III
287. AGAINST: Bruce Haines Jr
288. AGAINST: Mary Roberts

290. AGAINST: Anthony Roberts
291. AGAINST: Sue Denise
292. AGAINST: Martin Denise
293. AGAINST: Carol B. Williams
294. AGAINST: Charles Wagner
295. AGAINST: Sue Sorieney
296. AGAINST: C. Parker
297. AGAINST: [Signature]
298. AGAINST: Harriet L. Martin
299. AGAINST: Harlette Martin
300. AGAINST: Tracey Treadway
301. AGAINST: Virkie Treadway
302. AGAINST: Engine Treadway
303. AGAINST: Dot J. Blangie
304. AGAINST: Elin Blangie
305. AGAINST: Louana Phillips

307. AGAINST: Carlton Satrance Sr
308. AGAINST: Carlton Satrance Jr
309. AGAINST: Ashley Satrance
310. AGAINST: Joshua Satrance
311. AGAINST: John Satrance Jr
312. AGAINST: Anthony Satrance Sr
313. AGAINST: Anthony Satrance Jr
314. AGAINST: Mary Sanders
315. AGAINST: Wesley Williams
316. AGAINST: Angela Barthelmy
317. AGAINST: Augusta Barthelmy
318. AGAINST: Jonie Duplessis
319. AGAINST: Christopher Hany
320. AGAINST: Joseph Duplessis
321. AGAINST: Dennis Alexis
322. AGAINST: Mary StAnn

324. AGAINST: Jeramy Sylve
325. AGAINST: DARCELL Sylve Sr.
326. AGAINST: Cassie B Sylve
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327. AGAINST: Denzel Sylve
328. AGAINST: John Phillips
329. AGAINST: Barbara Sylvia
330. AGAINST: Desi Sylve
331. AGAINST: Catherine Sylve
332. AGAINST: Harold Sylve Sr.
333. AGAINST: Ryan Sylve
334. AGAINST: Ronald Hagar
335. AGAINST: Latasha Carol
336. AGAINST: Mafine B. Carson
337. AGAINST: Blake Sylve
338. AGAINST: Morris Sylve Jr
339. AGAINST: Camille Meques

341. AGAINST: Kennell Syle Jr.
342. AGAINST: Lauri Metz
343. AGAINST: Keith Metz Sr
344. AGAINST: May D Syle
345. AGAINST: Gavin Syle
346. AGAINST: Clayton Syle
347. AGAINST: Kyle Wacker
348. AGAINST: Claude Phillips Jr
349. AGAINST: Samantha Darciso
350. AGAINST: Kermit Darciso
351. AGAINST: Betty Bartholomew
352. AGAINST: Toni Anon
353. AGAINST: Salor Anon
354. AGAINST: Beth Ann Anon
355. AGAINST: William Anon Jr.
356. AGAINST: Nedra Anon

358. AGAINST: Josentia Ancarz
359. AGAINST: Magen Ancarz
360. AGAINST: Randy Ancarz
361. AGAINST: Daphne Ancarz
362. AGAINST: Billy James
363. AGAINST: Andrea Barthelme
364. AGAINST: Lorne L. Landry
365. AGAINST: Antoinette Sylve
366. AGAINST: Eric Jones, Sr
367. AGAINST: Scottie Henry
368. AGAINST: Joseph Henry
369. AGAINST: Vernon A. Duncan, Jr
370. AGAINST: Steven Duncan
371. AGAINST: Claude Jones
372. AGAINST: Norais Sylve, Sr
373. AGAINST: Dail Sylve

375. AGAINST: Amy Sylve
376. AGAINST: Ruth Dineen
377. AGAINST: Glenda Bartholomew
378. AGAINST: Daniel Bartholomew
379. AGAINST: Gracette Dineen
380. AGAINST: Sharon Allen
381. AGAINST: Marie Alexis
382. AGAINST: Lared Bartholomew
383. AGAINST: Waffly Bartholomew
384. AGAINST: Chet Fitt Jr.
385. AGAINST: Lockett Fitt
386. AGAINST: Charlotte Bartholomew
387. AGAINST: Doraine Syler
388. AGAINST: Larry Sylve Sr.
389. AGAINST: Bernadette Bartholomew
390. AGAINST: Randy Arcan

392. AGAINST: Jack Lyke
393. AGAINST: Amelia Lyke
394. AGAINST: Vanessa Bartholomew
395. AGAINST: Jeffrey Bartholomew Sr
396. AGAINST: Kasey Bartholomew
397. AGAINST: Whitney Bartholomew
398. AGAINST: Jeffrey Bartholomew Jr.
399. AGAINST: Kasi Rogers
400. AGAINST: Marion Rogers
401. AGAINST: Kimi Rogers
402. AGAINST: Rhonda Rogers
403. AGAINST: Ashley Atkris
404. AGAINST: Shawn Atkris
405. AGAINST: Brandy Johnson
406. AGAINST: Stanley Johnson
407. AGAINST: Wanda C. Bartholomew

409. AGAINST: Patricia A. Chavone

410. AGAINST: Andrew Williams

411. AGAINST: Shane Edgum

412. AGAINST: A. Carfagne

413. AGAINST: Sharon Carfagne

414. AGAINST: Doree L. Laine

415. AGAINST: Dan Duthu

416. AGAINST: Dennis Duthu

417. AGAINST: Anna Vaughn

418. AGAINST: Michael Vaughn

419. AGAINST: Michelle Vaughn

420. AGAINST: Darren Discever

421. AGAINST: Latun D. Solis

422. AGAINST: Andrew Solis

423. AGAINST: Sherry Moss

841. AGAINST: Paedhel Schenck

842. AGAINST: James W. Adams

843. AGAINST: Brett Sommer

844. AGAINST: Paedhel Schenck

845. AGAINST: Loren Luster

846. AGAINST: Casey Parker

847. AGAINST: John T. Brown

848. AGAINST: Gail M. Petrovich

849. AGAINST: Iroy R. Petrovich Sr.

850. AGAINST: Karla Petrovich

851. AGAINST: Iroy R. Petrovich Jr.

852. AGAINST: Dena Phillips

853. AGAINST: Iroy Phillips

854. AGAINST: Lenille Jones

855. AGAINST: Ross Phillips

872. AGAINST: _____

873. AGAINST: Catherine Arenales

874. AGAINST: ^{Regina} Arenales

875. AGAINST: Grace Miller

876. AGAINST: Thud Man

877. AGAINST: Le Thuy Nguyen

878. AGAINST: Tran Duong

879. AGAINST: John Sencovich

880. AGAINST: Lisa Sencovich

881. AGAINST: TS AO

882. AGAINST: Kevin Mc Cug

883. AGAINST: Mamie O'Connor

884. AGAINST: Kevin O'Connor

885. AGAINST: FA Still

886. AGAINST: Dr. Toward Still

887. AGAINST: Bonnie Still

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889. AGAINST: Kail Snodden

890. AGAINST: Kenneth Mann

891. AGAINST: Jan m man

892. AGAINST: Mary Langlois

893. AGAINST: Joseph Langlois

894. AGAINST: Darlene Richards

895. AGAINST: Barbara

896. AGAINST: Barbara Lavin

897. AGAINST: Wayne Tremblay

898. AGAINST: Neil C. Hall

899. AGAINST: Mija B. Amador

900. AGAINST: Corey Beech

901. AGAINST: Pat Davis

902. AGAINST: Oral 25

903. AGAINST: Armando Mayan

905. AGAINST: Dotter Cavet

906. AGAINST: Chuck Cavet Jr

907. AGAINST: Charles S Cavet SR

908. AGAINST: Sue Brue

909. AGAINST: Imegm, Paly

910. AGAINST: Francis Paulature Bailey

911. AGAINST: Jim Dip

912. AGAINST: BH

913. AGAINST: Katie Adams

914. AGAINST: K. St

915. AGAINST: Kathleen Adams

916. AGAINST: J. B. Archibald

917. AGAINST: Sandra Guindanis

918. AGAINST: Theresa Cuthbert

919. AGAINST: Daniel Cuthbert

← 2 NAMES

920. AGAINST: *John J. Jones*
921. AGAINST: *Marilyn C Zito*
922. AGAINST: *Robert V. Zito*
923. AGAINST: *Walter R. Kern*
924. AGAINST: *Glenn B. Key*
925. AGAINST: *Ed S. Brown*
926. AGAINST: *John Brown*
927. AGAINST: *Orrin Bayle*
928. AGAINST: *Wm R. Bayle*
929. AGAINST: *William Sautz*
930. AGAINST: *Gage Sautz*
931. AGAINST: *Roland Breen*
932. AGAINST: *Constance Breen*
933. AGAINST: *Floyd Fausch*
934. AGAINST: *Mott Mistiche*
935. AGAINST: *Betty Mistiche*

AGAINST: Phillipe Rosa

AGAINST: Tornel Jackson

AGAINST: Vince Kaliszski

AGAINST: Dennis Robinson

AGAINST: Jan Kaliszski

AGAINST: Billy Hingle

AGAINST: Ernest Hingle

AGAINST: Calvin Kaliszski

AGAINST: _____

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AGAINST: _____

Tulane Environmental Law Clinic

May 18, 2009

Mr. Gib Owen, PM-RS
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
New Orleans District
P.O. Box 60267
New Orleans, LA 70160-0267

RE: Oakville Community Action Group Comments on IER # 13

Dear Mr. Owen:

Oakville Community Action Group agrees with and supports the proposed action evaluated by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Mississippi Valley Division, New Orleans District ("the Corps") in its draft Individual Environmental Report # 13 (IER # 13).

Oakville Community Action Group is a non-profit corporation whose members live, work, own property, recreate, and enjoy the environment in and near Oakville. The purpose of the organization is to preserve, protect, and enhance the environmental, health, and safety interests of its members, the Oakville community, and its surroundings. IER # 13 evaluates the potential impacts associated with the proposed enlargement to the Hero Canal levee, and construction of the Eastern Tie In portion of the West Bank and Vicinity, Louisiana Project. The purpose of this proposed action is to provide hurricane and storm damage risk reduction to Oakville and other communities in Plaquemines Parish. Because the proposed action directly affects Oakville, Oakville Community Action Group has actively participated in several public meetings held by the Army Corps on IER # 13 where it has voiced its concerns about various levee alignments and other project details. Oakville Community Action Group is pleased that the proposed action addresses its concerns by protecting the Oakville community without requiring the relocation of its residents and by minimizing impacts to the wetlands in the area.

Specifically, Oakville Community Action Group supports the proposed project because it protects all Oakville residents by including the entire community within the levee system, while leaving all residences and community structures in place. Oakville is a community with a strong a strong sense of unity bound by community leaders (both civic and spiritual), familial connections, and a shared history. Freed slaves from nearby plantations founded Oakville after the abolishment of slavery. Indeed, the very same subdivision layout exists today as that which its founders designed in 1871. And, many of today's Oakville residents can trace their ancestry to those who first lived in Oakville. Because of Oakville's history and strong community ties, Oakville Community Action Group is especially pleased that the Army Corps chose an alternative that will allow the community to remain whole and protected.

Tulane Environmental Law Clinic

6329 Freret St., Ste. 130, New Orleans, LA 70118-6231 tel 504.865.5789 fax 504.862.8721 www.tulane.edu/~telc

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In addition, Oakville Community Action Group supports the proposed project because it minimizes wetland loss. The area to the east of Oakville is a forested swamp comprised of bottomland hardwoods that offers many benefits, some of which are wildlife habitat, storm surge buffer, and flood control. Therefore, Oakville Community Action Group supports the Army Corps decision to eliminate alternative 3 that would have resulted in the destruction of an additional 53 acres of this valuable forested swamp.

Oakville Community Action Group thanks the Army Corps for taking its concerns into consideration and proposing a project that will enhance the future of the Oakville community.

Respectfully submitted this 18th day of May, 2009 by,

TULANE ENVIRONMENTAL LAW CLINIC



Corinne Van Dalen, La. Bar. No. 21175

Supervising Attorney



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Email:



*On Behalf of Counsel for Oakville Community
Action Group*

New Orleans to Venice, LA (NOV) Plaquemines Parish Federal Levee
Public Scoping Comment

Comments: Thank you for the information and
the presentation. I would

like to see the video of the survey
gate flood gate used. Those two
look better.
I am glad that the non federal levee will be
raised.

Name Jane Smith Affiliation _____

Phone _____

Fax _____

Street _____
City, _____
E-mail _____

www.mvn.usace.army.mil

www.nolaenvironmental.gov

**New Orleans to Venice, LA (NOV) Plaquemines Parish Federal Levee
Public Scoping Comment**

**Comments: — IT IS ABSOLUTELY IMPERATIVE THAT THE OAKVILLE FLOODWALL BE
INSTALLED FOR MORE REASONS THAN ONE!!!** In addition, I agree that the levees below Oakville should be
federalized to a 100-year storm protection level but it makes good sense to compartmentalize the entire levee system to protect the
entire parish from flooding in the event of a breach or levee failure. As was experienced by Hurricanes Katrina and Gustov, levees
can be breached and compromised for one reason or another and compartmentalizing the levee system protects other zones in the
event of a breach anywhere in the parish. Oakville and below would be protected in the event that Belle Chasse were to flood as well
as Belle Chasse would be protected from a level breach below Oakville. The floodwall has a dual purpose and makes good common
sense to proceed with it installation regardless of the upgrading of the levee system below Oakville!! Ships are built with that same
idea in mind that if one compartment is flooded, it is sealed off and the entire ship does not flood sink.

Name —
Street —
City, St —
E-mail —

Affiliation —

.gov

From: [Owen, Gib A MVN](#) on behalf of [MVN Environmental](#)
To: [Vignes, Julie D MVN](#); [Holder, Ken MVN](#); [LeBlanc, Julie Z MVN](#); [Eagles, Paul MVK](#); [Maloz, Wilson L MVN](#); [Coulson, Getrisc MVN](#); [Carr, Jr Theodore D MVN](#); [Wiggins, Elizabeth MVN](#)
Cc: [Podany, Thomas J MVN](#)
Subject: FW: Sept 19th Meeting and Workshop
Date: Monday, September 21, 2009 6:20:38 AM

All,
FYI - Feedback from Saturdays meeting.
Gib

Gib Owen
US Army Corps of Engineers
Chief, Ecological Planning and Restoration Section/
HSDRRS Environmental Team Leader
New Orleans District
504 862-1337

-----Original Message-----

From: Bobby Wilson [mailto:[b.wilson@usace.army.mil](#)]
Sent: Sunday, September 20, 2009 11:38 PM
To: MVN Environmental
Cc: Joan Wilson
Subject: Sept 19th Meeting and Workshop

Dear Mr. Owen

I want to personally express my gratitude in the way that the Corp presented the current status of the EIR-13 Eastern Tie-In and the Plaquemines Parish Non-Federal Levee Projects on September 19th. I thought the main presentation as well as the workshops that were conducted were done effectively and I believe that it couldn't have been presented any better.

I originally expressed some doubts as to whether this exercise of communication was worth the time and effort. I was wrong.

I have written to you in the past and you have always responded with information that has been both helpful and comforting to me and I appreciate this.

I wanted to make two additional comments regarding this past meeting and the options presented and hope that you would relay this back to Colonel Lee. The first comment is a communication concern that I have which was not a responsibility of the Corp but more of a responsibility of our Parish Officials.

1. If you hadn't noticed, the audience that attended the meeting on Saturday was primarily those that reside south of Oakville. This does not come to any surprise to me. I live in Belle Chasse and I work as an engineer at the ConocoPhillips Refinery just south of Jesuit Bend. In this past week, there was not one parish sign, billboard or electronic message board posted in Belle Chasse which alerted the

residences of Belle Chasse of the Sept 19th Meeting. There wasn't even a displayed message on the Parish Government Building in Belle Chasse. On the other hand, there was a large blinking Roadside Electronic Message Board that was placed on Hwy 23 in the Jesuit Bend area at least four days ahead of the meeting alerting residences of and south of Jesuit Bend of this meeting. I'm not going to speculate why this happened. I just wanted to make sure that Colonel Lee and yourself were aware of this and not be swayed in the notion that the Oakville gate was opposed by all residences of Plaquemines Parish. I assure you that it's not. The audience that attended the Saturday meeting was made up primarily of residences south of Oakville because of reasons that I don't want to speculate on however I believe you know what these are without saying.

2.Regarding the four options at Oakville, in my opinion as well as those who attended the same workshops that I attended, the most favorable and desirable of the four options is the Ramp Option. This appears to be a more permanent solution and least likely to be tampered with by those who oppose a gate or levee there. The least favorable option is the "invisible gate option". Our main concern here is (1) we would be relying upon parish workers to construct this gate. We are very concerned about this. (2) We would be relying upon our Parish officials (some of whom are opposed to any type of gate) to decide when and if the gate should go up in the event of an approaching hurricane. We are equally concerned about this one.

Please be so kind as to send me an email response on any upcoming changes or milestones that affect our Hurricane Flood Protection Projects.

With Kind Regards,

Bobby Wilson

[REDACTED]

Belle Chasse, LA

[REDACTED]

Email: [REDACTED]

From: [Owen, Gib A MVN](#)
To: [Coulson, Getrisc MVN](#)
Subject: Fw: Eastern Tie-In @ Oakville
Date: Wednesday, September 23, 2009 8:26:21 PM

Gigi

Please include Mr. Perez comment as a comment for IER 13 AR.

Thanks

Gib

Gib Owen

USACE, Chief, Ecological and Restoration Section, New Orleans District

Solutionear with device stuck in my right hand.

From: LHPerez3@aol.com <LHPerez3@aol.com>
To: Lee, Alvin B COL MVN
Cc: Owen, Gib A MVN; LeBlanc, Julie Z MVN; bnungesser@plaqueminesparish.com
<bnungesser@plaqueminesparish.com>
Sent: Wed Sep 23 19:09:28 2009
Subject: Eastern Tie-In @ Oakville

Colonel Lee,

Thank you for the Corps hosting the Public Workshop at the Belle Chasse High School on September 19, 2009. I feel it was a significant step forward for most residents in understanding the Corps and the reason for the Eastern Tie-In at Oakville.

I strongly support and urge the Corps and the Plaquemines Parish Government working together and proceeding on the fast tract to have the NFL from Oakville to La Reussite be included in the 100 year protection.

At the Workshop, the Corps outlined four options as to an Eastern tie-in crossing Highway 23 at Oakville. I would appreciate my opinion on this matter to be of record. My first choice would be the "Invisible" Floodwall followed by the Roller Gate, and my third choice would be the Swing Gate option. These three options would serve equally as well based upon the Corps' presentation in which all the options included an emergency bypass.

I would suggest the storage building for the components of the Invisible Floodwall placed on the north "protected" side of the wall. Therefore, the building, components of the wall, and any machinery would be protected in an unfortunate event.

I reside in the Oakville vicinity at 11422 Highway 23. My home and property are adjacent to the Eastern Tie-In on the south side or "Flood" side as the Corps refers to it. I would like to go on record as strongly opposing the Eastern Tie-In Ramp Option. I speak for myself and other family members who live and have property that will be adversely affected by the Ramp Option. There are many reasons why we oppose this Option, but the main and most important is SAFETY. If the Ramp Option is implemented, there would be enormous safety problems for vehicular and pedestrian traffic on both sides of Highway 23. In Oakville, St. Peter Street and Oakville Street are crossed numerous times a day from East to West and back. Residents attending churches and the community park would encounter a greater risk traveling back and forth across Highway 23. Pedestrians, automobiles, school buses, eighteen wheelers and larger trucks, as well as tractor trailers transporting oil field equipment and other materials, pass through Oakville twenty-four hours a day. Some of these stop at Captain Larry's Seafood and others continue north or south. This is one of the most high risk portions of Highway 23. If the Highway is altered in any fashion such as narrowing lanes, installing barriers, sloping shoulders, ramping, big turn arounds, and other modifications, it would be a sure disastrous situation impacting SAFETY. It would be dangerous to encounter these obstacles during normal daylight hours, and magnified by the darkness of night, or with rain or fog. There have been two fatalities directly in front of my home and others nearby.

At the Corps sponsored meetings held at Oakville Town Hall, St. Paul's Benevolent Association Building, the residents unanimously opposed any such overpass or ramp tie-in options crossing Highway 23. Colonel Lee, in making your selection as to a Tie-In, please consider the opinion of the residents

within this community rather than someone who lives miles away from the site.

Thank you,
Leander H. Perez, III

I am definitely not in favor of the invisible floodwall being used in lieu of a roller gate or swing gate for the eastern tie-in at Oakville/Belle Chasse. At the breakout session the Corps stated that it would take 10 days to erect. This floodwall has been used for riverine flooding in the north. As far as I'm concerned it should only be used as an emergency flood fight technique for that purpose and not as a permanent feature in any hurricane levee project that is supposed to be certified to provide 100 year protection. The assembly and removal is labor intensive and time consuming and must be repeated every time a storm is in the Gulf. Neither does this design have any proven performance for hurricane protection in this area. Since there are so many miles of levees, floodwalls, floodgates and pumping stations to deal with in both Plaquemines Parish and in the Westbank Hurricane System, this option should not be considered. Logically and practically some of the wall components would have to remain in place during the entire hurricane season, therefore it would not be invisible after all. Continued erection and dismantling of the wall would also subject the components to loss or damage. From my 40 years experience dealing with flood control, I really do not think this option should have ever been considered for a permanent installation. Unfortunately, it's apparently Plaquemines Parish's choice.

Additionally, at the outset of the meeting, President Nungesser told everyone present, that they would not see any floodgate or floodwall built in Oakville because he would build the 100 year levee from Jesuit Bend to La Reussite first. While the Corps officially promises to continue to construct the Eastern Tie-in in Oakville by June 1, 2011, I have no confidence that any of the Corps closure options would be utilized by the Parish. With all the indecision of even completing the authorized 100 year plan by Plaquemines Government, what assurance is there that the invisible floodwall would be erected or that gates would be closed at this particular location? The ramp crossing is absolutely the best solution for this location and some consideration should be given to the structural merit of including the roadway structure as an integral part of the protection. After anyone entertains the idea of using the invisible wall, surely the superiority of the highway ramp on LA23 must be apparent to all and the ramp is not subject to political indecision. This ramp would also intelligently divide polders when the new levee protection is being constructed and completed in the Jesuit Bend area. This is no different from what the Jesuit Bend residents want for their southern road closure at La Reussite.

While this controversy continues on, we in the Belle Chasse and English Turn Area still lack the 100 year protection that was originally authorized in 1996 and re-engineered after Katrina. The eastern tie-in location at Oakville presently provides a ground elevation of approximately +5 ft. and provides a significant and unacceptable low gap in the WestBank Hurricane Project for us. The average ground elevations in the Belle Chasse and English Turn areas is approximately - 5.0 ft. in elevation; approximately 5 ft. lower than the average ground elevations in the Jesuit Bend area. Unfortunately, continued failure to close this lowest gap in our area puts all of our area at irresponsible and unnecessary risk for even storms of less than 100 year intensity.

In the past year, the residents of the Jesuit Bend area have discovered that their area was not included in the authorized Westbank Hurricane

Project, and want no floodwall or floodgate separating their area from Belle Chasse. As a 22 year resident of Belle Chasse, I have been awaiting 100 year protection for my area for well over 20 years, and it still does not exist. I realize all the necessary changes for levee certification post-Katrina, and meeting the deadlines. I also know how long it takes to construct these projects. I personally was the DOTD Engineer charged by the Governor to assist West Jefferson Levee District after Hurricane Juan in 1985 with the repair of the levees, federal authorization and post authorization changes, surveys and engineering, and worked on the same until 2003. Please make the correct engineering decisions regarding these matters.

Sincerely,

Geneva P. Grille, P.E.

Retired DOTD District Design, Water Resources and Development Engineer

