



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

# News Release

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## **For Immediate Release**

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## **Corps releases document discussing preferred alternatives for Eastbank of St. Charles Parish**

**NEW ORLEANS** - The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New Orleans District, released Individual Environmental Report 1 entitled, "La Branch Wetlands Levee, St. Charles Parish, Louisiana," today for a 30-day public review period. Public comments on IER 1 must be submitted to the Corps by 5 p.m., Thursday, May 29, 2008.

The preferred alternative for IER 1 is an enlarged earthen levee along the existing alignment. The preferred alternative for reducing risk from a storm event that has a one percent chance of occurring in any given year will require the Corps to acquire additional right-of-way to increase the project's footprint and strength. Clay for the earthen levee will come from the Bonnet Carre Spillway.

The St. Charles Parish Levee reduces risk from storm surge for the areas of Norco, New Sarpy, Destrehan, St. Rose and surrounding communities.

"We described the preferred alternative at public meetings in February and April," said Carl Anderson, senior project manager for St. Charles and Jefferson parishes. "This alternative is the best engineering solution to reducing risk near the St. Charles Parish lakefront."

The St. Charles Parish Levee is one of 17 projects that compose the Greater New Orleans Hurricane and Storm Damage Risk Reduction System. The Corps expects District Commander, Col. Alvin Lee, to sign the IER 1 decision record soon after the comment period closes.

Alternative arrangements allow the Corps to expedite the environmental process required of all federally funded projects while fully complying with the intent of the National Environmental Policy Act.

The Corps mailed notices that IER 1 was available for review to parties who previously indicated their interest in reviewing the document. It can also be downloaded at [www.nolaenvironmental.gov](http://www.nolaenvironmental.gov) where written comments may also be submitted through May 29.

Questions or comments concerning Individual Environmental Reports or the Corps' environmental process may be addressed to:

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For more information or to sign up to be on a meeting notification list please visit the following web site: [www.nolaenvironmental.gov](http://www.nolaenvironmental.gov).

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