

## **News Release**

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## For Immediate Release

Contact: Julie Morgan, 504-862-2587

February 27, 2008

## Corps to present preferred alternatives for 100-year protection in St. Charles and Jefferson parishes

**NEW ORLEANS** - The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New Orleans District, is hosting a public meeting on Thursday, Feb. 28, 2008 at the East Bank Regional Library, 4747 W. Napoleon Ave. in Metairie to discuss proposed actions that will bring the Hurricane Storm Damage and Risk Reduction System in St. Charles and Jefferson parishes up to 100-year levels of protection.

The meeting will cover projects discussed in Individual Environmental Reports 1, 2 and 3. IER 1 discusses the La Branch Wetlands Levee in St. Charles Parish. IER 2 covers the West Return Floodwall that runs along the Jefferson and St. Charles Parish boundaries. IER 3 covers the Lakefront Levee in Jefferson Parish.

"We are presenting a number of preferred alternatives that will strengthen this portion of the hurricane system to protect against a storm that has a one percent chance of hitting in any given year," said Carl Anderson, Corps senior project manager for St. Charles and Jefferson parishes.

The public meeting begins with a Corps-staffed open house at 6 p.m. A formal presentation begins 7 p.m. and is followed by a question and answer period. The purpose of the meeting is to allow the public the opportunity to provide input on development of the Hurricane Storm Damage and Risk Reduction System.

In addition to IERs 1, 2 and 3, the Corps will also discuss potential areas from which borrow material may be obtained. Borrow is a specific type of clay the Corps needs to upgrade the current levee system. The Corps is investigating potential borrow source sites all across the region.

Public meetings are part of the Corps' commitment to environmental compliance efforts and construction updates on the proposed 100-year storm system for both the Westbank and Vicinity and Lake Pontchartrain and Vicinity areas. These meetings are a part of a National Environmental Policy Act alternative arrangement, and are held to provide the public the opportunity to participate in the Corps' decision making process.

The Corps encourages the public to provide written comments on IERs available for public review by mail, e-mail or by visiting <a href="https://www.nolaenvironmental.gov">www.nolaenvironmental.gov</a> at any time throughout the environmental analysis period. Questions or comments concerning proposed hurricane storm damage reduction actions should be addressed to:

Gib Owen, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, PM-RS P.O. Box 60267, New Orleans, LA 70160-0267 Phone: 504-862-1337; Fax; 504-862-2088 or by e-mail at: mvnenvironmental@usace.army.mil.

For more information or to sign up for meeting notifications please visit the following web site: <a href="https://www.nolaenvironmental.gov">www.nolaenvironmental.gov</a>.

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