

## **News Release**

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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Gib Owen, (504) 862-1337

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## Corps releases document with proposed alternatives for the Chalmette Loop

NEW ORLEANS – The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers released Individual Environmental Report (IER) 10, titled "Chalmette Loop Levee, St. Bernard Parish", about proposed risk-reduction projects yesterday for a 30-day public review.

The environmental document evaluates the potential impacts to the human environment that construction of the proposed levees, floodwalls, bridges and floodgates along the existing hurricane levees encircling St. Bernard Parish. Proposed action would start just south of the Bayou Bienvenue water control structure and follows the existing Mississippi River Gulf Outlet (MRGO) levee south towards Verret to point that levee turns west towards the Caernarvon Freshwater Diversion structure. Proposed action ends after crossing Hwy 39 at the juncture with the Mississippi River Levee.

Written or verbal comments on IER 10 must be submitted to the Corps by midnight on Tuesday, May 12, 2009. Comments received during the public review period will become part of the official record.

Proposed action includes T-walls constructed on top of the existing levees to an elevation ranging from 29- to 31-feet. At the Hwy 46 crossing, the proposed alternative is to construct a bridge over a T-wall, an access road along the highway for the Verret Fire Station, and construction of a taller floodgate at Bayou Road.

The projects within IER 10 would reduce impacts from a storm event that has a one percent chance of occurring in any given year. This would reduce risk of damage to property and infrastructure to communities in St. Bernard Parish such as Chalmette, Meraux and Violet.

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

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

Phone: 504-862-1337 Fax: 504-862-2088

E-mail: mvnenvironmental@usace.army.mil.

Comments may also be provided by visiting: <a href="www.nolaenvironmental.gov">www.nolaenvironmental.gov</a>

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

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