



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

News Release

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Corps provides additional venue to discuss Plaquemines Parish risk reduction

Apr. 29 and May 4 public meetings to detail project status

NEW ORLEANS, LA – The Corps is providing an additional venue for residents to learn more about the risk reduction measures that will benefit Plaquemines Parish.

On **Wednesday, Apr. 29**, Corps staff will discuss the proposed action to reduce risk to Belle Chasse and upper Plaquemines Parish at a public meeting in Oakville, LA.

Details of the **Apr. 29, 2009** public meeting are:

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

“The project team has made significant changes to the proposed risk reduction measures since we last met with the public. Changes to the proposed action were based upon engineering requirements, avoidance of environmental impacts and on feedback offered by community members from Oakville and Belle Chasse, as well as other stakeholders,” said Ted Carr, project manager. “The proposal to construct a bridge along Highway 23 has been reconsidered, the proposed action now includes the construction of floodgates across the roadway which would only be closed during a storm event.”

The proposed action is outlined in Individual Environmental Report 13, entitled “Hero Canal Levee and Eastern Terminus, Plaquemines Parish, Louisiana.” The document discusses the Corps’ proposed action on how to most effectively reduce risk for Westbank residents. The project would connect the Westbank and Vicinity levee to the Mississippi River levee. Comments on the Corps’ plan must be received by Monday, May 4, 2009.

The Corps will host an additional public meeting on **Monday, May 4** to provide an update on the status of the Plaquemines Parish Non-Federal Levee project and to discuss the Eastern Tie In. The Corps is still evaluating upgrades to the current Plaquemines Parish Non-Federal Levee project. A recommendation on the levee system south of Oakville will be discussed in a Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement which is tentatively planned for release this summer.

Details of the **May 4, 2009** public meeting are:

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

Presentation 7 p.m.

Belle Chasse Auditorium

8398 Highway 23, Belle Chasse, LA 70037

Public meetings are part of the Corps' commitment to stakeholders as part of our National Environmental Policy Act compliance efforts and to provide opportunities to participate in the decision making process on the hurricane risk reduction system.

Copies of IER 13 are available for download at: www.nolaenvironmental.gov or by request.

Questions or comments concerning Individual Environmental Reports or the Corps' environmental processes 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.

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