



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

News Release

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District Commander signs Individual Environmental Report 15

Document discusses how Corps will reduce risk on Westbank

NEW ORLEANS - The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New Orleans District Commander, Col. Alvin Lee, signed the Decision Record for Individual Environmental Report (IER) 15, entitled "Lake Cataouatche Levee, Jefferson Parish" on Jun. 12, 2008. The signature will allow the Corps to complete the designs of an earthen levee which will reduce risk from a storm event that has a one percent chance of occurring in any given year, along with a floodwall protecting the Lake Cataouatche pump station.

"The project team is now ready to move forward with complete engineering design for this portion of the Westbank and Vicinity project," said Mike Stack, project manager. "We expect to complete the designs this winter and proceed with construction contracts beginning in the spring of 2009."

Lake Cataouatche is part of the Westbank and Vicinity portion of the Greater New Orleans Hurricane and Storm Damage Risk Reduction System. This project reduces risk for communities on the Westbank of Jefferson Parish including, Lake Cataouatche, Bridge City, Marrero, Waggaman, Westwego and surrounding neighborhoods.

The Corps considered several alternatives before determining that the most effective way to reduce risk in the area was by building an earthen levee along the existing alignment.

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.

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

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