



MITCHELL J. LANDRIEU
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

State of Louisiana
OFFICE OF THE LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR
DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE, RECREATION & TOURISM
OFFICE OF CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT
DIVISION OF ARCHAEOLOGY

DAWN ROMERO WATSON
SECRETARY

PAM BREAU
ASSISTANT SECRETARY

March 24, 2008

Ms. Elizabeth Wiggins
Environmental Planning and Compliance Branch
New Orleans District, Corps of Engineers
P.O. Box 60267
New Orleans, LA 70160-0267

Re: CRM Management Summary
LA Division of Archaeology Report No. (22-3055)
*Management Summary: Reconnaissance Survey of the
Western Tie-In Segment (IER 16), West Bank and
Vicinity Hurricane Protection Levee,
Jefferson and St. Charles Parishes, Louisiana*
Coastal Environments, Inc.

Dear Ms. Wiggins:

We are in receipt of your letter of March 10, 2008, transmitting a Management Summary from Coastal Environments, Inc. for the above-cited project. This Management Summary meets the basic guidelines for such documents set forth by the Louisiana Division of Archaeology.

We agree with the recommendations concerning cultural resources for the project area made by Coastal Environments, Inc. Namely, we have the same opinion that newly reported archaeological site [REDACTED] will be affected by the proposed undertaking in Alternative 1 of the IER#16 project area and should be avoided. If avoidance is not possible, we concur with the recommendation that additional archaeological investigations are necessary to determine the site's eligibility for the National Register of Historic Places. We also recognize that IER16's boundaries are different than originally proposed and hope that the SHPO should be consulted if project plans change and other alternatives are selected for construction.

We look forward to reviewing the full reports for this and other Individual Environmental Report Areas (IERs). Technical comments of a minor nature are enclosed and should be considered with the submission of a draft report for all the IERs. If you have any questions or comments concerning this project, please feel free to contact Dennis Jones at (225) 342-8170 or djones@crt.state.la.us.

Ms. Elizabeth Wiggins
March 24, 2008
Page 2

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Pam Breaux". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the typed name and title.

Pam Breaux
State Historic Preservation Officer

PB:DJ:s

C: Dr. Douglas Wells, Coastal Environments, Inc. (w/enclosures).



REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
NEW ORLEANS DISTRICT, CORPS OF ENGINEERS
P.O. BOX 60267
NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA 70160-0267

October 20, 2008

Planning, Programs, and
Project Management Division
Environmental Planning
and Compliance Branch
Attn: CEMVN-PM-RN

Mr. Scott Hutcheson
State Historic Preservation Officer
Office of Cultural Development
Department of Culture, Recreation, and Tourism
P.O. Box 44247
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70804

We concur that the proposed undertaking will have no adverse effect on historic properties. This effect determination could change should new information come to our attention.

Scott Hutcheson 12-11-08

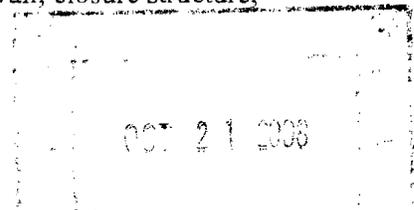
Scott Hutcheson Date
State Historic Preservation Officer

RE: Request to Continue Consultation Under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act for the West Bank and Vicinity Hurricane Protection Project, Western Tie-in, Individual Environmental Report #16, Jefferson and St. Charles Parishes, Louisiana.

Dear Mr. Hutcheson:

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Mississippi Valley Division, New Orleans District, is amending the Area of Potential Effects (APE) for the project area currently being studied under Individual Environmental Report #16, West Bank and Vicinity Hurricane Protection Project, Western Tie-in, Individual Environmental Report #16, Jefferson and St. Charles Parishes, Louisiana. This amendment removes Alternative Alignment 2 as the proposed action and replaces it with Alternative Alignment 3, which is located south of the Outer Cataouatche Canal (Enclosures #1 and #2). In our letter to your office dated March 10, 2008, the District provided project documentation and a finding of "no historic properties affected" for the Alternative Alignment 2 APE. Your office concurred with our opinion in a letter dated March 17, 2008. Copies of these letters are attached herein.

Pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA), the District, in consultation with the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) and Indian Tribes, will determine if the amended area of potential effects (APE) established for IER #16 contains historic properties. The amended APE follows Alternative Alignment 3 and measures approximately 22,300 feet long by approximately 500 feet wide for a total of approximately 256 acres. Proposed activities in the amended APE include levee, floodwall, closure structure, drainage ditch, and Highway 90 bridge construction.



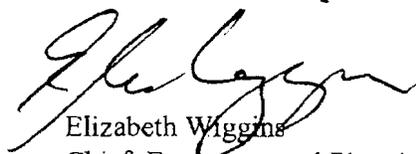
In a recent cultural resources investigation conducted by Coastal Environments, Inc., researchers utilized background research, previous cultural resource investigation review, soil and topographic analyses, and field reconnaissance and Phase I data to identify and assess historic structures and high potential areas for archaeological resources in the IER #16 study area (Wells, 2008). The management summary of this investigation was submitted to your office as an attachment to our March 10, 2008 letter. This study evaluated all three project alternative alignments, including the majority of Alternative Alignment 3. No previously recorded cultural resources, artifacts or intact archaeological deposits or features, or historically significant standing structures were identified in the Alternative Alignment 3 APE.

Subsequent to the completion of the Coastal Environments, Inc. cultural resources investigation, the Alternative Alignment 3 APE was modified to include an additional area not evaluated by Wells (2008). This area is located north, and adjacent to, the APE on the western end of the alignment (Enclosure #3). A District archaeologist conducted a field trip and found the area was relatively low and susceptible to frequently flooding with portions severely impacted by previous highway, canal, and levee construction. The potential for cultural resources in this area is considered extremely minimal. No further cultural resources investigations are recommended.

Based on a review of the information summarized above, it is our view that the proposed project activities in the Alternative Alignment 3 APE will not impact any significant cultural resources. However, in the event that cultural resources are encountered during construction activities, work will be halted and your office will be contacted for further consultation. Any resources encountered will be recorded and documented, and state archaeological site forms will be provided.

Please review the enclosed project documentation and provide this office with your opinion regarding our "no historic properties affected" finding within 30 days of receipt of this letter. If you have any questions and/or concerns, please contact Mr. Michael Swanda at (504) 862-2036.

Sincerely,



Elizabeth Wiggins
Chief, Environmental Planning
and Compliance Branch

Enclosures



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
NEW ORLEANS DISTRICT, CORPS OF ENGINEERS
P.O. BOX 60267
NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA 70160-0267

REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF.

January 2, 2009

Planning, Programs, and
Project Management Division
Environmental Planning
and Compliance Branch
Attn: CEMVN-PM-RN

Mr. Scott Hutcheson
State Historic Preservation Officer
Office of Cultural Development
Department of Culture, Recreation, and Tourism
P.O. Box 44247
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70804

No known historic properties will be affected by this undertaking. This effect determination could change should new information come to our attention.

Scott Hutcheson 1/29/09
Scott Hutcheson Date
State Historic Preservation Officer

RE: Request to Continue Consultation Under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act for the West Bank and Vicinity Hurricane Protection Project, Western Tie-in, Individual Environmental Report #16, Jefferson and St. Charles Parishes, Louisiana.

Dear Mr. Hutcheson:

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Mississippi Valley Division, New Orleans District, is amending the Area of Potential Effects (APE) for the project area currently being studied under Individual Environmental Report #16, West Bank and Vicinity Hurricane Protection Project, Western Tie-in, Jefferson and St. Charles Parishes, Louisiana. This amendment expands the width of the APE alignment (Alternative Alignment 3) an additional 100 to 200 feet to the south along the project alignment between the western end of the Lake Cataouatche Levee and the Davis Pond Guide Levee.

In our letter to your office dated March 10, 2008, the Corps provided project documentation, evaluated the results of the initial cultural resources investigation of the project area, including all three project alternative alignments (Wells 2008a), and prepared a finding of "no historic properties affected" for the Alternative Alignment 2 APE. Your office concurred with our effect determination in a letter dated March 24, 2008. In our second letter to your office dated October 20, 2008, the District amended the APE by eliminating Alternative Alignment 2 as the proposed action and replacing it with Alternative Alignment 3. Utilizing the results of Douglas Wells' 2008 study and additional field reconnaissance information obtained by Corps archaeologists, the Corps found that proposed construction in the Alternative Alignment 3 APE would have no impact on cultural resources. Your office concurred with our "no historic properties affected" finding in a stamped letter dated December 11, 2008. Copies of these letters are attached herein.

Pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA), the District, in consultation with the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) and Indian Tribes, will determine if the amended area of potential effects (APE) established for IER #16 contains historic properties. The amended APE follows Alternative Alignment 3 and measures an additional 100 to 200 feet to the south along the project alignment between the western end of the Lake Cataouatche Levee and the Davis Pond Guide Levee. The amended APE is approximately 22,300 feet long by approximately 600 to 700 feet wide for a total of approximately 333 acres. A map of the amended Alternative Alignment 3 APE is provided in the enclosed management summary (Wells 2008b, page 2). Proposed activities in the amended APE include levee, floodwall, closure structure, drainage ditch, and Highway 90 bridge construction.

The District contracted Coastal Environments, Inc. to conduct a cultural resources evaluation of the amended Alternative Alignment 3 APE. Researchers reviewed the background research and the cultural resource evaluation previously conducted for Alternative Alignment 3 (Wells 2008a), and conducted supplemental soil and topographic analysis to identify and assess historic properties and high potential areas for archaeological resources in the expanded area (Wells, 2008b). The management summary of this supplemental evaluation is attached herein.

No previously recorded archaeological resources or historically significant standing structures were identified in the expanded portion of Alternative Alignment 3 APE. Researchers found that the two high probability areas for archaeological resources initially identified in the first study extend into the amended APE. These high probability areas were not investigated because they are currently underwater and access into the area is extremely difficult due to extensive backswamp flooding and large numbers of deadfalls. Previous investigations along the bankline of the Outer Cataouatche Canal immediately to the north and in similar backswamp and subsided waterways along Alternative Alignment 2 found no archaeological sites. Therefore, it is very likely that the potential for cultural resources in the amended APE is extremely minimal. Researchers recommended no further cultural resources investigations in the amended Alternative Alignment 3 APE.

Based on a review of the information summarized above, it is our view that the proposed project activities in the amended Alternative Alignment 3 APE will not impact any significant cultural resources. However, in the event that cultural resources are encountered during construction activities, work will be halted and your office will be contacted for further consultation. Any resources encountered will be recorded and documented, and state archaeological site forms will be provided.

Please review the enclosed project documentation and provide this office with your opinion regarding our "no historic properties affected" finding within 30 days of receipt of this letter. If you have any questions and/or concerns, please contact Mr. Michael Swanda at (504) 862-2036.

Sincerely,



Elizabeth Wiggins
Chief, Environmental Planning
and Compliance Branch

Enclosures

CF: Klima, Advisory Council on Historic Preservation
Rivet, Louisiana State Historic Preservation Office
Varnado, Louisiana State Historic Preservation Office

References Cited

Wells, Douglas

2008a *Management Summary: Reconnaissance Survey of the Western Tie-in Segment (IER #16), West Bank and Vicinity Hurricane Protection Levee, Jefferson and St. Charles Parishes, Louisiana.* Prepared by Coastal Environments, Inc., Baton Rouge. On file, New Orleans District Corps of Engineers.

Wells, Douglas

2008b *Management Summary: Reconnaissance Survey of the Redesigned Western Tie-in Segment (IER #16), West Bank and Vicinity Hurricane Protection Levee, Jefferson and St. Charles Parishes, Louisiana.* Prepared by Coastal Environments, Inc., Baton Rouge. On file, New Orleans District Corps of Engineers.