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

Ms. Pam Breaux
State Historic Preservation Officer
Office of Cultural Development
Department of Culture, Recreation, and Tourism
P.O. Box 44247
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70804

RE: Proposed Tabony Borrow pit, Plaquemines Parish, Louisiana (IER #22)

Dear Ms. Breaux:

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Mississippi Valley, New Orleans District (CEMVN) is currently identifying borrow sources for its continuing efforts to repair and strengthen levees in Southeastern Louisiana. The proposed 171 acre Tabony borrow pit, Plaquemines Parish, is located in Township 17S, Range 14E, Sections 39 and 40. A 64 acre area within the central portion of the project area was previously investigated as part of the Gravolet Canal Closure and Mississippi River Levees Repairs. No cultural resources were identified within the previously surveyed 64 acres. The current area 171 acre area and previously surveyed area can be viewed in Figure 1 of the draft addendum. Information regarding this cultural resource survey will be included in the Individual Environmental Report #22.

The proposed Tabony borrow pit would be excavated to a maximum depth of 20 feet below ground surface. Highway 15 would provide truck access to the site. CEMVN engineering is investigating whether borrow can be extracted within 1500 feet of the Mississippi River levee. If material cannot be excavated within this area or the borrow material is not suitable for levee construction the boundaries of the proposed borrow site may be contracted. Given that the proposed action has the potential to impact cultural resources, the CEMVN requests a review of the project as per 36 CFR 800.3(c).

The enclosed draft addendum includes the results of fieldwork for the previously uninvestigated portions of the proposed Tabony borrow pit. A total of 194 shovel test pits (STP) were excavated within the expanded project area, and only one STP produced historic material. Two pieces of brick and one piece of flow blue pottery was recovered from the STP. Additional STPs excavated in the vicinity to delineate site boundaries failed to produce additional cultural material. Therefore, this historic cultural material is considered an isolated find. The remains of a slab foundation of a house destroyed by Hurricane Katrina are located in the general vicinity of the positive STP. While no other cultural material was recovered, this material may derive from
the occupation of the house. Given the isolated nature of this historic cultural material, this isolated find does not meet the criteria for inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places. In summary, no historic or prehistoric archaeological sites were identified as a result of the reconnaissance survey of the project area. ESI concludes that “Borrowing activities in the project area will have no affect on historic resources. No additional archaeological investigations are recommended”.

The CEMVN believes that the existing evidence suggests that the proposed 171 acre proposed Tabony borrow pit does not contain unrecorded cultural resources. The CEMVN therefore believes that cultural resources will not be impacted if this land is excavated as a borrow pit and recommends that the borrow area be developed as proposed. In the event that unanticipated discoveries are encountered, work will stop immediately and consulting parties will be contacted. We request that you review this information pursuant to National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, (36 CFR 800.3.) and provide comment. If you require additional information, please contact Valerie McCormack at 504-862-2167.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Elizabeth Wiggins
Chief, Environmental Planning
and Compliance Branch

Enclosures: Phase I Archeological Survey Site Delineation, Borrow Area, Gravolet Canal Closure and Mississippi River Levee Repairs, Expanded Project Area, Plaquemines Parish, Louisiana.

CF: Alabama Coushatta Tribe of Texas, Chairman Kevin Batisse and Beryl Battise
Caddo Nation of Oklahoma, Chairperson LaRue Parker and Robert Cast
Chitimacha Tribe of Louisiana, Chairman Alton LeBlanc and Kimberly, S. Walden
Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma, Chief Gregory E. Pyle and Terry D. Cole
Coushatta Tribe of Louisiana, Chief Kevin Sickey and Leland Thompson
Jena Band of the Choctaw Indians, Principal Chief Christine Norris
Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians, Chief Beasely Denson and Kenneth H. Carleton
Seminole Nation of Oklahoma, Chairman John Berrey and Pare Bowlegs
Seminole Tribe of Florida, Chairman Mitchell Cypress and Bill Steele
Tunica-Biloxi Tribe of Louisiana, Chairman Earl J. Barbary Sr. and Earl Barbry, Jr.
Planning, Programs, and
  Project Management Division
Environmental Planning
   and Compliance Branch.
Attn: CEMVN-PM-RN

Ms. Pam Breaux
State Historic Preservation Officer
Office of Cultural Development
Department of Culture, Recreation, and Tourism
P.O. Box 44247
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70804

RE: Proposed Tabony Borrow pit, Plaquemines Parish, Louisiana (IER #22)

Dear Ms. Breaux:

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Mississippi Valley, New Orleans District (CEMVN) is currently identifying borrow sources for its continuing efforts to repair and strengthen levees in Southeastern Louisiana. CEMVN has identified a potential source of borrow in Plaquemines Parish, Louisiana. The proposed Tabony Borrow pit lies within Township 17S, Range 14 E, Sections 39 and 40. A portion of this proposed borrow pit was initially investigated for the presence of cultural resources in 2005. Since that time, the area being considered for borrow has expanded. Additional cultural resources survey was conducted in the Fall of 2007 to investigate the unsurveyed portions of the proposed borrow pit.

CEMVN contracted with Earth Search, Inc. (ESI) to conduct the initial and subsequent Phase I cultural resources survey. ESI has integrated the results of the two survey efforts and incorporated them into a single report. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New Orleans District is pleased to present two copies of the draft report “Phase I Archeological Survey of a Borrow Area, Gravolet Canal Closure and Mississippi River Levee Repairs, Plaquemines Parish, Louisiana”. This report is the result of combining the results of two cultural resource surveys near the Gravolet Canal Closure.

The CEMVN believes that the existing evidence suggests that the proposed 171 acre proposed Tabony borrow pit does not contain unrecorded cultural resources. The CEMVN therefore believes that cultural resources will not be impacted if this land is excavated as a borrow pit and recommends that the borrow area be developed as proposed. In the event that unanticipated discoveries are encountered, work will stop immediately and consulting parties will be contacted. The CEMVN requests that you review this information pursuant to National Historic
Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, (36 CFR 800.3.) and provide comment. If you require additional information, please contact Valerie McCormack at 504-862-2167.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Elizabeth Wiggins
Chief, Environmental Planning and Compliance Branch

February 14, 2008

Ms. Elizabeth Wiggins
Chief, Environmental Planning and Compliance Branch
Department of the Army
New Orleans District, Corps of Engineers
P.O. Box 60267
New Orleans, Louisiana 70160-0276

Re: Proposed Tabony Borrow Area, Plaquemines Parish, Louisiana (IER #22)
LA Division of Archaeology Report No. 22-3030
Draft Phase I Archaeological Survey of a Borrow Area, Gravolet Canal Closure and Mississippi River Repairs, Plaquemines Parish, Louisiana
Earth Search, Inc.

Dear Ms. Wiggins:

We acknowledge the receipt of your letter dated January 24, 2008 and two copies of the above referenced report. We have completed our review of the report and offer the following comments.

We cannot concur with the findings of the above-mentioned report at this time for the following reason. After reviewing the draft report and previous addendum report, dated November 2008, the location of the Tabony Farmstead/Bohemia sugarhouse site (16PL135), delineated by a survey conducted in July 2007 by ESI, and its relationship to this current project area is not clear. The results of July 2007 survey should be included in the previous investigations section of the report and the findings included in Chapter 6 of the current report. In addition two sites (16PL134 and 16PL135) are plotted incorrectly on the map. Site 16PL135 appears to be on the APE border and may extend into the APE.

Please review the enclosed technical comments and the photocopied pages of the draft report with comments or corrections noted. We request that you submit two copies of a revised draft report after making these adjustments for further comment. If you should have any questions please contact Stacie Palmer at the Division of Archaeology spalmer@crt.state.la.us or 225-342-8170.

Sincerely,

Pam Breaux
State Historic Preservation Officer
Ms. Elizabeth Wiggins  
February 14, 2008  
Page 2

PB:SP:s

Enclosures: As stated

CC: Dr. Jill-Karen Yakubik  
Earth Search, Inc.  
P.O. Box 770336  
New Orleans, LA 70177-0336
Technical Comments:

1. Suggest including the township and range and section numbers for the APE in abstract.

2. Please refer to current project as a Phase I cultural resources investigation instead of a Intensive cultural resources survey throughout report.

3. Page 15 - Project Area and Bohemia Plantation heading. Please revise so that the research presented is based on the current project boundary and does not include unnecessary information on areas no longer part of the project area and clearly state whether the current project area falls within what was once part of Bohemia Plantation.

4. Please include the July 2007 ESI survey for the Tabony Farmstead and Bohemia Sugarhouse site (16PL135) in the previous investigations section.

5. Page 24 - correctly plot sites 16PL134 and 16PL135.

6. Include a curation statement in appendix. See: http://www.crt.state.la.us/archaeology/homepage/CurMain.shtml

7. Include project overview photographs in the report.

8. Specify the National Register criteria (a,b,c, or d) used in making the eligibility determinations for the isolated finds.

9. In Figures 6, 8 and 9 the isolated finds appear to be misidentified based on text description and location of Highway 15.

10. Does the ceramic sherd discussed in the report have a date range? If so please include in report.

11. Field investigation – how many shovel tests were dug in Oct. 2005? How many shovel tests were dug in Oct. 2007? How much of the APE was inundated at time of survey and was not subject to shovel testing? Please clarify in Figure 6.

12. Figure 6 – Was the northern portion of the APE surveyed with pedestrian transect and shovel tests? If so include them on the map.

13. Page 19 – Include overlay of APE. Find a clearer image of map to insert into report. Include original source.

14. Page 20 – Include overlay of APE. Include original source.

15. Page 21 – Include overlay of APE. Find a clearer image of map to insert into report. Include original source.

16. Page 28 – Figure 6 please clearly state in the report whether the visible structures seen in the aerial photograph (including radio tower) are currently standing structures. Are any of the structures older than 50 years?
17. Please submit final Updated Site Forms for 16PL134 (Urquhart Cemetery), 16PL135 (Tabony Site), and 16PL138 (Bohemia Cemetery).

18. Please include a copy of the letter report sent to Gary DeMarcay on August 3, 2007, Re: Rapid Awards Site Recordation to Support Bohemia Borrow Project in the Appendix.

19. Please include copies of the final Site Update forms for sites 16PL134, 16PL135, and 16PL138 in the Appendix.

20. Please make sure if any structures are identified on historic maps that they are discussed in the text of the report.

21. It would be nice to include Figure 2 from the original draft addendum, submitted in November of 2007, in the revised draft report.

22. **Does Site 16PL139 (Humble Oil) fall within the 1-mile radius of the proposed project area?**
   If so, please include site on Figure 5.

23. Page 27 – Please clarify the first paragraph and what is considered “immediate vicinity.”
   Cross-reference all sites within 1-mile radius within text and figures to make sure they are correct and consistent.
Planning, Programs, and  
   Project Management Division  
Environmental Planning  
   and Compliance Branch.  
Attn:  CEMVN-PM-RN

Ms. Pam Breaux  
State Historic Preservation Officer  
Office of Cultural Development  
Department of Culture, Recreation, and Tourism  
P.O. Box 44247  
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70804

RE:  Request to continue Section 106 consultation for Proposed Tabony Borrow  
    pit, Plaquemines Parish, Louisiana (IER #22)

Dear Ms. Breaux:

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Mississippi Valley, New Orleans District (Corps) is  
currently identifying borrow sources for the Greater New Orleans Storm Damage Risk Reduction  
System in Southeastern Louisiana. The Corps has identified a potential source of borrow in  
Plaquemines Parish, Louisiana. The proposed 115 acre Tabony Borrow pit lies within Township  
17S, Range 14 E, Sections 39 and 40, and can be viewed on an enclosed map.

Project history  
A portion of this project area was initially investigated in October 2005 as part of the 64 acre  
Gravolet Canal Closure and Mississippi River Repairs project. In 2005, the Corps contracted  
Earth Search, Inc. to investigate the project area and to complete a Phase I cultural resources  
survey. The current undertaking seeks to expand the area initially investigated in 2005, and the  
project area was renamed the Tabony borrow pit. In November 2007, the Corps contracted Earth  
Search, Inc. to investigate a 171 acre area that encompassed the original 64 acre borrow pit. In a  
letter dated November 28, 2007 the Corps sent information regarding the Tabony borrow pit and  
a draft report addendum to the Phase I Archaeological Survey of a Borrow Area, Gravolet Canal  
Closure and the Mississippi River Repairs, Plaquemines Parish, Louisiana draft report the  
Office of Cultural Development. However, upon receipt of the report, the Office of Cultural  
Development discovered no record of the original 2005 report. In a phone conversation on  
December 27, 2007 Division of Archaeology staff archaeologist Dennis Jones requested from  
Corps staff archaeologist Valerie McCormack a revised report that integrates all information into  
a single report in order to facilitate review of the proposed Tabony borrow pit. Earth Search, Inc.  
compiled all information from the 2005 survey and the 2007 survey into a single report. In a
letter dated January 24, 2008, the Corps forwarded the revised draft report *Draft Phase I Archaeological Survey of a Borrow Area, Gravolet Canal Closure and Mississippi River Repairs, Plaquemines, Parish, Louisiana* to the Office of Cultural Development. In a letter dated February 14, 2008, the Division of Archaeology requested additional information regarding the proposed Tabony borrow pit and presented comments on the draft report. Earth Search, Inc. is in the process of revising the draft report, including producing graphics that show the current project area superimposed on historic maps. The Corps will forward two copies of the revised draft report for your review when Earth Search, Inc. completes the revisions.

**Avoidance of 16PL135**

In light of the comments provided to the Corps by the Louisiana Division of Archaeology in the letter dated February 14, 2008, the Corps has revised the shape of the proposed borrow pit in order to avoid potential impacts to site 16PL135. Site 16PL135 is located on the property adjacent to the Tabony property. While no direct impacts would occur to the site, unforeseen impacts from processes such as erosion of the borrow pit could have potential impacts in the future. In order to avoid such impacts, the Corps proposes to place a 350’ buffer zone around site 16PL135 and to eliminate the buffer zone from the proposed borrow pit. In order to accommodate this situation, the project area has been altered to ensure avoidance. The second enclosed map presents the location of site 16PL135, a 350 foot buffer zone around the perimeter of 16PL135, and the configuration of the proposed borrow area.

**Revised Area of Potential Effect of the Proposed Tabony Borrow Pit**

The proposed undertaking impacts a total of 121.3 acres. Activities of this undertaking will include the excavation of a 115 acre borrow pit to a depth of 20 feet below ground surface and the use of a 6.3 acre access corridor for temporary access between the proposed Tabony borrow site and Highway 15.

In addition to avoiding impacts to site 16PL135, the revised Tabony borrow pit configuration also avoids a cell tower and the remains of a house destroyed by Hurricane Katrina. The cell tower is a recent construction and is not considered historic in nature. Nonetheless, the proposed 115 acre borrow will avoid impacts to this cell tower. In addition, the house slab foundation remains lie between Highway 15 and the proposed borrow. While the archaeological subsurface testing in the vicinity of this modern residential site indicates that there are no archaeological deposits associated with the occupation or other reasons to have concerns about the site, the proposed pit configuration will avoid this location. Moreover, the 2005 and 2007 surveys failed to identify any historic properties within the proposed 121.3 acre Tabony borrow pit and access corridor.

**Recommendations**

The Corps believes that the existing evidence suggests that the proposed 121.3 acre proposed Tabony borrow pit and access corridor do not contain unrecorded cultural resources. The Corps therefore believes that no historic properties will be affected if this land is excavated as a borrow
pit and recommends that the borrow area be developed as proposed. In the event that unanticipated discoveries are encountered, work will stop immediately and consulting parties will be contacted. The Corps requests that you review this information pursuant to National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, (36 CFR 800.3.) and provide comment. If you require additional information, please contact Valerie McCormack at 504-862-2167.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Elizabeth Wiggins
Chief, Environmental Planning
and Compliance Branch

Enclosures: 1. Map of the proposed 115 Acre proposed Tabony Borrow pit and 6.3 acre access corridor.
2. Map of the proposed Tabony borrow pit, Site 16PL135, and a 350’ buffer zone around 16PL135.
Planning, Programs, and
Project Management Division
Environmental Planning
and Compliance Branch.
Attn: CEMVN-PM-RN

Chariman Alton LeBlanc
Chitimacha Tribe of Louisiana
P.O. Box 661
Charenton, LA 70523

RE: Proposed Tabony Borrow pit, Plaquemines Parish, Louisiana (IER #22)

Dear Chariman LeBlanc:

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Mississippi Valley, New Orleans District (CEMVN) is currently identifying borrow sources for its continuing efforts to repair and strengthen levees in Southeastern Louisiana. The proposed 171 acre Tabony borrow pit, Plaquemines Parish, is located in Township 17S, Range 14E, Sections 39 and 40. A 64 acre area within the central portion of the project area was previously investigated as part of the Gravolet Canal Closure and Mississippi River Levees Repairs. No cultural resources were identified within the previously surveyed 64 acres or the current 107 acre survey area. Information regarding this cultural resource survey will be included in the Individual Environmental Report #22.

The proposed Tabony borrow pit would be excavated to a maximum depth of 20 feet below ground surface. Highway 15 would provide truck access to the site. CEMVN engineering is investigating whether borrow can be extracted within 1500 feet of the Mississippi River levee. If material cannot be excavated within this area or the borrow material is not suitable for levee construction the boundaries of the proposed borrow site may be contracted. Given that the proposed action has the potential to impact cultural resources, the CEMVN requests that the Chitimacha Tribe of Louisiana review of the project as per 36 CFR 800.3(c).

The draft addendum includes the results of fieldwork for the previously uninvestigated portions of the proposed Tabony borrow pit. A total of 194 shovel test pits (STP) were excavated within the expanded project area, and only one STP produced historic material. Two pieces of brick and one piece of flow blue pottery was recovered from the STP. Additional STPs excavated in the vicinity to delineate site boundaries failed to produce additional cultural material. Therefore, this historic cultural material is considered an isolated find. The remains of a slab foundation of a house destroyed by Hurricane Katrina are located in the general vicinity of the positive STP. While no other cultural material was recovered, this material may derive from the occupation of the house. Given the isolated nature of this historic cultural material, this...
isolated find does not meet the criteria for inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places. In summary, no historic or prehistoric archaeological sites were identified as a result of the reconnaissance survey of the project area. ESI concludes that “Borrowing activities in the project area will have no affect on historic resources. No additional archaeological investigations are recommended”.

The CEMVN believes that the existing evidence suggests that the proposed 171 acre proposed Tabony borrow pit does not contain unrecorded cultural resources. A copy of this letter, the draft addendum, and the draft report have been submitted to Ms. Kimberly Walden of Chitimacha Tribe of Louisiana for review and comment. The CEMVN therefore believes that cultural resources will not be impacted if this land is excavated as a borrow pit and recommends that the borrow area be developed as proposed. In the event that unanticipated discoveries are encountered, work will stop immediately and consulting parties will be contacted. We request that you review this information pursuant to National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, (36 CFR 800.3) and provide comment. If you require additional information, please contact Dr. Valerie McCormack at 504-862-2167.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Wiggins
Chief, Environmental Planning
and Compliance Branch

CF: Ms. Kimberly Walden, Chitimacha Tribe of Louisiana
December 27, 2007

Ms. Elizabeth Wiggins
Chief, Environmental Planning and Compliance Branch
U.S. Corps of Engineers
CEMVN-PM-RN
P.O. Box 60267
New Orleans, LA 70160-0267

Re: Proposed Tabony Borrow Pit
Plaquemines Parish, LA

Dear Ms. Wiggins:

We are in receipt of your letter, dated December 3, 2007, concerning the above referenced project. The parish where the proposed project is to take place is part of the aboriginal Chitimacha homeland. That is, historically and prehistorically the Chitimacha Tribe of Louisiana was located near this area. This homeland contains many village sites, religious/sacred sites, and burial sites, which must be taken into account in the planning process.

Our records and oral traditions do not indicate that a specific Chitimacha archaeological site or Traditional Cultural Property is in the immediate vicinity of your project, therefore we have no objection to the implementation of the proposed activity. However, if archaeological remains representing a village site and/or burial site are discovered during the process of construction you should stop and contact the tribe and the State Historic Preservation Office immediately, in order to begin consultation regarding the encountered remains.

The Chitimacha Tribe of Louisiana appreciates your compliance with federal and state laws concerning Native American notification and consultation. Should you have any questions, do not hesitate to contact me (337) 923-9923.

Sincerely,

[Signature]
Kimberly S. Walden,
Director, Cultural Department

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

Chief Beasley Denson
Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians
P.O. Box 6257
Choctaw, MS 39350

RE: Proposed Tabony Borrow pit, Plaquemines Parish, Louisiana (IER #22)

Dear Chief Denson:

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Mississippi Valley, New Orleans District (CEMVN) is currently identifying borrow sources for its continuing efforts to repair and strengthen levees in Southeastern Louisiana. The proposed 171 acre Tabony borrow pit, Plaquemines Parish, is located in Township 17S, Range 14E, Sections 39 and 40. A 64 acre area within the central portion of the project area was previously investigated as part of the Gravolet Canal Closure and Mississippi River Levees Repairs. No cultural resources were identified within the previously surveyed 64 acres or the current 107 acre survey area. Information regarding this cultural resource survey will be included in the Individual Environmental Report #22.

The proposed Tabony borrow pit would be excavated to a maximum depth of 20 feet below ground surface. Highway 15 would provide truck access to the site. CEMVN engineering is investigating whether borrow can be extracted within 1500 feet of the Mississippi River levee. If material cannot be excavated within this area or the borrow material is not suitable for levee construction the boundaries of the proposed borrow site may be contracted. Given that the proposed action has the potential to impact cultural resources, the CEMVN requests that the Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians review of the project as per 36 CFR 800.3(c).

The draft addendum includes the results of fieldwork for the previously uninvestigated portions of the proposed Tabony borrow pit. A total of 194 shovel test pits (STP) were excavated within the expanded project area, and only one STP produced historic material. Two pieces of brick and one piece of flow blue pottery was recovered from the STP. Additional STPs excavated in the vicinity to delineate site boundaries failed to produce additional cultural material. Therefore, this historic cultural material is considered an isolated find. The remains of a slab foundation of a house destroyed by Hurricane Katrina are located in the general vicinity of the positive STP. While no other cultural material was recovered, this material may derive from the occupation of the house. Given the isolated nature of this historic cultural material, this
isolated find does not meet the criteria for inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places. In summary, no historic or prehistoric archaeological sites were identified as a result of the reconnaissance survey of the project area. ESI concludes that “Borrowing activities in the project area will have no affect on historic resources. No additional archaeological investigations are recommended”.

The CEMVN believes that the existing evidence suggests that the proposed 171 acre proposed Tabony borrow pit does not contain unrecorded cultural resources. A copy of this letter, the draft addendum, and the draft report have been submitted to Mr. Kenneth H. Carleton of Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians for review and comment. The CEMVN therefore believes that cultural resources will not be impacted if this land is excavated as a borrow pit and recommends that the borrow area be developed as proposed. In the event that unanticipated discoveries are encountered, work will stop immediately and consulting parties will be contacted. We request that you review this information pursuant to National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, (36 CFR 800.3) and provide comment. If you require additional information, please contact Dr. Valerie McCormack at 504-862-2167.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Wiggins
Chief, Environmental Planning and Compliance Branch

CF: Mr. Kenneth H. Carleton, Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians
January 15, 2008

Valerie J. McCormack  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
New Orleans District  
Planning, Programs, and Project Management Division  
Environmental Planning and Compliance Branch  
Cultural Resources

Dear Ms McCormack:

The Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians has no concerns about the proposed Tabony Borrow, Plaquemines Parish. If during construction any archaeological material is encountered, all work in the vicinity of the discovery should be stopped and I should be contacted as soon as possible for further consultation.

Kenneth H. Carleton  
Tribal Historic Preservation Officer/Archaeologist  
Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians  
P.O. Box 6257 or 101 Industrial Road  
Choctaw, MS 39350  
601.650.7316  
FAX: 601.650.7454

-----Original Message-----
From: McCormack, Valerie J MVN [mailto:Valerie.J.Mccormack@usace.army.mil]  
Sent: Friday, November 30, 2007 8:49 AM  
To: Carleton, Ken  
Subject: Proposed Tabony Borrow, Plaquemines Parish

Dear Mr. Carleton:  
The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New Orleans District (CEMVN) is proposing to develop the Tabony borrow pit near Bohemia, Plaquemines Parish, Louisiana. Sediment from the borrow will be used for levee repair and improvements for coastal and hurricane protection. A portion of this project area was investigated in 2005. Summary information on these
investigations will appear in the Individual Environmental Report #22, a National Environmental Policy Act document. Information on the cultural investigations are attached in two files (1) The report addendum to the Gravolet canal closure, (2) and Gravolet Canal closure report. In addition the letter submitted to Chief Denson, Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians is also attached.

We request that the Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians review this information as per the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended (36 CFR 800.3) and provide comment. Also please inform us, if you choose not to provide comment. If you require additional information or have any questions, please contact me at the phone number below or e-mail me.

In addition, if you prefer to be notified by a hard copy please inform me, and I will send you information through the postal service in the future.

<<Tabony_MSChoctaw.pdf>> <<Tabony-AddendumDraft.pdf>> <<Gravolet.pdf>>
Valerie J. McCormack  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
New Orleans District  
Planning, Programs, and Project Management Division  
Environmental Planning and Compliance Branch  
Cultural Resources  
504-862-2167

For more information on NEPA alternative arrangements please visit www.nolaenvironmenta <http://www.nolaenvironmenta>.gov
Planning, Programs, and
Project Management Division
Environmental Planning
and Compliance Branch.
Attn: CEMVN-PM-RN

Principal Chief Enoch Haney
Seminole Nation of Oklahoma
P.O. Box 1498
Wewoka, OK 74884

RE: Proposed Tabony Borrow pit, Plaquemines Parish, Louisiana (IER #22)

Dear Principal Chief Haney:

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Mississippi Valley, New Orleans District (CEMVN) is currently identifying borrow sources for its continuing efforts to repair and strengthen levees in Southeastern Louisiana. The proposed 171 acre Tabony borrow pit, Plaquemines Parish, is located in Township 17S, Range 14E, Sections 39 and 40. A 64 acre area within the central portion of the project area was previously investigated as part of the Gravolet Canal Closure and Mississippi River Levees Repairs. No cultural resources were identified within the previously surveyed 64 acres or the current 107 acre survey area. Information regarding this cultural resource survey will be included in the Individual Environmental Report #22.

The proposed Tabony borrow pit would be excavated to a maximum depth of 20 feet below ground surface. Highway 15 would provide truck access to the site. CEMVN engineering is investigating whether borrow can be extracted within 1500 feet of the Mississippi River levee. If material cannot be excavated within this area or the borrow material is not suitable for levee construction the boundaries of the proposed borrow site may be contracted. Given that the proposed action has the potential to impact cultural resources, the CEMVN requests that the Seminole Nation of Oklahoma review of the project as per 36 CFR 800.3(c).

The draft addendum includes the results of fieldwork for the previously uninvestigated portions of the proposed Tabony borrow pit. A total of 194 shovel test pits (STP) were excavated within the expanded project area, and only one STP produced historic material. Two pieces of brick and one piece of flow blue pottery was recovered from the STP. Additional STPs excavated in the vicinity to delineate site boundaries failed to produce additional cultural material. Therefore, this historic cultural material is considered an isolated find. The remains of a slab foundation of a house destroyed by Hurricane Katrina are located in the general vicinity of the positive STP. While no other cultural material was recovered, this material may derive from the occupation of the house. Given the isolated nature of this historic cultural material, this
isolated find does not meet the criteria for inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places. In summary, no historic or prehistoric archaeological sites were identified as a result of the reconnaissance survey of the project area. ESI concludes that "Borrowing activities in the project area will have no affect on historic resources. No additional archaeological investigations are recommended".

The CEMVN believes that the existing evidence suggests that the proposed 171 acre proposed Tabony borrow pit does not contain unrecorded cultural resources. A copy of this letter, the draft addendum, and the draft report have been submitted to Mr. Pare Bowlegs of Seminole Nation of Oklahoma for review and comment. The CEMVN therefore believes that cultural resources will not be impacted if this land is excavated as a borrow pit and recommends that the borrow area be developed as proposed. In the event that unanticipated discoveries are encountered, work will stop immediately and consulting parties will be contacted. We request that you review this information pursuant to National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, (36 CFR 800.3) and provide comment. If you require additional information, please contact Dr. Valerie McCormack at 504-862-2167.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Elizabeth Wiggins
Chief, Environmental Planning
and Compliance Branch

Enclosures: Phase I Archeological Survey Site Delineation, Borrow Area, Gravolet Canal Closure and Mississippi River Levee Repairs, Expanded Project Area, Plaquemines Parish, Louisiana.

CF: Mr. Pare Bowlegs, Seminole Nation of Oklahoma
Planning, Programs, and  
Project Management Division  
Environmental Planning   
and Compliance Branch.  
Attn: CEMVN-PM-RN

Principal Chief Chistine Norris  
Jena Band of the Choctaw Indians  
P.O. Box 14  
Jena, LA 71342

RE: Proposed Tabony Borrow pit, Plaquemines Parish, Louisiana (IER #22)

Dear Principal Chief Norris:

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Mississippi Valley, New Orleans District (CEMVN) is currently identifying borrow sources for its continuing efforts to repair and strengthen levees in Southeastern Louisiana. The proposed 171 acre Tabony borrow pit, Plaquemines Parish, is located in Township 17S, Range 14E, Sections 39 and 40. A 64 acre area within the central portion of the project area was previously investigated as part of the Gravolet Canal Closure and Mississippi River Levees Repairs. No cultural resources were identified within the previously surveyed 64 acres or the current 107 acre survey area. Information regarding this cultural resource survey will be included in the Individual Environmental Report #22.

The proposed Tabony borrow pit would be excavated to a maximum depth of 20 feet below ground surface. Highway 15 would provide truck access to the site. CEMVN engineering is investigating whether borrow can be extracted within 1500 feet of the Mississippi River levee. If material cannot be excavated within this area or the borrow material is not suitable for levee construction the boundaries of the proposed borrow site may be contracted. Given that the proposed action has the potential to impact cultural resources, the CEMVN requests that the Jena Band of the Choctaw Indians review of the project as per 36 CFR 800.3(c).

The enclosed draft addendum includes the results of fieldwork for the previously uninvestigated portions of the proposed Tabony borrow pit. A total of 194 shovel test pits (STP) were excavated within the expanded project area, and only one STP produced historic material. Two pieces of brick and one piece of flow blue pottery was recovered from the STP. Additional STPs excavated in the vicinity to delineate site boundaries failed to produce additional cultural material. Therefore, this historic cultural material is considered an isolated find. The remains of a slab foundation of a house destroyed by Hurricane Katrina are located in the general vicinity of the positive STP. While no other cultural material was recovered, this material may derive from the occupation of the house. Given the isolated nature of this historic cultural material, this...
isolated find does not meet the criteria for inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places. In summary, no historic or prehistoric archaeological sites were identified as a result of the reconnaissance survey of the project area. ESI concludes that “Borrowing activities in the project area will have no affect on historic resources. No additional archaeological investigations are recommended”.

The CEMVN believes that the existing evidence suggests that the proposed 171 acre proposed Tabony borrow pit does not contain unrecorded cultural resources. The CEMVN therefore believes that cultural resources will not be impacted if this land is excavated as a borrow pit and recommends that the borrow area be developed as proposed. In the event that unanticipated discoveries are encountered, work will stop immediately and consulting parties will be contacted. We request that you review this information pursuant to National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, (36 CFR 800.3) and provide comment. If you require additional information, please contact Dr. Valerie McCormack at 504-862-2167.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Wiggins
Chief, Environmental Planning
and Compliance Branch

Enclosures: Phase I Archeological Survey Site Delineation, Borrow Area, Gravolet Canal Closure and Mississippi River Levee Repairs, Expanded Project Area, Plaquemines Parish, Louisiana.

CF: Jena Band of the Choctaw Indians
Planning, Programs, and
Project Management Division
Environmental Planning
and Compliance Branch.
Attn: CEMVN-PM-RN

Chairman Mitchell Cypress
Seminole Tribe of Florida
6300 Sirtling Road
Hollywood, FL 70532

RE: Proposed Tabony Borrow pit, Plaquemines Parish, Louisiana (IER #22)

Dear Chairman Cypress:

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Mississippi Valley, New Orleans District (CEMVN) is currently identifying borrow sources for its continuing efforts to repair and strengthen levees in Southeastern Louisiana. The proposed 171 acre Tabony borrow pit, Plaquemines Parish, is located in Township 17S, Range 14E, Sections 39 and 40. A 64 acre area within the central portion of the project area was previously investigated as part of the Gravolet Canal Closure and Mississippi River Levees Repairs. No cultural resources were identified within the previously surveyed 64 acres or the current 107 acre survey area. Information regarding this cultural resource survey will be included in the Individual Environmental Report #22.

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The draft addendum includes the results of fieldwork for the previously uninvestigated portions of the proposed Tabony borrow pit. A total of 194 shovel test pits (STP) were excavated within the expanded project area, and only one STP produced historic material. Two pieces of brick and one piece of flow blue pottery was recovered from the STP. Additional STPs excavated in the vicinity to delineate site boundaries failed to produce additional cultural material. Therefore, this historic cultural material is considered an isolated find. The remains of a slab foundation of a house destroyed by Hurricane Katrina are located in the general vicinity of the positive STP. While no other cultural material was recovered, this material may derive from the occupation of the house. Given the isolated nature of this historic cultural material, this
isolated find does not meet the criteria for inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places. In summary, no historic or prehistoric archaeological sites were identified as a result of the reconnaissance survey of the project area. ESI concludes that “Borrowing activities in the project area will have no affect on historic resources. No additional archaeological investigations are recommended”.

The CEMVN believes that the existing evidence suggests that the proposed 171 acre proposed Tabony borrow pit does not contain unrecorded cultural resources. Communication between CEMVN staff archaeologists Mr. Mike Swanda, Dr. Valerie McCormack and members of your preservation staff indicate that the Seminole Nation of Florida prefer to review borrow projects only if information suggests a likelihood for the presence of burials. CEMVN invites comments from the Seminole Nation of Florida in order to meet CEMVN responsibilities under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, (36 CFR 800.3) and Executive Order 13175 that directs Government-to-Government consultation. If you or anyone in your organization desires a copy of this report or other material relating to this project please contact, please contact Dr. Valerie McCormack at 504-862-2167.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Wiggins
Chief, Environmental Planning
and Compliance Branch
Dr. Valerie McCormack  
New Orleans District, Corps of Engineers  
P.O. Box 60267  
New Orleans, Louisiana 70160-0267

Tuesday, January 08, 2008  

THPO#: 001266, 001218

Subject: Proposed Tabony Borrow Pit, Plaquemines Parish, LA (IER #22, 23, 24)

Dr. McCormack:

The Seminole Tribe of Florida Tribal Historic Preservation Office (STOF-THPO) has reviewed the correspondence sent for the aforementioned project. Based on the high concentration of sites within the Tabony borrow pit (IER# 22), STOF-THPO would like to be sent copies of the associated cultural resources reports and/or archaeological reports for review prior to making any additional comments about this project. Also, STOF-THPO would also like to be furnished with a copy of the cultural resources surveys for the Stockpile Borrow Material (IER #24) and for the APE reported in IER #23.

We will await these documents before making any further comment about this project. In any future correspondence regarding this issue please reference **THPO-001266 and 001218**.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Direct routine inquiries to:

Rhianna Rogers, Interim Compliance Review Supervisor  
Seminole Tribe of Florida  
Tribal Historic Preservation Office  
Ah-Tah-Thi-Ki Museum  
HC-61, Box 21A  
Clewiston, FL 33440

Ah-Tah-Thi-Ki Museum, HC-61, Box 21-A, Clewiston, Florida 33440  
Phone (863) 902-1113  Fax (863) 902-1117
Planning, Programs, and  
Project Management Division  
Environmental Planning  
and Compliance Branch.  
Attn: CEMVN-PM-RN

Ms. Rhianna Rogers  
Tribal Preservation Office  
Seminole Tribe of Florida  
Ah-Tah-Thi-Ki Museum  
HC-61, Box 21A  
Clewiston, FL 33440

Subject: Request for additional information of the proposed Tabony Borrow Pit,  
Plaquemines Parish, LA, and IER #22, 23, and 24. (THPO-001226 and THPO-001218)

Dear Ms. Rogers:

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New Orleans District (CEMVN) thanks the  
Seminole Tribe of Florida for the interest in the Lake Pontchartrain and Vicinity (LPV)  
and West Bank and Vicinity (WBV) Hurricane Protection Projects in St. Charles,  
Jefferson, Orleans, Plaquemines, and St. Bernard Parishes, Louisiana. CEMVN is  
pleased to provide the Seminole Tribe of Florida Tribal Preservation Office (STOF-  
THPO) additional information regarding the Independent Environmental Reports (IER)  
#22, #23, and # 24.

In a letter dated November 16, 2007 CEMVN requested to Initiate Section 106  
consultation under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended with the  
Seminole Tribe of Florida for the Independent Environmental Reports # 22, #23, and #24.  
Information regarding the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) alternative  
arrangements can be found in the enclosed November 16 2007 letter and on the website  
noaenvironmental.gov. The Seminole Tribe of Florida has been added to the IER  
mailing list, and future IERs will be sent to STOF-THPO your review and comment as  
part of the NEPA process.

IER #22: Government Furnished Borrow  
IER #22 investigates government furnished borrow sites. Five potential sources of  
borrow are being investigated and their location appears on enclosure 2. Cultural  
resources reports and project area maps for these proposed borrow sites can be found on  
the enclosed CD.

In a letter dated January 8, 2007 from the STOF-THPO to the CEMVN, STOF-THPO  
requested copies of associated cultural resources reports of the proposed Tabony Borrow
Pit, a project to be included in IER #22. The enclosed CD includes .pdfs of two reports cited within the Tabony report. Copies of the other reports are available at the Louisiana Division of Archaeology, P.O Box 44247, Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70804. Additional information on the Louisiana Division of Archaeology can be obtained at the website http://www.crt.state.la.us/archaeology/homepage/index.shtml or by calling (225) 342-8170.

IER #23: Contractor Furnished Borrow
IER #23 investigates contractor furnished borrow sites. These borrow sites are identified by contractors who desire to be considered for inclusion on a CEMVN list of “Government Approved Contractor Furnished sites.” The CEMVN may provide such a list in a contract in the event that the CEMVN requires the contractor to furnish its own borrow material for a project. Under these arrangements the contractor is responsible for taking the appropriate steps to identify historic properties within the APE. The enclosed CD includes information regarding the proposed contractor furnished borrow sites and associated cultural resource investigations.

IER #24: Stockpile of Borrow Material
IER #24 investigates stockpile locations for borrow material. USACE has identified a number of potential stockpile locations that will provide temporary storage close to levees in need of repair and improvement. The potential stockpile locations are located in Jefferson, Orleans, St. Bernard, and Plaquemines Parish and are presented on the enclosed map. The enclosed CD contains site map locations for specific sites that are being considered for stockpile locations. A scope of work is being prepared and CEMFN will contract a Cultural Resource Management firm to investigate these potential stockpile sites for the presence of historic properties. When cultural resource surveys have been completed for the Stockpile of Borrow Material, CEMVN will provide the STOF-THPO with copies of the cultural resources report and request comment.

The CEMVN thanks the STOF-THPO for their interest in the LPV and WPV hurricane protection projects. If additional information is required please contact Dr. Valerie McCormack, the technical representative for IERs 22 and 23. The CEMVN looks forward to receiving the comments of the STOF-THPO and corresponding on future CEMVN projects.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

[Name]
Chief, Environmental Planning and Compliance Branch

CF: Mr. Willard Steele, THPO
Enclosure: Copy of letter dated November 16, 2007
Map 1: proposed project area locations of borrow sites to appear in IER #22 and IER #23.
Map 2: proposed project area locations of borrow stockpile areas to appear in IER #24.
CD with cultural resource reports and project area boundaries for IER #22, #23, and #24.
Planning, Programs, and
Project Management Division
Environmental Planning
and Compliance Branch.
Attn: CEMVN-PM-RN

Ms. Rhianna Rogers
Tribal Preservation Office
Seminole Tribe of Florida
Ah-Tah-Thi-Ki Museum
HC-61, Box 21A
Clewiston, FL 33440

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Elizabeth Wiggins
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CD with cultural resource reports and project area boundaries for IER #22, #23, and #24.
March 13, 2008

Chairman Mitchell Cypress,
Seminole Tribe of Florida
6300 Stirling Road
Hollywood, FL, 33024

Subject: Updated information regarding proposed Tabony Borrow Pit,
Plaquemines Parish, LA, IER #22(THPO-001226 and THPO-001218)

Dear Chairman Cypress:

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Mississippi Valley, New Orleans District (Corps) is currently identifying borrow sources for the Greater New Orleans Storm Damage Risk Reduction System in Southeastern Louisiana. The Corps has identified a potential source of borrow in Plaquemines Parish, Louisiana. The proposed 115 acre Tabony Borrow pit lies within Township 17S, Range 14 E, Sections 39 and 40, and can be viewed on the enclosed map. Information regarding this proposed borrow was last forwarded to the Seminole Tribe of Florida (STOF), Historic Preservation office on January 22, 2008.

Recently, consideration of cultural resources on adjacent properties has influenced the revision of the proposed borrow pit area. This Area of Potential Effect (APE) of this proposed borrow pit has been revised in order to avoid impacts to a nearby archaeological site (16PL135).

Avoidance of 16PL135
Site 16PL135, an historic sugar mill, is located on the property adjacent to the Tabony property. While no direct impacts would occur to the site, unforeseen impacts from processes such as erosion of the borrow pit could have potential impacts in the future. In order to avoid such impacts, the Corps proposes to place a 350’ buffer zone around site 16PL135 and to eliminate the buffer zone from the proposed borrow pit. In order to accommodate this situation, the project area has been altered to ensure avoidance. The second enclosed map presents the location of site 16PL135, a 350 foot buffer zone around the perimeter of 16PL135, and the configuration of the proposed borrow area. The Louisiana Division of Archaeology site form for 16PL135 is also enclosed for your review.

Revised Area of Potential Effect of the Proposed Tabony Borrow Pit
The proposed undertaking impacts a total of 121.3 acres. Activities of this undertaking will include the excavation of a 115 acre borrow pit to a depth of 20 feet below ground
surface and the use of a 6.3 acre access corridor for temporary access between the proposed Tabony borrow site and Highway 15.

In addition to avoiding impacts to site 16PL135, the revised Tabony borrow pit configuration also avoids a cell tower and the remains of a house destroyed by Hurricane Katrina. The cell tower is a recent construction and is not considered historic in nature. Nonetheless, the proposed 115 acre borrow will avoid impacts to this cell tower. In addition, the house slab foundation remains lie between Highway 15 and the proposed borrow. While the archaeological subsurface testing in the vicinity of this modern residential site indicates that there are no archaeo logical deposits associated with the occupation or other reasons to have concerns about the site, the proposed pit configuration will avoid this location. Moreover, the results of archaeological surveys conducted in 2005 and 2007 surveys failed to identify any historic properties within the proposed 121.3 acre Tabony borrow pit and access corridor. A cultural resources report was previously sent to STOF in a letter dated January 22, 2008.

Recommendations
The Corps believes that the existing evidence suggests that the proposed 121.3 acre proposed Tabony borrow site and access corridor do not contain unrecorded cultural resources. The Corps therefore believes that no historic properties will be affected if this land is excavated as a borrow pit and recommends that the borrow area be developed as proposed. In the event that unanticipated discoveries are encountered, work will stop immediately and consulting parties will be contacted. The Corps requests that STOF review this information pursuant to National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, (36 CFR 800.3.) and provide comment. If you require additional information, please contact Dr. Valerie McCormack at 504-862-2167.

Sincerely,

[Signature]
Elizabeth Wiggins
Chief, Environmental Planning and Compliance Branch

CF: Mr. Willard Steele
Ms. Rhianna Rogers,
Enclosure: 1. Map of the proposed 115 Acre proposed Tabony Borrow pit and 6.3 acre access corridor.
2. Map of the proposed Tabony borrow pit, Site 16PL135, and a 350’ buffer zone around 16PL135.
3. Site form of 16PL135
Site Name: [redacted]  Site Number: 16PL135
Other Site Designations: n/a
Parish: Plaquemines

Physical Setting

Landform: Mississippi River natural levee
Geologic Processes: Mississippi River natural levee and backswamp
Elevation: 0-5 ft
Slope: 0-1 percent
Distance and Direction to Nearest Water: Mississippi River lies 185m to the south west
Drainage Basin: Mississippi River
Flooding: Periodic
Soil Series: Commerce-Mhooon-Sharkey Association, gray and gray-brown loamy soils, and gray or gray-brown clays mottled with brown
Other Potential Resources: unknown

Site Description

Collections

Survey Method: Pedestrian survey supplemented with shovel testing
Ground Visibility/Collecting Conditions: Ground visibility is low and collecting conditions are poor due to downed trees and secondary growth.
Description of Material: [redacted]
Site Condition

Present Use: abandoned
Erosion or Disturbance: major disturbance
Disturbance Degree: major disturbance
Probable Future Destruction: No

Site Evaluation

Research Potential: Good, intact brick features and probable midden
National Register Eligibility: potentially eligible
Recommendations: Avoidance during all borrow activities. Further testing to determine nature and integrity of features.
Other Remarks: The USACE has proposed a 350 ft buffer to protect the site during borrow activities. ESI recommends that this buffer is sufficient.

Records

Owner and Address: Jack Hodges 805 Pierson St, Alexandria, LA 71301
Tenant and Address: N/A
Informants: N/A
Previous Investigations: Goodwin et al. 1986
References: Harlan 2007
Previous Collections and Availability: N/A
Disposition of Current Collection: currently housed at ESI 4212 St. Claude Ave., NOLA 70117
Photographs and Maps: currently on file at ESI

Recorded by: David Harlan (ESI)  Date: 8/3/2007
**Site Name:** Tabony Site  
**Site Number:** 16PL135

### Landform (1 Entry)
- Knoll (kn)  
- Salt Dome (sd)  
- Beach (bea)  
- Nat Relic Scar (nrs)  
- Ridge (rid)  
- Swamp (swa)  
- Underwater (udw)  
- Batture (bat)  
- Bench (bn)  
- Backswamp (bsw)  
- Natural Levee (nal)  
- Other, see site form (ot)
- Pimple Mound (pm)  
- Marsh (msh)  
- Chenier (chr)

### Soil Area (1 Entry)
- Coastal Plain (cp)  
- Flatwoods (fw)  
- Recent Alluvium (ral)  
- Coastal Prairies (cpr)  
- Coastal Marsh (cmr)  
- Miss. Terrace, Loessial Hills (mtl)

### Cultural Features (4 Entries)
- Single Artifact (sar)  
- Prehistoric Scatter (psc)  
- Lithic Scatter (ls)  
- Mound/Earthwork (md1)  
- Historic Scatter (hsc)  
- Burials (bu)  
- Mounds/Earthwork (md2)  
- Hist. Sheet Midden (hst)  
- Standing Structure (ss)  
- Historic Earthwork (her)  
- Shell Midden (shm)  
- Dump (du)  
- Other Earthwork (ote)  
- Earth Midden (erm)  
- Historic Ruins (hr)  
- Shipwrecks (sw)

### Cultural Affiliation (7 Entries)

### Site Function (3 Entries)
Description of Material (6 Entries)

Method of Investigation at Site (3 Entries)
- gra Grab Surface Collection
- sy Systematic Collection
- sht Shovel Testing
- au Auger Testing
- tu Test Units
- exc Excavation
- rs Remote Sensing
- dv Diver Investigations
- otr Other, see site form

Disturbance Agent/Present Use (3 Entries)
- unk Unknown
- pd Potted
- nn None
- ag Agriculture (Plowing)
- ti Timber Industry
- nat Natural
- di Dev. (Urban)
- otd Other, see site form
- cw Construction, Water
- cto Construction, Other
- uw Underwater

Disturbance Degree (1 Entry)

National Register Status (1 Entry)
- unk Unknown
- ne Not Eligible
- ld Listed
- de Declared Elig.
- ps Potentially Significant
- nd National Landmark

References (4 Entries)
1) Harlan 2007
2)
3)
4)
DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
NEW ORLEANS DISTRICT, CORPS OF ENGINEERS
P.O. BOX 60267
NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA 70160-0267

November 28, 2007

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

Gregory Pyle
Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma
P.O. Box Drawer 1210
Durant, OK 74701

RE: Proposed Tabony Borrow pit, Plaquemines Parish, Louisiana (IER #22)

Dear Gregory Pyle:

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Mississippi Valley, New Orleans District (CEMVN) is currently identifying borrow sources for its continuing efforts to repair and strengthen levees in Southeastern Louisiana. The proposed 171 acre Tabony borrow pit, Plaquemines Parish, is located in Township 17S, Range 14E, Sections 39 and 40. A 64 acre area within the central portion of the project area was previously investigated as part of the Gravolet Canal Closure and Mississippi River Levees Repairs. No cultural resources were identified within the previously surveyed 64 acres or the current 107 acre survey area. Information regarding this cultural resource survey will be included in the Individual Environmental Report #22.

The proposed Tabony borrow pit would be excavated to a maximum depth of 20 feet below ground surface. Highway 15 would provide truck access to the site. CEMVN engineering is investigating whether borrow can be extracted within 1500 feet of the Mississippi River levee. If material cannot be excavated within this area or the borrow material is not suitable for levee construction the boundaries of the proposed borrow site may be contracted. Given that the proposed action has the potential to impact cultural resources, the CEMVN requests that the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma review of the project as per 36 CFR 800.3(c).

The draft addendum includes the results of fieldwork for the previously uninvestigated portions of the proposed Tabony borrow pit. A total of 194 shovel test pits (STP) were excavated within the expanded project area, and only one STP produced historic material. Two pieces of brick and one piece of flow blue pottery was recovered from the STP. Additional STPs excavated in the vicinity to delineate site boundaries failed to produce additional cultural material. Therefore, this historic cultural material is considered an isolated find. The remains of a slab foundation of a house destroyed by Hurricane Katrina are located in the general vicinity of the positive STP. While no other cultural material was recovered, this material may derive from the occupation of the house. Given the isolated nature of this historic cultural material, this
isolated find does not meet the criteria for inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places. In summary, no historic or prehistoric archaeological sites were identified as a result of the reconnaissance survey of the project area. ESI concludes that “Borrowing activities in the project area will have no affect on historic resources. No additional archaeological investigations are recommended”.

The CEMVN believes that the existing evidence suggests that the proposed 171 acre proposed Tabony borrow pit does not contain unrecorded cultural resources. A copy of this letter, the draft addendum, and the draft report have been submitted to Mr. Terry D. Cole of Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma for review and comment. The CEMVN therefore believes that cultural resources will not be impacted if this land is excavated as a borrow pit and recommends that the borrow area be developed as proposed. In the event that unanticipated discoveries are encountered, work will stop immediately and consulting parties will be contacted. We request that you review this information pursuant to National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, (36 CFR 800.3) and provide comment. If you require additional information, please contact Dr. Valerie McCormack at 504-862-2167.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Elizabeth Wiggins
Chief, Environmental Planning
and Compliance Branch

CF: Mr. Terry D. Cole, Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma
Planning, Programs, and
Project Management Division
Environmental Planning
and Compliance Branch.
Attn: CEMVN-PM-RN

LaRue Parker
Caddo Nation of Oklahoma
P.O. Box 487
Binger, OK 73009

RE: Proposed Tabony Borrow pit, Plaquemines Parish, Louisiana (IER #22)

Dear Chief Parker:

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Mississippi Valley, New Orleans District (CEMVN) is currently identifying borrow sources for its continuing efforts to repair and strengthen levees in Southeastern Louisiana. The proposed 171 acre Tabony borrow pit, Plaquemines Parish, is located in Township 17S, Range 14E, Sections 39 and 40. A 64 acre area within the central portion of the project area was previously investigated as part of the Gravolet Canal Closure and Mississippi River Levees Repairs. No cultural resources were identified within the previously surveyed 64 acres or the current 107 acre survey area. Information regarding this cultural resource survey will be included in the Individual Environmental Report #22.

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The draft addendum includes the results of fieldwork for the previously uninvestigated portions of the proposed Tabony borrow pit. A total of 194 shovel test pits (STP) were excavated within the expanded project area, and only one STP produced historic material. Two pieces of brick and one piece of flow blue pottery was recovered from the STP. Additional STPs excavated in the vicinity to delineate site boundaries failed to produce additional cultural material. Therefore, this historic cultural material is considered an isolated find. The remains of a slab foundation of a house destroyed by Hurricane Katrina are located in the general vicinity of the positive STP. While no other cultural material was recovered, this material may derive from the occupation of the house. Given the isolated nature of this historic cultural material, this
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The CEMVN believes that the existing evidence suggests that the proposed 171 acre proposed Tabony borrow pit does not contain unrecorded cultural resources. A copy of this letter, the draft addendum, and the draft report have been submitted to Mr. Rober Cast of Caddo Nation of Oklahoma for review and comment. The CEMVN therefore believes that cultural resources will not be impacted if this land is excavated as a borrow pit and recommends that the borrow area be developed as proposed. In the event that unanticipated discoveries are encountered, work will stop immediately and consulting parties will be contacted. We request that you review this information pursuant to National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, (36 CFR 800.3) and provide comment. If you require additional information, please contact Dr. Valerie McCormack at 504-862-2167.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Elizabeth Wiggins
Chief, Environmental Planning and Compliance Branch

CF: Mr. Rober Cast, Caddo Nation of Oklahoma
November 28, 2007

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

Kevin Battise
Alabama Coushatta Tribe of Texas
571 State Park Rd. 56
Livingston, TX 77351

RE: Proposed Tabony Borrow pit, Plaquemines Parish, Louisiana (IER #22)

Dear Kevin Battise:

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Mississippi Valley, New Orleans District (CEMVN) is currently identifying borrow sources for its continuing efforts to repair and strengthen levees in Southeastern Louisiana. The proposed 171 acre Tabony borrow pit, Plaquemines Parish, is located in Township 17S, Range 14E, Sections 39 and 40. A 64 acre area within the central portion of the project area was previously investigated as part of the Gravolet Canal Closure and Mississippi River Levees Repairs. No cultural resources were identified within the previously surveyed 64 acres or the current 107 acre survey area. Information regarding this cultural resource survey will be included in the Individual Environmental Report #22.

The proposed Tabony borrow pit would be excavated to a maximum depth of 20 feet below ground surface. Highway 15 would provide truck access to the site. CEMVN engineering is investigating whether borrow can be extracted within 1500 feet of the Mississippi River levee. If material cannot be excavated within this area or the borrow material is not suitable for levee construction the boundaries of the proposed borrow site may be contracted. Given that the proposed action has the potential to impact cultural resources, the CEMVN requests that the Alabama Coushatta Tribe of Texas review of the project as per 36 CFR 800.3(c).

The draft addendum includes the results of fieldwork for the previously uninvestigated portions of the proposed Tabony borrow pit. A total of 194 shovel test pits (STP) were excavated within the expanded project area, and only one STP produced historic material. Two pieces of brick and one piece of flow blue pottery was recovered from the STP. Additional STPs excavated in the vicinity to delineate site boundaries failed to produce additional cultural material. Therefore, this historic cultural material is considered an isolated find. The remains of a slab foundation of a house destroyed by Hurricane Katrina are located in the general vicinity of the positive STP. While no other cultural material was recovered, this material may derive from the occupation of the house. Given the isolated nature of this historic cultural material, this
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The CEMVN believes that the existing evidence suggests that the proposed 171 acre proposed Tabony borrow pit does not contain unrecorded cultural resources. A copy of this letter, the draft addendum, and the draft report have been submitted to Ms. Beryl Battise of Alabama Coushatta Tribe of Texas for review and comment. The CEMVN therefore believes that cultural resources will not be impacted if this land is excavated as a borrow pit and recommends that the borrow area be developed as proposed. In the event that unanticipated discoveries are encountered, work will stop immediately and consulting parties will be contacted. We request that you review this information pursuant to National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, (36 CFR 800.3) and provide comment. If you require additional information, please contact Dr. Valerie McCormack at 504-862-2167.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Elizabeth Wiggins
Chief, Environmental Planning
and Compliance Branch

CF: Ms. Beryl Battise, Alabama Coushatta Tribe of Texas
Planning, Programs, and
Project Management Division
Environmental Planning
and Compliance Branch.
Attn: CEMVN-PM-RN

Chief Earl Barbry Sr.
Tunica-Biloxi Tribe of Louisiana
P.O. Box 1589
Marksville, LA 71351

RE: Proposed Tabony Borrow pit, Plaquemines Parish, Louisiana (IER #22)

Dear Chief Barbry:

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Mississippi Valley, New Orleans District (CEMVN) is currently identifying borrow sources for its continuing efforts to repair and strengthen levees in Southeastern Louisiana. The proposed 171 acre Tabony borrow pit, Plaquemines Parish, is located in Township 17S, Range 14E, Sections 39 and 40. A 64 acre area within the central portion of the project area was previously investigated as part of the Gravolet Canal Closure and Mississippi River Levees Repairs. No cultural resources were identified within the previously surveyed 64 acres or the current 107 acre survey area. Information regarding this cultural resource survey will be included in the Individual Environmental Report #22.

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The draft addendum includes the results of fieldwork for the previously uninvestigated portions of the proposed Tabony borrow pit. A total of 194 shovel test pits (STP) were excavated within the expanded project area, and only one STP produced historic material. Two pieces of brick and one piece of flow blue pottery was recovered from the STP. Additional STPs excavated in the vicinity to delineate site boundaries failed to produce additional cultural material. Therefore, this historic cultural material is considered an isolated find. The remains of a slab foundation of a house destroyed by Hurricane Katrina are located in the general vicinity of the positive STP. While no other cultural material was recovered, this material may derive from the occupation of the house. Given the isolated nature of this historic cultural material, this
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The CEMVN believes that the existing evidence suggests that the proposed 171 acre proposed Tabony borrow pit does not contain unrecorded cultural resources. A copy of this letter, the draft addendum, and the draft report have been submitted to Mr. Earl Barbary Jr. of Tunica-Biloxi Tribe of Louisiana for review and comment. The CEMVN therefore believes that cultural resources will not be impacted if this land is excavated as a borrow pit and recommends that the borrow area be developed as proposed. In the event that unanticipated discoveries are encountered, work will stop immediately and consulting parties will be contacted. We request that you review this information pursuant to National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, (36 CFR 800.3) and provide comment. If you require additional information, please contact Dr. Valerie McCormack at 504-862-2167.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Wiggins
Chief, Environmental Planning
and Compliance Branch

CF: , Tunica-Biloxi Tribe of Louisiana
Planning, Programs, and
Project Management Division
Environmental Planning
and Compliance Branch.
Attn: CEMVN-PM-RN

John Berrey
Quapaw Tribe of Oklahoma
P.O. Box 765
Quapaw, OK 74363

RE: Proposed Tabony Borrow pit, Plaquemines Parish, Louisiana (IER #22)

Dear John Berrey:

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Mississippi Valley, New Orleans District (CEMVN) is currently identifying borrow sources for its continuing efforts to repair and strengthen levees in Southeastern Louisiana. The proposed 171 acre Tabony borrow pit, Plaquemines Parish, is located in Township 17S, Range 14E, Sections 39 and 40. A 64 acre area within the central portion of the project area was previously investigated as part of the Gravolet Canal Closure and Mississippi River Levees Repairs. No cultural resources were identified within the previously surveyed 64 acres or the current 107 acre survey area. Information regarding this cultural resource survey will be included in the Individual Environmental Report #22.

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The draft addendum includes the results of fieldwork for the previously uninvestigated portions of the proposed Tabony borrow pit. A total of 194 shovel test pits (STP) were excavated within the expanded project area, and only one STP produced historic material. Two pieces of brick and one piece of flow blue pottery was recovered from the STP. Additional STPs excavated in the vicinity to delineate site boundaries failed to produce additional cultural material. Therefore, this historic cultural material is considered an isolated find. The remains of a slab foundation of a house destroyed by Hurricane Katrina are located in the general vicinity of the positive STP. While no other cultural material was recovered, this material may derive from the occupation of the house. Given the isolated nature of this historic cultural material, this
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The CEMVN believes that the existing evidence suggests that the proposed 171 acre proposed Tabony borrow pit does not contain unrecorded cultural resources. Communication between CEMVN staff archaeologist Dr. Valerie McCormack and with your Tribal Preservation Officer Ms. Carrie V. Wilson reveal that the Quapaw Tribe of Oklahoma prefer to review borrow projects in Orleans Parish Louisiana. While this project lies in Plaquemines Parish, CEMVN invites comments from the Quapaw Tribe of Oklahoma in order to meet CEMVN responsibilities under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, (36 CFR 800.3) and Executive Order 13175 that directs Government-to-Government consultation. If you or anyone in your organization desires a copy of this report or other material relating to this project please contact, please contact Dr. Valerie McCormack at 504-862-2167.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Elizabeth Wiggins
Chief, Environmental Planning and Compliance Branch
December 5, 2007

Elizabeth Wiggins  
Dept. of the Army  
New Orleans District, Corps of Engineers  
P.O. Box 60267  
New Orleans, Louisiana 70160-0267

Dear Elizabeth Wiggins:

We have reviewed the following proposed project(s) as to its effect regarding religious and/or cultural significance to historic properties that may be affected by an undertaking of the projects area of potential effect.

Project Description: Gravolet Canal closure and Mississippi River levee repairs

Project Location: T17S, R14E, Sections 39 & 40

County-State: Plaquemines Parish, Louisiana

Comments: After further review of the above mentioned project(s), to the best of our knowledge it will have no adverse effect on any historic properties in the project’s area of potential effect. However, should construction expose buried archaeological or building materials such as chipped stone, tools, pottery, bone, historic crockery, glass or metal items, this office should be contacted immediately @ 1-800-522-6170 ext. 2137.

Sincerely,

Terry D. Cole  
Tribal Historic Preservation Officer  
Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma

By: [Signature]

Caren A. Johnson  
Administrative Assistant

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

Ms. Pam Breaux
State Historic Preservation Officer
Office of Cultural Development
Department of Culture, Recreation, and Tourism
P.O. Box 44247
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70804

Dear Ms. Breaux:

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Mississippi Valley, New Orleans District (CEMVN) is continuing its efforts to identify borrow sources in order to repair and strengthen levees for hurricane and coastal protection. The proposed nine acre Brad Buras borrow pit, located in southern Plaquemines Parish, Louisiana (Figures 1 and 2) has been identified as a potential source for borrow material. This property is located in Township 20 S, Range 30 E, and Section 1.

Proposed Action
The proposed Brad Buras borrow pit will be excavated to a depth of 20 feet below ground surface. Louisiana Highway 23 will provide access to the site. The remains of a house that was badly damaged by Hurricanies Katrina and Rita (see below) may be demolished if the clay beneath the house is suitable for levee construction. Upon completion of the excavation the sides of the borrow pit will be sloped and the pit will remain open.

Existing Conditions
The Brad Buras property is a former nine acre houselot. The property contains the remains of a house, a driveway, a pool, and concrete slabs foundations of destroyed outbuildings. According to the landowner, Brad Buras, the house was built in 1979. The project area lies within the Balize or Modern subdelta of the Plaquemines complex of the Mississippi River into the Gulf of Mexico and formed over the past 1000 years (Saucier 1994:284). The property is located within the natural backswamp of the Mississippi River and soils consist of Harahan clay (http://websoilsurvey.nrcs.usda.gov /app/WebSoilSurvey.aspx). The Buras canal forms the southern boundary of the property, forming an artificial barrier between the property and coastal marsh.
On June 20, 2007 CEMVN archeologist Valerie McCormack conducted a site visit to the Brad Buras property. Remains of the house and outbuildings were noted, but no historic cultural resources were observed. The house is a two story wood frame structure with brick veneer that was erected on concrete slab foundation. A large spiral handicap ramp is attached to the house leading from the second floor to a patio and pool area located behind the house. Although portions of the exterior walls remain standing, this structure was essentially destroyed by Hurricanes Katrina and Rita (Figures 3 and 4). Two concrete slabs were also observed in the yard behind the house; however, no structural remains were present and building functions could not be ascertained. Taken together, the age of the house and the physical condition of the house suggest that this structure does not meet the basic requirements for inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places.

Cultural Resource Surveys in the Vicinity of the Project Area

A check of the Louisiana Cultural Resources Map (http://kronos.crt.state.la.us/website/lahpweb/viewer.htm), an online GIS of recorded archaeological sites and historic structures, did not reveal the presence of any known cultural resources within the proposed project area. Several cultural resources investigations have been conducted in the vicinity of the proposed Brad Buras borrow pit. Cultural resource surveys conducted for borrow developments (e.g. Hunter and Reeves 1990a, 1990b; Jones 1989) did not lead to the identification of any new cultural resources. Other investigations focused on sites related to civil war resources (e.g. Hunter 1992) and naval engagements (e.g. Saltus 1983). In particular, previous work has targeted Fort Jackson, an nineteenth century fort and National Historic Landmark. Overall, the research has shown that historic sites in this area tend to be located on the natural levee and in areas of high elevation or sites are submerged vessels. Prehistoric sites have not been identified south of the Buras Mound site (16PL13) in Buras, approximately six km up river from the proposed project area.

Archaeological survey of borrow areas close to Fort Jackson led to the recovery of shell fragments from the 1862 bombardment of Fort Jackson (Hunter 1992; Hunter and Reeves 1990a, 1990b). Researchers concluded that metal detecting collectors had disturbed the area, the area lacked integrity, and these areas do not meet the qualifications for inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places (Hunter 1992). In addition, no other cultural resources were identified within the project areas and given the geomorphic history of the project area there was little expectation for the presence of buried sites.

Two borrow pits, situated on either side of the proposed Brad Buras borrow, were excavated following Hurricanes Katrina and Rita. During the planning of the Triumph borrow pits, in the fall of 2005, the Louisiana State Historic Preservation Officer expressed concern about cumulative effects to Fort Jackson. Based upon structural information and geo-engineering data the CEMVN and the LA SHPO agreed that borrow pits should be placed at least 5, 350 feet from Fort Jackson (Figure 5). The proposed Brad Buras borrow pit is situated beyond this buffer zone. Consequently, the excavation of the proposed Brad Buras borrow pit should have no effect to Fort Jackson.
On the June 20 site visit, Valerie McCormack inspected the Triumph borrow pits for archaeological material and the presence of buried land surfaces. While some recent trash and building debris was observed on the surface of access roads, no cultural material was observed within the walls of the borrow pits or in piles of unusable sediments. Although this field examination was cursory, the absence of cultural material that may have originated from buried deposits supports the notion that this area can be classified as having a low probability for the presence of buried sites.

To summarize, the geomorphic history of the area, the position of the proposed borrow on the land form, information from cultural resource surveys in the general vicinity, and the lack of identified sites within the project area suggests that there is a low probability for the presence of unrecorded cultural resources on the Brad Buras property.

Recommendations

The CEMVN believes that the existing evidence suggests that the proposed Brad Buras borrow pit does not contain unrecorded cultural resources. In addition, the remaining structure does not meet qualifications for inclusion to the National Register of Historic Places, and razing the structure will not have any effects to historic resources. The CEMVN therefore believes that cultural resources will not be impacted if this land is excavated as a borrow pit and recommends that the borrow area be developed as proposed. However, given the possibility of deeply buried sites, albeit small, the construction plans and specifications contract will include language regarding unanticipated discoveries, immediate work stoppage, and notification of a CEMVN archaeologist in the event of an unanticipated discovery. We request that you review this information as per National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, (36 CFR 800.3.) and provide comment. If you require additional information, please contact Valerie McCormack at 504-862-2167.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Elizabeth Wiggins
Chief, Environmental Planning and Compliance Branch

Enclosures: Cited References

Figure 1. Map of the Proposed Project Areas
Figure 2. Aerial photograph of proposed project area
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Figure 5. Map of the 2005 Triumph borrow pits with distance to Fort Jackson
CF:  Alabama Coushatta Tribe of Texas, Beryl Battise
     Caddo Nation of Oklahoma, Robert Cast
     Chitimacha Tribe of Louisiana, Kimberly, S. Walden
     Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma, Terry D. Cole
     Coushatta Tribe of Louisiana, Leland Thompson
     Jena Band of the Choctaw Indians, Christine Norris
     Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians, Kenneth H. Carleton
     Quapaw Tribe of Oklahoma, Carrie V. Wilson
     Seminole Nation of Oklahoma, Pare Bowlegs
     Seminole Tribe of Florida, Bill Steele
     Tunica-Biloxi Tribe of Louisiana, Earl Barbry, Jr.
Bibliography

Hunter, Donald G.

Hunter, Donald G. and Reeves, Sally K


Jones, Dennis

Saltus, Allen R. Jr.
1983 Survey of the Selected Civil War Naval Engagement Sites in the Area of Fort St. Philip and Fort Jackson, Plaquemines Parish, Louisiana. Division of Archaeology, Office of Cultural Development, Department of Culture, Recreation and Tourism.

Saucier, Roger T.

Websites referenced:

http://kronos.crt.state.la.us/website/lahpweb/viewer.htm
Figure 1. Location of Proposed Borrow
Figure 3. Front and side views of the Brad Buras House.

Figure 4. Rear view of the Brad Buras House.
Planning, Programs, and
Project Management Division
Environmental Planning
and Compliance Branch.
Attn: CEMVN-PM-RN

Mr. Terry D. Cole
Director/Historic Preservation Officer
Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma
P.O. Box Drawer 1210
Durant, OK 74701

Dear Mr. Cole:

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Mississippi Valley, New Orleans District (CEMVN) is continuing its efforts to identify borrow sources in order to repair and strengthen levees for hurricane and coastal protection. The proposed nine acre Brad Buras borrow pit, located in southern Plaquemines Parish, Louisiana (Figures 1 and 2) has been identified as a potential source for borrow material. This property is located in Township 20 S, Range 30 E, and Section 1.

Proposed Action
The proposed Brad Buras borrow pit will be excavated to a depth of 20 feet below ground surface. Louisiana Highway 23 will provide access to the site. The remains of a house that was badly damaged by Hurricanes Katrina and Rita (see below) may be demolished if the clay beneath the house is suitable for levee construction. Upon completion of the excavation the sides of the borrow pit will be sloped and the pit will remain open.

Existing Conditions
The Brad Buras property is a former nine acre houselot. The property contains the remains of a house, a driveway, a pool, and concrete slabs foundations of destroyed outbuildings. According to the landowner, Brad Buras, the house was built in 1979. The project area lies within the Balize or Modern subdelta of the Plaquemines complex of the Mississippi River into the Gulf of Mexico and formed over the past 1000 years (Saucier 1994:284). The property is located within the natural backswamp of the Mississippi River and soils consist of Harahan clay (http://websoilsurvey.nrcs.usda.gov/app/WebSoilSurvey.aspx). The Buras canal forms the southern boundary of the property, forming an artificial barrier between the property and coastal marsh.

On June 20, 2007 CEMVN archeologist Valerie McCormack conducted a site visit to the Brad Buras property. Remains of the house and outbuildings were noted, but
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**Cultural Resource Surveys in the Vicinity of the Project Area**

A check of the Louisiana Cultural Resources Map (http://kronos.crt.state.la.us/website/lahpweb/viewer.htm), an online GIS of recorded archaeological sites and historic structures, did not reveal the presence of any known cultural resources within the proposed project area. Several cultural resources investigations have been conducted in the vicinity of the proposed Brad Buras borrow pit. Cultural resource surveys conducted for borrow developments (e.g. Hunter and Reeves 1990a, 1990b; Jones 1989) did not lead to the identification of any new cultural resources. Other investigations focused on sites related to civil war resources (e.g. Hunter 1992) and naval engagements (e.g. Saltus 1983). In particular, previous work has targeted Fort Jackson, an nineteenth century fort and National Historic Landmark. Overall, the research has shown that historic sites in this area tend to be located on the natural levee and in areas of high elevation or sites are submerged vessels. Prehistoric sites have not been identified south of the Buras Mound site (16PL13) in Buras, approximately six km up river from the proposed project area.

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Recommendations

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Sincerely,

[Signature]

Elizabeth Wiggins
Chief, Environmental Planning and Compliance Branch

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http://kronos.crt.state.la.us/website/lahtm/
Planning, Programs, and
Project Management Division
Environmental Planning
and Compliance Branch.
Attn: CEMVN-PM-RN

Ms. Pam Breaux
State Historic Preservation Officer
Office of Cultural Development
Department of Culture, Recreation, and Tourism
P.O. Box 44247
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70804

Dear Ms. Breaux:

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Mississippi Valley, New Orleans District (CEMVN) is continuing its efforts to identify borrow sources in order to repair and strengthen levees for hurricane and coastal protection. The proposed nine acre Brad Buras borrow pit, located in southern Plaquemines Parish, Louisiana (Figures 1 and 2) has been identified as a potential source for borrow material. This property is located in Township 20 S, Range 30 E, and Section 1.

Proposed Action
The proposed Brad Buras borrow pit will be excavated to a depth of 20 feet below ground surface. Louisiana Highway 23 will provide access to the site. The remains of a house that was badly damaged by Hurricanes Katrina and Rita (see below) may be demolished if the clay beneath the house is suitable for levee construction. Upon completion of the excavation the sides of the borrow pit will be sloped and the pit will remain open.

Existing Conditions
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**Cultural Resource Surveys in the Vicinity of the Project Area**

A check of the Louisiana Cultural Resources Map (http://kronos.crt.state.la.us/website/laahpweb/viewer.htm), an online GIS of recorded archaeological sites and historic structures, did not reveal the presence of any known cultural resources within the proposed project area. Several cultural resources investigations have been conducted in the vicinity of the proposed Brad Buras borrow pit. Cultural resource surveys conducted for borrow developments (e.g. Hunter and Reeves 1990a, 1990b; Jones 1989) did not lead to the identification of any new cultural resources. Other investigations focused on sites related to civil war resources (e.g. Hunter 1992) and naval engagements (e.g. Saltus 1983). In particular, previous work has targeted Fort Jackson, an nineteenth century fort and National Historic Landmark. Overall, the research has shown that historic sites in this area tend to be located on the natural levee and in areas of high elevation or sites are submerged vessels. Prehistoric sites have not been identified south of the Buras Mound site (16PL13) in Buras, approximately six km up river from the proposed project area.

Archaeological survey of borrow areas close to Fort Jackson led to the recovery of shell fragments from the 1862 bombardment of Fort Jackson (Hunter 1992; Hunter and Reeves 1990a,1990b). Researchers concluded that metal detecting collectors had disturbed the area, the area lacked integrity, and these areas do not meet the qualifications for inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places (Hunter 1992). In addition, no other cultural resources were identified within the project areas and given the geomorphic history of the project area there was little expectation for the presence of buried sites.

Two borrow pits, situated on either side of the proposed Brad Buras borrow, were excavated following Hurricanes Katrina and Rita. During the planning of the Triumph borrow pits, in the fall of 2005, the Louisiana State Historic Preservation Officer expressed concern about cumulative effects to Fort Jackson. Based upon structural information and geo-engineering data the CEMVN and the LA SHPO agreed that borrow pits should be placed at least 5, 350 feet from Fort Jackson (Figure 5) The proposed Brad Buras borrow pit is situated beyond this buffer zone. Consequently, the excavation of the proposed Brad Buras borrow pit should have no effect to Fort Jackson.
On the June 20 site visit, Valerie McCormack inspected the Triumph borrow pits for archaeological material and the presence of buried land surfaces. While some recent trash and building debris was observed on the surface of access roads, no cultural material was observed within the walls of the borrow pits or in piles of unusable sediments. Although this field examination was cursory, the absence of cultural material that may have originated from buried deposits supports the notion that this area can be classified as having a low probability for the presence of buried sites.

To summarize, the geomorphic history of the area, the position of the proposed borrow on the land form, information from cultural resource surveys in the general vicinity, and the lack of identified sites within the project area suggests that there is a low probability for the presence of unrecorded cultural resources on the Brad Buras property.

Recommendations

The CEMVN believes that the existing evidence suggests that the proposed Brad Buras borrow pit does not contain unrecorded cultural resources. In addition, the remaining structure does not meet qualifications for inclusion to the National Register of Historic Places, and razing the structure will not have any effects to historic resources. The CEMVN therefore believes that cultural resources will not be impacted if this land is excavated as a borrow pit and recommends that the borrow area be developed as proposed. However, given the possibility of deeply buried sites, albeit small, the construction plans and specifications contract will include language regarding unanticipated discoveries, immediate work stoppage, and notification of a CEMVN archaeologist in the event of an unanticipated discovery. We request that you review this information as per National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, (36 CFR 800.3) and provide comment. If you require additional information, please contact Valerie McCormack at 504-862-2167.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Elizabeth Wiggins
Chief, Environmental Planning and Compliance Branch

Enclosures: Cited References

Figure 1. Map of the Proposed Project Areas
Figure 2. Aerial photograph of proposed project area
Figure 3. Photograph of the front and side of the house
Figure 4. Photograph of the back and side of the house
Figure 5. Map of the 2005 Triumph borrow pits with distance to Fort Jackson
Dear Preservation Officer:
The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New Orleans District (CEMVN) is planning to develop a borrow pit in Triumph, Plaquemines Parish, Louisiana. Sediment from the borrow will be used for levee repair and improvements for coastal and hurricane protection. Two files are attached: (1) a letter from the CEMVN to the Louisiana State Historic Preservation Office regarding the intended development.

We request that you review this information as per the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended (36 CFR 800.3) and provide comment. Also, if please inform us, if you choose not to provide comment. If you require additional information or have any questions, please contact me at the phone number below or e-mail me.

In addition, the CEMVN plans to develop several more borrow pits in the future. If you prefer to be notified by a hard copy please inform me, and I will send you information through the postal service in the future.

Sincerely
Valerie McCormack

Valerie J. McCormack
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
New Orleans District
Planning, Programs, and Project Management Division
  Environmental Planning and Compliance Branch
Cultural Resources
504-862-2167
Valerie,

Feel free to proceed with the levee repair and borrow pit.

Pare-
From: Carleton, Ken [KCarleton@choctaw.org]
Sent: Tuesday, July 10, 2007 10:26 AM
To: McCormack, Valerie J MVN
Subject: RE: Brad Buras Borrow Plaquemines Parish

I have reviewed the attached information relating to the Brad Buras Borrow pit, Plaquemines Parish, Louisiana. We concur with your findings that there is probably only a low probability for the occurrence of American Indian related archaeological material on this site. However, if during the excavations in this borrow pit, any archaeological material is encountered, all work should stop and I should be contacted as soon as possible for further consultation.

Kenneth H. Carleton
Tribal Historic Preservation Officer/Archaeologist
Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians
P.O. Box 6257 or 101 Industrial Road
Choctaw, MS 39350
601.650.7316
FAX: 601.650.7454

-----Original Message-----
From: McCormack, Valerie J MVN
[mailto:Valerie.J.Mccormack@mvn02.usace.army.mil]
Sent: Tuesday, July 10, 2007 7:36 AM
To: histpres@actribe.org; wsteele@semtribe.com; nagpra.106@earthlink.net; chief@jenachoctaw.org; earlii@tunica.org; Carleton, Ken; lthompson@coushattatribela.org; HPO@seminolenation.com; culture@caddonation-nsn.gov
Cc: Exnicios, Joan M MVN
Subject: Brad Buras Borrow Plaquemines Parish

Dear Preservation Officer:
The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New Orleans District (CEMVN) is planning to develop a borrow pit in Triumph, Plaquemines Parish, Louisiana. Sediment from the borrow will be used for levee repair and improvements for coastal and hurricane protection. Two files are attached: (1) a letter from the CEMVN to the Louisiana State Historic Preservation Office regarding the intended development.

We request that you review this information as per the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended (36 CFR 800.3) and provide comment. Also if please inform us, if you choose not to provide comment. If you require additional information or have any questions, please contact me at the phone number below or e-mail me.

In addition, the CEMVN plans to develop several more borrow pits in the future. If you prefer to be notified by a hard copy please inform me, and I will send you information through the postal service in the future.

Sincerely
Valerie McCormack

<<Buras-SHPO.pdf>>
Valerie J. McCormack
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
New Orleans District
Planning, Programs, and Project Management Division
EnvironmentaPlanning and Compliance Branch
Cultural Resources
504-862-2167
July 30, 2007

Elizabeth Wiggins  
Department of the Army  
New Orleans District, Corps of Engineers  
P.O. Box 60267  
New Orleans, Louisiana 70160-0267

Dear Elizabeth Wiggins:

We have reviewed the following proposed project (s) as to its effect regarding religious and/or cultural significance to historic properties that may be affected by an undertaking of the projects area of potential effect.

Project Description: Brad Buras borrow pit  
Project Location: T20S, R30E, Section 1  
County-State: Plaquemines Parish, Louisiana

Comments: Based on the information provided, to the best of our knowledge it will have no adverse effect on any historic properties in the project's area of potential effect. However, should construction expose buried archaeological or building materials such as chipped stone, tools, pottery, bone, historic crockery, glass or metal items, this office should be contacted immediately @ 1-800-522-6170 ext. 2137.

Sincerely,

Terry D. Cole  
Tribal Historic Preservation Officer  
Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma

By: Caren A. Johnson  
Administrative Assistant

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

Ms. Pam Breaux
State Historic Preservation Officer
Office of Cultural Development
Department of Culture, Recreation, and Tourism
P.O. Box 44247
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70804

RE: Draft Reconnaissance Survey of the Proposed Chauvin Borrow
Area, Nairn, Plaquemines, Parish, Louisiana (IER #22)

Dear Ms. Breaux:

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Mississippi Valley, New Orleans District (CEMVN) is currently identifying borrow sources for its continuing efforts to repair and strengthen levees in Southeastern Louisiana. The proposed 29 acre Chauvin borrow area is located in Township 19S, Range 41E, Section 28. The project area lies near Nairn, on the west bank of the Mississippi River in Plaquemines Parish, Louisiana. CEMVN contracted Earth Search, Inc. to complete a Reconnaissance level cultural resource survey of the proposed Chauvin borrow pit. Earth Search, Inc. has completed a draft report, and CEMVN is pleased to present the report to your office for your review. Information regarding this cultural resource survey will be included in the Individual Environmental Report #22.

The proposed borrow pit would be excavated to a maximum depth of 20 feet below ground surface. Highway 23 would provide access to the proposed borrow site. Given that the proposed action has the potential to impact cultural resources, the CEMVN requests a review of the project as per 36 CFR 800.3(c).

The enclosed draft report includes the results of background research, a literature review, site record search, and the field work. The background research and geomorphology define the project area as having a low probability for the presence of archaeological sites. Only two archaeological sites have been documented within one mile of the project area. These sites 16PL.77 and 16PL.78 are both historic scatters located on the east bank of the Mississippi River. Field investigations included walk over inspection and the excavation of a total of 51 shovel tests pits spaced at 50 meter intervals. No historic or prehistoric cultural material was recovered from these excavations or observed on the surface. ESI concludes the report with "Excavation of the area should have no affect on historic resources, and no further investigations are necessary."
The CEMVN believes that the existing evidence suggests that the proposed 29 acre proposed Chauvin borrow pit does not contain unrecorded cultural resources. The CEMVN therefore believes that cultural resources would not be impacted if this land is excavated as a borrow pit and recommends that the borrow area be developed as proposed. However, given the possibility of deeply buried sites, albeit small, the construction plans and specifications contract will include language regarding unanticipated discoveries, immediate work stoppage, and notification of a CEMVN archaeologist in the event of an unanticipated discovery. We request that you review this project information and report as per National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, (36 CFR 800.3) and provide comment. If you require additional information, please contact Valerie McCormack at 504-862-2167.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Elizabeth Wiggins
Chief, Environmental Planning
and Compliance Branch

Enclosures: Reconnaissance Survey of the Proposed Chauvin Borrow Site, Plaquemines Parish, Louisiana (2 copies)
Planning, Programs, and  
Project Management Division  
Environmental Planning  
and Compliance Branch.  
Attn: CEMVN-PM-RN

Ms. Pam Breaux  
State Historic Preservation Officer  
Office of Cultural Development  
Department of Culture, Recreation, and Tourism  
P.O. Box 44247  
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70804

RE: Draft Reconnaissance Survey of the Proposed Chauvin Borrow  
Area, Nairn, Plaquemines, Parish, Louisiana (IER #22)

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The CEMVN believes that the existing evidence suggests that the proposed 29 acre proposed Chauvin borrow pit does not contain unrecorded cultural resources. The CEMVN therefore believes that cultural resources would not be impacted if this land is excavated as a borrow pit and recommends that the borrow area be developed as proposed. However, given the possibility of deeply buried sites, albeit small, the construction plans and specifications contract will include language regarding unanticipated discoveries, immediate work stoppage, and notification of a CEMVN archaeologist in the event of an unanticipated discovery. We request that you review this project information and report as per National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, (36 CFR 800.3) and provide comment. If you require additional information, please contact Valerie McCormack at 504-862-2167.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Wiggins
Chief, Environmental Planning
and Compliance Branch

Enclosures: Reconnaissance Survey of the Proposed Chauvin Borrow Site, Plaquemines Parish, Louisiana (2 copies)
Planning, Programs, and  
Project Management Division  
Environmental Planning  
and Compliance Branch.  
Attn: CEMVN-PM-RN  

RE: Draft Reconnaissance Survey of the Proposed Chauvin Borrow  
Area, Nairn, Plaquemines, Parish, Louisiana (IER #22)  

Chariman Alton LeBlanc  
Chitimacha Tribe of Louisiana  
P.O. Box 661  
Charenton, LA 70523  

Dear Chariman LeBlanc:  

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Mississippi Valley, New Orleans District (CEMVN)  
is currently identifying borrow sources for its continuing efforts to repair and strengthen levees  
in Southeastern Louisiana. The proposed 29 acre Chauvin borrow area is located in Township  
19S, Range 41E, Section 28. The project area lies near Nairn, on the west bank of the  
Mississippi River in Plaquemines Parish, Louisiana. CEMVN contracted Earth Search, Inc. to  
complete a Reconnaissance level cultural resource survey of the proposed Chauvin borrow pit.  
Earth Search, Inc. has completed a draft report, and CEMVN is pleased to present the report to  
your office for your review. Information regarding this cultural resource survey will be included  
in the Individual Environmental Report #22.  

The proposed borrow pit would be excavated to a maximum depth of 20 feet below  
ground surface. Highway 23 would provide access to the proposed borrow site. Given that the  
proposed action has the potential to impact cultural resources, the CEMVN requests that the  
Chitimacha Tribe of Louisiana review of the project as per 36 CFR 800.3(c).  

A draft report has been forwarded to Ms. Kimberly Walden, Chitimacha Tribe of  
Louisiana for their review and reference. The report includes the results of background research,  
a literature review, site record search, and the field work. The background research and  
geomorphology define the project area as having a low probability for the presence of  
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investigations are necessary”.  

The CEMVN believes that the existing evidence suggests that the proposed 29 acre proposed Chauvin borrow pit does not contain unrecorded cultural resources. The CEMVN therefore believes that cultural resources would not be impacted if this land is excavated as a borrow pit and recommends that the borrow area be developed as proposed. However, given the possibility of deeply buried sites, albeit small, the construction plans and specifications contract will include language regarding unanticipated discoveries, immediate work stoppage, and notification of a CEMVN archaeologist in the event of an unanticipated discovery. We request that Chitimacha Tribe of Louisiana review this project information and report as per National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, (36 CFR 800.3) and provide comment. If you require additional information, please contact Valerie McCormack at 504-862-2167.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Elizabeth Wiggins
Chief, Environmental Planning
and Compliance Branch

CF: Ms. Kimberly Walden, Chitimacha Tribe of Louisiana
Planning, Programs, and
Project Management Division
Environmental Planning
and Compliance Branch.
Attn: CEMVN-PM-RN

RE: Draft Reconnaissance Survey of the Proposed Chauvin Borrow
Area, Nairn, Plaquemines, Parish, Louisiana (IER #22)

Chariman Alton LeBlanc
Chitimacha Tribe of Louisiana
P.O. Box 661
Charenton, LA 70523

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The proposed borrow pit would be excavated to a maximum depth of 20 feet below ground surface. Highway 23 would provide access to the proposed borrow site. Given that the proposed action has the potential to impact cultural resources, the CEMVN requests that the Chitimacha Tribe of Louisiana review of the project as per 36 CFR 800.3(c).

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Sincerely,

Elizabeth Wiggins
Chief, Environmental Planning
and Compliance Branch

CF: Ms. Kimberly Walden, Chitimacha Tribe of Louisiana
Planning, Programs, and
Project Management Division
Environmental Planning
and Compliance Branch.
Attn: CEMVN-PM-RN

RE: Draft Reconnaissance Survey of the Proposed Chauvin Borrow
Area, Nairn, Plaquemines, Parish, Louisiana (IER #22)

Chief Beasley Denson
Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians
P.O. Box 6257
Choctaw, MS 39350

Dear Chief Denson:

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Mississippi Valley, New Orleans District (CEMVN) is currently identifying borrow sources for its continuing efforts to repair and strengthen levees in Southeastern Louisiana. The proposed 29 acre Chauvin borrow area is located in Township 19S, Range 41E, Section 28. The project area lies near Nairn, on the west bank of the Mississippi River in Plaquemines Parish, Louisiana. CEMVN contracted Earth Search, Inc. to complete a Reconnaissance level cultural resource survey of the proposed Chauvin borrow pit. Earth Search, Inc. has completed a draft report, and CEMVN is pleased to present the report to your office for your review. Information regarding this cultural resource survey will be included in the Individual Environmental Report #22.

The proposed borrow pit would be excavated to a maximum depth of 20 feet below ground surface. Highway 23 would provide access to the proposed borrow site. Given that the proposed action has the potential to impact cultural resources, the CEMVN requests that the Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians review of the project as per 36 CFR 800.3(c).

A draft report has been forwarded to Mr. Kenneth H. Carleton, Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians for their review and reference. The report includes the results of background research, a literature review, site record search, and the field work. The background research and geomorphology define the project area as having a low probability for the presence of archaeological sites. Only two archaeological sites have been documented within one mile of the project area. These sites 16PL77 and 16PL78 are both historic scatters located on the east bank of the Mississippi River. Field investigations included walk over inspection and the excavation of a total of 51 shovel tests pits spaced at 50 meter intervals. No historic or prehistoric cultural material was recovered from these excavations or observed on the surface. ESI concludes the report with “Excavation of the area should have no affect on historic resources, and no further investigations are necessary”.

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Sincerely,

[Signature]

Elizabeth Wiggins
Chief, Environmental Planning
and Compliance Branch

CF: Mr. Kenneth H. Carleton, Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians
Planning, Programs, and
Project Management Division
Environmental Planning
and Compliance Branch.
Attn: CEMVN-PM-RN

RE: Draft Reconnaissance Survey of the Proposed Chauvin Borrow
Area, Naïrn, Plaquemines, Parish, Louisiana (IER #22)

Chief Beasley Denson
Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians
P.O. Box 6257
Choctaw, MS 39350

Dear Chief Denson:

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Mississippi Valley, New Orleans District (CEMVN) is currently identifying borrow sources for its continuing efforts to repair and strengthen levees in Southeastern Louisiana. The proposed 29 acre Chauvin borrow area is located in Township 19S, Range 41E, Section 28. The project area lies near Naïrn, on the west bank of the Mississippi River in Plaquemines Parish, Louisiana. CEMVN contracted Earth Search, Inc. to complete a Reconnaissance level cultural resource survey of the proposed Chauvin borrow pit. Earth Search, Inc. has completed a draft report, and CEMVN is pleased to present the report to your office for your review. Information regarding this cultural resource survey will be included in the Individual Environmental Report #22.

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Sincerely,

Elizabeth Wiggins  
Chief, Environmental Planning  
and Compliance Branch

CF: Mr. Kenneth H. Carleton, Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians
Planning, Programs, and  
Project Management Division  
Environmental Planning  
and Compliance Branch.  
Attn: CEMVN-PM-RN

RE: Draft Reconnaissance Survey of the Proposed Chauvin Borrow  
Area, Nairn, Plaquemines, Parish, Louisiana (IER #22)

Principal Chief Enoch Haney  
Seminole Nation of Oklahoma  
P.O. Box 1498  
Wewoka, OK 74884

Dear Principal Chief Haney:

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Mississippi Valley, New Orleans District (CEMVN) is currently identifying borrow sources for its continuing efforts to repair and strengthen levees in Southeastern Louisiana. The proposed 29 acre Chauvin borrow area is located in Township 19S, Range 41E, Section 28. The project area lies near Nairn, on the west bank of the Mississippi River in Plaquemines Parish, Louisiana. CEMVN contracted Earth Search, Inc. to complete a Reconnaissance level cultural resource survey of the proposed Chauvin borrow pit. Earth Search, Inc. has completed a draft report, and CEMVN is pleased to present the report to your office for your review. Information regarding this cultural resource survey will be included in the Individual Environmental Report #22.

The proposed borrow pit would be excavated to a maximum depth of 20 feet below ground surface. Highway 23 would provide access to the proposed borrow site. Given that the proposed action has the potential to impact cultural resources, the CEMVN requests that the Seminole Nation of Oklahoma review of the project as per 36 CFR 800.3(c).

A draft report has been forwarded to Mr. Pare Bowlegs, Seminole Nation of Oklahoma for their review and reference. The report includes the results of background research, a literature review, site record search, and the field work. The background research and geomorphology define the project area as having a low probability for the presence of archaeological sites. Only two archaeological sites have been documented within one mile of the project area. These sites 16PL77 and 16PL78 are both historic scatters located on the east bank of the Mississippi River. Field investigations included walk over inspection and the excavation of a total of 51 shovel tests pits spaced at 50 meter intervals. No historic or prehistoric cultural material was recovered from these excavations or observed on the surface. ESI concludes the report with “Excavation of the area should have no affect on historic resources, and no further investigations are necessary”.

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Sincerely,

[Signature]

Elizabeth Wiggins
Chief, Environmental Planning and Compliance Branch

CF: Mr. Pare Bowlegs, Seminole Nation of Oklahoma
Planning, Programs, and
Project Management Division
Environmental Planning
and Compliance Branch.
Attn: CEMVN-PM-RN

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Area, Nairn, Plaquemines, Parish, Louisiana (IER #22)

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P.O. Box 1498
Wewoka, OK 74884

Dear Principal Chief Haney:

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The proposed borrow pit would be excavated to a maximum depth of 20 feet below ground surface. Highway 23 would provide access to the proposed borrow site. Given that the proposed action has the potential to impact cultural resources, the CEMVN requests that the Seminole Nation of Oklahoma review the project as per 36 CFR 800.3(c).

A draft report has been forwarded to Mr. Pare Bowlegs, Seminole Nation of Oklahoma for their review and reference. The report includes the results of background research, a literature review, site record search, and the field work. The background research and geomorphology define the project area as having a low probability for the presence of archaeological sites. Only two archaeological sites have been documented within one mile of the project area. These sites 16PL77 and 16PL78 are both historic scatters located on the east bank of the Mississippi River. Field investigations included walk over inspection and the excavation of a total of 51 shovel tests pits spaced at 50 meter intervals. No historic or prehistoric cultural material was recovered from these excavations or observed on the surface. ESI concludes the report with “Excavation of the area should have no affect on historic resources, and no further investigations are necessary.”
The CEMVN believes that the existing evidence suggests that the proposed 29 acre proposed Chauvin borrow pit does not contain unrecorded cultural resources. The CEMVN therefore believes that cultural resources would not be impacted if this land is excavated as a borrow pit and recommends that the borrow area be developed as proposed. However, given the possibility of deeply buried sites, albeit small, the construction plans and specifications contract will include language regarding unanticipated discoveries, immediate work stoppage, and notification of a CEMVN archaeologist in the event of an unanticipated discovery. We request that Seminole Nation of Oklahoma review this project information and report as per National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, (36 CFR 800.3) and provide comment. If you require additional information, please contact Valerie McCormack at 504-862-2167.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Wiggins
Chief, Environmental Planning
and Compliance Branch

CF: Mr. Pare Bowlegs, Seminole Nation of Oklahoma

EXNICTIOS
CEMVN-PM-RN

WIGGINS
CEMVN-PM-R
Planning, Programs, and  
Project Management Division  
Environmental Planning  
and Compliance Branch.  

Attn:  CEMVN-PM-RN

RE:  Draft Reconnaissance Survey of the Proposed Chauvin Borrow 
Area, Nairn, Plaquemines, Parish, Louisiana (IER #22)

Principal Chief Chistine Norris  
Jena Bnd of the Choctaw INdians  
P.O. Box 14  
Jena, LA 71342

Dear Principal Chief Norris:

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Mississippi Valley, New Orleans District (CEMVN) is currently identifying borrow sources for its continuing efforts to repair and strengthen levees in Southeastern Louisiana. The proposed 29 acre Chauvin borrow area is located in Township 19S, Range 41E, Section 28. The project area lies near Nairn, on the west bank of the Mississippi River in Plaquemines Parish, Louisiana. CEMVN contracted Earth Search, Inc. to complete a Reconnaissance level cultural resource survey of the proposed Chauvin borrow pit. Earth Search, Inc. has completed a draft report, and CEMVN is pleased to present the report to your office for your review. Information regarding this cultural resource survey will be included in the Individual Environmental Report #22.

The proposed borrow pit would be excavated to a maximum depth of 20 feet below ground surface. Highway 23 would provide access to the proposed borrow site. Given that the proposed action has the potential to impact cultural resources, the CEMVN requests that the Jena Band of the Choctaw Indians review of the project as per 36 CFR 800.3(c).

Please find a copy of the draft report enclosed. The report includes the results of background research, a literature review, site record search, and the field work. The background research and geomorphology define the project area as having a low probability for the presence of archaeological sites. Only two archaeological sites have been documented within one mile of the project area. These sites 16PL77 and 16PL78 are both historic scatters located on the east bank of the Mississippi River. Field investigations included walk over inspection and the excavation of a total of 51 shovel tests pits spaced at 50 meter intervals. No historic or prehistoric cultural material was recovered from these excavations or observed on the surface. ESI concludes the report with “Excavation of the area should have no affect on historic resources, and no further investigations are necessary”.

The CEMVN believes that the existing evidence suggests that the proposed 29 acre proposed Chauvin borrow pit does not contain unrecorded cultural resources. The CEMVN therefore believes that cultural resources would not be impacted if this land is excavated as a borrow pit and recommends that the borrow area be developed as proposed. However, given the possibility of deeply buried sites, albeit small, the construction plans and specifications contract will include language regarding unanticipated discoveries, immediate work stoppage, and notification of a CEMVN archaeologist in the event of an unanticipated discovery. We request that Jena Band of the Choctaw Indians review this project information and report as per National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, (36 CFR 800.3) and provide comment. If you require additional information, please contact Valerie McCormack at 504-862-2167.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Elizabeth Wiggins
Chief, Environmental Planning
and Compliance Branch

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

RE: Draft Reconnaissance Survey of the Proposed Chauvin Borrow
Area, Nairn, Plaquemines, Parish, Louisiana (IER #22)

Principal Chief Chistine Norris
Jena Bnd of the Choctaw INdians
P.O. Box 14
Jena, LA 71342

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Sincerely,

Elizabeth Wiggins
Chief, Environmental Planning
and Compliance Branch


EXNICIOS
CEMVN-PM-RN

WIGGINS
CEMVN-PM-R
DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
NEW ORLEANS DISTRICT, CORPS OF ENGINEERS
P.O. BOX 80267
NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA 70160-0267

December 11, 2007

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

RE: Draft Reconnaissance Survey of the Proposed Chauvin Borrow
Area, Nairn, Plaquemines, Parish, Louisiana (IER #22)

Mitchell Cypress
Seminole Tribe of Florida
6300 Stirling Road
Hollywood, FL 33024

Dear Mitchell Cypress:

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Mississippi Valley, New Orleans District (CEMVN) is currently identifying borrow sources for its continuing efforts to repair and strengthen levees in Southeastern Louisiana. The proposed 29 acre Chauvin borrow area is located in Township 19S, Range 41E, Section 28. The project area lies near Nairn, on the west bank of the Mississippi River in Plaquemines Parish, Louisiana. CEMVN contracted Earth Search, Inc. to complete a Reconnaissance level cultural resource survey of the proposed Chauvin borrow pit. Earth Search, Inc. has completed a draft report, and CEMVN is pleased to present the report to your office for your review. Information regarding this cultural resource survey will be included in the Individual Environmental Report #22.

The proposed borrow pit would be excavated to a maximum depth of 20 feet below ground surface. Highway 23 would provide access to the proposed borrow site. Given that the proposed action has the potential to impact cultural resources, the CEMVN requests that the Seminole Tribe of Florida review of the project as per 36 CFR 800.3(c).

A draft report includes the results of background research, a literature review, site record search, and the field work. The background research and geomorphology define the project area as having a low probability for the presence of archaeological sites. Only two archaeological sites have been documented within one mile of the project area. These sites 16PL77 and 16PL78 are both historic scatters located on the east bank of the Mississippi River. Field investigations included walk over inspection and the excavation of a total of 51 shovel tests pits spaced at 50 meter intervals. No historic or prehistoric cultural material was recovered from these excavations or observed on the surface. ESI concludes the report with “Excavation of the area should have no affect on historic resources, and no further investigations are necessary”.

The CEMVN believes that the existing evidence suggests that the proposed 29 acre proposed Chauvin borrow pit does not contain unrecorded cultural resources. Communication between CEMVN staff archaeologists Mr. Mike Swanda and Dr. Valerie McCormack and members of your preservation staff indicate that the Seminole Nation of Florida prefers to review CEMVN borrow projects in South Louisiana only if information suggests a likelihood for the presence of burials. CEMVN invites comments from the Seminole Nation of Florida in order to meet CEMVN responsibilities under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, (36 CFR 800.3) and Executive Order 13175 that directs Government-to-Government consultation. If you or anyone in your organization desires a copy of this report or other material relating to this project please contact, please contact Dr. Valerie McCormack at 504-862-2167.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

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

RE: Draft Reconnaissance Survey of the Proposed Chauvin Borrow
Area, Nairn, Plaquemines, Parish, Louisiana (IER #22)

Mitchell Cypress
Seminole Tribe of Florida
6300 Stirling Road
Hollywood, FL 33024

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Sincerely,

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

RE: Draft Reconnaissance Survey of the Proposed Chauvin Borrow
Area, Nairn, Plaquemines, Parish, Louisiana (IER #22)

Chief Kevin Sickey
Coushatta Tribe of Louisiana
P.O. Box 818
Elton, LA 70532

Dear Chief Sickey:

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Mississippi Valley, New Orleans District (CEMVN) is currently identifying borrow sources for its continuing efforts to repair and strengthen levees in Southeastern Louisiana. The proposed 29 acre Chauvin borrow area is located in Township 19S, Range 41E, Section 28. The project area lies near Nairn, on the west bank of the Mississippi River in Plaquemines Parish, Louisiana. CEMVN contracted Earth Search, Inc. to complete a Reconnaissance level cultural resource survey of the proposed Chauvin borrow pit. Earth Search, Inc. has completed a draft report, and CEMVN is pleased to present the report to your office for your review. Information regarding this cultural resource survey will be included in the Individual Environmental Report #22.

The proposed borrow pit would be excavated to a maximum depth of 20 feet below ground surface. Highway 23 would provide access to the proposed borrow site. Given that the proposed action has the potential to impact cultural resources, the CEMVN requests that the Coushatta Tribe of Louisiana review of the project as per 36 CFR 800.3(c).

A draft report has been forwarded to Mr. Rayne Langley and Mr. Leland Thompson, Coushatta Tribe of Louisiana for their review and reference. The report includes the results of background research, a literature review, site record search, and the field work. The background research and geomorphology define the project area as having a low probability for the presence of archaeological sites. Only two archaeological sites have been documented within one mile of the project area. These sites 16PL77 and 16PL78 are both historic scatters located on the east bank of the Mississippi River. Field investigations included walk over inspection and the excavation of a total of 51 shovel tests pits spaced at 50 meter intervals. No historic or prehistoric cultural material was recovered from these excavations or observed on the surface. ESI concludes the report with “Excavation of the area should have no affect on historic resources, and no further investigations are necessary”.

December 11, 2007
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Sincerely,

[Signature]

Elizabeth Wiggins
Chief, Environmental Planning
and Compliance Branch

CF: Mr. Rayne Langley, Coushatta Tribe of Louisiana,
and Mr. Leland Thompson, Coushatta Tribe of Louisiana
Planning, Programs, and  
Project Management Division  
Environmental Planning  
and Compliance Branch.  
Attn: CEMVN-PM-RN

RE: Draft Reconnaissance Survey of the Proposed Chauvin Borrow  
Area, Nairn, Plaquemines, Parish, Louisiana (IER #22)

Chief Kevin Sickey  
Coushatta Tribe of Louisiana  
P.O. Box 818  
Elton, LA 70532

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Sincerely,

Elizabeth Wiggins
Chief, Environmental Planning
and Compliance Branch

CF: Mr. Rayne Langley, Coushatta Tribe of Louisiana,
and Mr. Leland Thompson, Coushatta Tribe of Louisiana

EXNICIOS
CEMVN-PM-RN

WIGGINS
CEMVN-PM-R
DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
NEW ORLEANS DISTRICT, CORPS OF ENGINEERS
P.O. BOX 80287
NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA 70160-0287

December 11, 2007

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

RE: Draft Reconnaissance Survey of the Proposed Chauvin Borrow
Area, Nairn, Plaquemines, Parish, Louisiana (IER #22)

Chief Gregory Pyle
Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma
P.O. Box Drawer 1210
Durant, OK 74701

Dear Chief Pyle:

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Mississippi Valley, New Orleans District (CEMVN) is currently identifying borrow sources for its continuing efforts to repair and strengthen levees in Southeastern Louisiana. The proposed 29 acre Chauvin borrow area is located in Township 19S, Range 41E, Section 28. The project area lies near Nairn, on the west bank of the Mississippi River in Plaquemines Parish, Louisiana. CEMVN contracted Earth Search, Inc. to complete a Reconnaissance level cultural resource survey of the proposed Chauvin borrow pit. Earth Search, Inc. has completed a draft report, and CEMVN is pleased to present the report to your office for your review. Information regarding this cultural resource survey will be included in the Individual Environmental Report #22.

The proposed borrow pit would be excavated to a maximum depth of 20 feet below ground surface. Highway 23 would provide access to the proposed borrow site. Given that the proposed action has the potential to impact cultural resources, the CEMVN requests that the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma review of the project as per 36 CFR 800.3(c).

A draft report has been forwarded to Mr. Terry D. Cole, Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma for their review and reference. The report includes the results of background research, a literature review, site record search, and the field work. The background research and geomorphology define the project area as having a low probability for the presence of archaeological sites. Only two archaeological sites have been documented within one mile of the project area. These sites 16PL77 and 16PL78 are both historic scatters located on the east bank of the Mississippi River. Field investigations included walk over inspection and the excavation of a total of 51 shovel tests pits spaced at 50 meter intervals. No historic or prehistoric cultural material was recovered from these excavations or observed on the surface. ESI concludes the report with “Excavation of the area should have no affect on historic resources, and no further investigations are necessary.”
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Sincerely,

[Signature]

Elizabeth Wiggens
Chief, Environmental Planning
and Compliance Branch

CF: Mr. Terry D. Cole, Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma
Planning, Programs, and Project Management Division
Environmental Planning and Compliance Branch.
Attn: CEMVN-PM-RN

RE: Draft Reconnaissance Survey of the Proposed Chauvin Borrow Area, Nairn, Plaquemines, Parish, Louisiana (IER #22)

Chief Gregory Pyle
Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma
P.O. Box Drawer 1210
 Durant, OK 74701

Dear Chief Pyle:

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Mississippi Valley, New Orleans District (CEMVN) is currently identifying borrow sources for its continuing efforts to repair and strengthen levees in Southeastern Louisiana. The proposed 29 acre Chauvin borrow area is located in Township 19S, Range 41E, Section 28. The project area lies near Nairn, on the west bank of the Mississippi River in Plaquemines Parish, Louisiana. CEMVN contracted Earth Search, Inc. to complete a Reconnaissance level cultural resource survey of the proposed Chauvin borrow pit. Earth Search, Inc. has completed a draft report, and CEMVN is pleased to present the report to your office for your review. Information regarding this cultural resource survey will be included in the Individual Environmental Report #22.

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Sincerely,

Elizabeth Wiggins
Chief, Environmental Planning
and Compliance Branch

CF: Mr. Terry D. Cole, Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma

EXNICIOS
CEMVN-PM-RN

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

RE: Draft Reconnaissance Survey of the Proposed Chauvin Borrow
    Area, Nairn, Plaquemines, Parish, Louisiana (IER #22)

LaRue Parker
Caddo Nation of Oklahoma
P.O. Box 487
Binger, OK 73009

Dear LaRue Parker:

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Mississippi Valley, New Orleans District (CEMVN) is currently identifying borrow sources for its continuing efforts to repair and strengthen levees in Southeastern Louisiana. The proposed 29 acre Chauvin borrow area is located in Township 19S, Range 41E, Section 28. The project area lies near Nairn, on the west bank of the Mississippi River in Plaquemines Parish, Louisiana. CEMVN contracted Earth Search, Inc. to complete a Reconnaissance level cultural resource survey of the proposed Chauvin borrow pit. Earth Search, Inc. has completed a draft report, and CEMVN is pleased to present the report to your office for your review. Information regarding this cultural resource survey will be included in the Individual Environmental Report #22.

The proposed borrow pit would be excavated to a maximum depth of 20 feet below ground surface. Highway 23 would provide access to the proposed borrow site. Given that the proposed action has the potential to impact cultural resources, the CEMVN requests that the Caddo Nation of Oklahoma review of the project as per 36 CFR 800.3(c).

A draft report has been forwarded to Mr. Rob Cast, Caddo Nation of Oklahoma for their review and reference. The report includes the results of background research, a literature review, site record search, and the field work. The background research and geomorphology define the project area as having a low probability for the presence of archaeological sites. Only two archaeological sites have been documented within one mile of the project area. These sites 16PL77 and 16PL78 are both historic scatters located on the east bank of the Mississippi River. Field investigations included walk over inspection and the excavation of a total of 51 shovel tests pits spaced at 50 meter intervals. No historic or prehistoric cultural material was recovered from these excavations or observed on the surface. ESI concludes the report with "Excavation of the area should have no affect on historic resources, and no further investigations are necessary".
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Sincerely,

[Signature]

Elizabeth Wiggins
Chief, Environmental Planning
and Compliance Branch

CF: Mr. Rober Cast, Caddo Nation of Oklahoma
Planning, Programs, and
Project Management Division
Environmental Planning
and Compliance Branch.
Attn: CEMVN-PM-RN

RE: Draft Reconnaissance Survey of the Proposed Chauvin Borrow
Area, Nairn, Plaquemines, Parish, Louisiana (IER #22)

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Dear LaRue Parker:

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Mississippi Valley, New Orleans District (CEMVN) is currently identifying borrow sources for its continuing efforts to repair and strengthen levees in Southeastern Louisiana. The proposed 29 acre Chauvin borrow area is located in Township 19S, Range 41E, Section 28. The project area lies near Nairn, on the west bank of the Mississippi River in Plaquemines Parish, Louisiana. CEMVN contracted Earth Search, Inc. to complete a Reconnaissance level cultural resource survey of the proposed Chauvin borrow pit. Earth Search, Inc. has completed a draft report, and CEMVN is pleased to present the report to your office for your review. Information regarding this cultural resource survey will be included in the Individual Environmental Report #22.

The proposed borrow pit would be excavated to a maximum depth of 20 feet below ground surface. Highway 23 would provide access to the proposed borrow site. Given that the proposed action has the potential to impact cultural resources, the CEMVN requests that the Caddo Nation of Oklahoma review of the project as per 36 CFR 800.3(c).

A draft report has been forwarded to Mr. Rober Cast, Caddo Nation of Oklahoma for their review and reference. The report includes the results of background research, a literature review, site record search, and the field work. The background research and geomorphology define the project area as having a low probability for the presence of archaeological sites. Only two archaeological sites have been documented within one mile of the project area. These sites 16PL77 and 16PL78 are both historic scatters located on the east bank of the Mississippi River. Field investigations included walk over inspection and the excavation of a total of 51 shovel tests pits spaced at 50 meter intervals. No historic or prehistoric cultural material was recovered from these excavations or observed on the surface. ESI concludes the report with “Excavation of the area should have no affect on historic resources, and no further investigations are necessary.”
The CEMVN believes that the existing evidence suggests that the proposed 29 acre proposed Chauvin borrow pit does not contain unrecorded cultural resources. The CEMVN therefore believes that cultural resources would not be impacted if this land is excavated as a borrow pit and recommends that the borrow area be developed as proposed. However, given the possibility of deeply buried sites, albeit small, the construction plans and specifications contract will include language regarding unanticipated discoveries, immediate work stoppage, and notification of a CEMVN archaeologist in the event of an unanticipated discovery. We request that Caddo Nation of Oklahoma review this project information and report as per National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, (36 CFR 800.3) and provide comment. If you require additional information, please contact Valerie McCormack at 504-862-2167.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Wiggins  
Chief, Environmental Planning  
and Compliance Branch

CF: Mr. Rober Cast, Caddo Nation of Oklahoma
Planning, Programs, and
Project Management Division
Environmental Planning
and Compliance Branch.
Attn: CEMVN-PM-RN

RE: Draft Reconnaissance Survey of the Proposed Chauvin Borrow
Area, Nairn, Plaquemines, Parish, Louisiana (IER #22)

Principal Chief Oscola Clayton Sylestine
Alabama Coushatta Tribe of Texas
571 State Park Rd.
Livingston, TX 77351

Dear Principal Chief Sylestine:

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Mississippi Valley, New Orleans District (CEMVN) is currently identifying borrow sources for its continuing efforts to repair and strengthen levees in Southeastern Louisiana. The proposed 29 acre Chauvin borrow area is located in Township 19S, Range 41E, Section 28. The project area lies near Nairn, on the west bank of the Mississippi River in Plaquemines Parish, Louisiana. CEMVN contracted Earth Search, Inc. to complete a Reconnaissance level cultural resource survey of the proposed Chauvin borrow pit. Earth Search, Inc. has completed a draft report, and CEMVN is pleased to present the report to your office for your review. Information regarding this cultural resource survey will be included in the Individual Environmental Report #22.

The proposed borrow pit would be excavated to a maximum depth of 20 feet below ground surface. Highway 23 would provide access to the proposed borrow site. Given that the proposed action has the potential to impact cultural resources, the CEMVN requests that the Alabama Coushatta Tribe of Texas review of the project as per 36 CFR 800.3(c).

A draft report has been forwarded to Historic Preservation Office, Alabama Coushatta Tribe of Texas for their review and reference. The report includes the results of background research, a literature review, site record search, and the field work. The background research and geomorphology define the project area as having a low probability for the presence of archaeological sites. Only two archaeological sites have been documented within one mile of the project area. These sites 16PL77 and 16PL78 are both historic scatters located on the east bank of the Mississippi River. Field investigations included walk over inspection and the excavation of a total of 51 shovel tests pits spaced at 50 meter intervals. No historic or prehistoric cultural material was recovered from these excavations or observed on the surface. ESI concludes the report with “Excavation of the area should have no affect on historic resources, and no further investigations are necessary”.
The CEMVN believes that the existing evidence suggests that the proposed 29 acre proposed Chauvin borrow pit does not contain unrecorded cultural resources. The CEMVN therefore believes that cultural resources would not be impacted if this land is excavated as a borrow pit and recommends that the borrow area be developed as proposed. However, given the possibility of deeply buried sites, albeit small, the construction plans and specifications contract will include language regarding unanticipated discoveries, immediate work stoppage, and notification of a CEMVN archaeologist in the event of an unanticipated discovery. We request that Alabama Coushatta Tribe of Texas review this project information and report as per National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, (36 CFR 800.3) and provide comment. If you require additional information, please contact Valerie McCormack at 504-862-2167.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Elizabeth Wiggins
Chief, Environmental Planning and Compliance Branch

CF: Historic Preservation Office, Alabama Coushatta Tribe of Texas
Planning, Programs, and
Project Management Division
Environmental Planning
and Compliance Branch.
Attn: CEMVN-PM-RN

RE: Draft Reconnaissance Survey of the Proposed Chauvin Borrow
Area, Nairn, Plaquemines, Parish, Louisiana (IER #22)

Principal Chief Oscola Clayton Sylestine
Alabama Coushatta Tribe of Texas
571 State Park Rd.
Livingston, TX 77351

Dear Principal Chief Sylestine:

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The proposed borrow pit would be excavated to a maximum depth of 20 feet below ground surface. Highway 23 would provide access to the proposed borrow site. Given that the proposed action has the potential to impact cultural resources, the CEMVN requests that the Alabama Coushatta Tribe of Texas review of the project as per 36 CFR 800.3(c).

A draft report has been forwarded to Historic Preservation Office, Alabama Coushatta Tribe of Texas for their review and reference. The report includes the results of background research, a literature review, site record search, and the field work. The background research and geomorphology define the project area as having a low probability for the presence of archaeological sites. Only two archaeological sites have been documented within one mile of the project area. These sites 16PL77 and 16PL78 are both historic scatters located on the east bank of the Mississippi River. Field investigations included walk over inspection and the excavation of a total of 51 shovel tests pits spaced at 50 meter intervals. No historic or prehistoric cultural material was recovered from these excavations or observed on the surface. ESI concludes the report with “Excavation of the area should have no affect on historic resources, and no further investigations are necessary”.

December 11, 2007
The CEMVN believes that the existing evidence suggests that the proposed 29 acre proposed Chauvin borrow pit does not contain unrecorded cultural resources. The CEMVN therefore believes that cultural resources would not be impacted if this land is excavated as a borrow pit and recommends that the borrow area be developed as proposed. However, given the possibility of deeply buried sites, albeit small, the construction plans and specifications contract will include language regarding unanticipated discoveries, immediate work stoppage, and notification of a CEMVN archaeologist in the event of an unanticipated discovery. We request that Alabama Coushatta Tribe of Texas review this project information and report as per National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, (36 CFR 800.3) and provide comment. If you require additional information, please contact Valerie McCormack at 504-862-2167.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Wiggins
Chief, Environmental Planning
and Compliance Branch

CF: Historic Preservation Office, Alabama Coushatta Tribe of Texas

EXNICIOS
CEMVN-PM-RN

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

RE: Draft Reconnaissance Survey of the Proposed Chauvin Borrow
Area, Nairn, Plaquemines, Parish, Louisiana (IER #22)

Chairman Earl Barbry Sr.
P.O. Box 1589
Marksville, LA 71351

Dear Chairman Barbry:

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Mississippi Valley, New Orleans District (CEMVN) is currently identifying borrow sources for its continuing efforts to repair and strengthen levees in Southeastern Louisiana. The proposed 29 acre Chauvin borrow area is located in Township 19S, Range 41E, Section 28. The project area lies near Nairn, on the west bank of the Mississippi River in Plaquemines Parish, Louisiana. CEMVN contracted Earth Search, Inc. to complete a Reconnaissance level cultural resource survey of the proposed Chauvin borrow pit. Earth Search, Inc. has completed a draft report, and CEMVN is pleased to present the report to your office for your review. Information regarding this cultural resource survey will be included in the Individual Environmental Report #22.

The proposed borrow pit would be excavated to a maximum depth of 20 feet below ground surface. Highway 23 would provide access to the proposed borrow site. Given that the proposed action has the potential to impact cultural resources, the CEMVN requests that the Tunica-Biloxi Tribe of Louisiana review of the project as per 36 CFR 800.3(c).

A draft report has been forwarded to Mr. Earl Barbry, Jr., Tunica-Biloxi Tribe of Louisiana for their review and reference. The report includes the results of background research, a literature review, site record search, and the field work. The background research and geomorphology define the project area as having a low probability for the presence of archaeological sites. Only two archaeological sites have been documented within one mile of the project area. These sites 16PL77 and 16PL78 are both historic scatters located on the east bank of the Mississippi River. Field investigations included walk over inspection and the excavation of a total of 51 shovel tests pits spaced at 50 meter intervals. No historic or prehistoric cultural material was recovered from these excavations or observed on the surface. ESI concludes the report with “Excavation of the area should have no affect on historic resources, and no further investigations are necessary.”
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Sincerely,

[Signature]

Elizabeth Wiggins
Chief, Environmental Planning
and Compliance Branch

CF: Earl Barbry, Jr., Tunica-Biloxi Tribe of Louisiana
Planning, Programs, and
Project Management Division
Environmental Planning
and Compliance Branch.
Attn: CEMVN-PM-RN

RE: Draft Reconnaissance Survey of the Proposed Chauvin Borrow
Area, Nairn, Plaquemines, Parish, Louisiana (IER #22)

Chairman Earl Barbry Sr.
P.O. Box 1589
Marksville, LA 71351

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The proposed borrow pit would be excavated to a maximum depth of 20 feet below ground surface. Highway 23 would provide access to the proposed borrow site. Given that the proposed action has the potential to impact cultural resources, the CEMVN requests that the Tunica-Biloxi Tribe of Louisiana review of the project as per 36 CFR 800.3(c).

A draft report has been forwarded to Mr. Earl Barbry, Jr., Tunica-Biloxi Tribe of Louisiana for their review and reference. The report includes the results of background research, a literature review, site record search, and the field work. The background research and geomorphology define the project area as having a low probability for the presence of archaeological sites. Only two archaeological sites have been documented within one mile of the project area. These sites 16PL77 and 16PL78 are both historic scatters located on the east bank of the Mississippi River. Field investigations included walk over inspection and the excavation of a total of 51 shovel tests pits spaced at 50 meter intervals. No historic or prehistoric cultural material was recovered from these excavations or observed on the surface. ESI concludes the report with “Excavation of the area should have no affect on historic resources, and no further investigations are necessary”.

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Sincerely,

Elizabeth Wiggins
Chief, Environmental Planning
and Compliance Branch

CF: Earl Barbry, Jr., Tunica-Biloxi Tribe of Louisiana
Planning, Programs, and
Project Management Division
Environmental Planning
and Compliance Branch.
Attn: CEMVN-PM-RN

RE: Draft Reconnaissance Survey of the Proposed Chauvin Borrow
Area, Nairn, Plaquemines, Parish, Louisiana (IER #22)

Chief John Berrey
Quapaw Tribe of Oklahoma
P.O. Box 765
Quapaw, OK 74363

Dear Chief Berrey:

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Mississippi Valley, New Orleans District (CEMVN) is currently identifying borrow sources for its continuing efforts to repair and strengthen levees in Southeastern Louisiana. The proposed 29 acre Chauvin borrow area is located in Township 19S, Range 41E, Section 28. The project area lies near Nairn, on the west bank of the Mississippi River in Plaquemines Parish, Louisiana. CEMVN contracted Earth Search, Inc. to complete a Reconnaissance level cultural resource survey of the proposed Chauvin borrow pit. Earth Search, Inc. has completed a draft report, and CEMVN is pleased to present the report to your office for your review. Information regarding this cultural resource survey will be included in the Individual Environmental Report #22.

The proposed borrow pit would be excavated to a maximum depth of 20 feet below ground surface. Highway 23 would provide access to the proposed borrow site. Given that the proposed action has the potential to impact cultural resources, the CEMVN requests that the Quapaw Tribe of Oklahoma review of the project as per 36 CFR 800.3(c).

A draft report includes the results of background research, a literature review, site record search, and the field work. The background research and geomorphology define the project area as having a low probability for the presence of archaeological sites. Only two archaeological sites have been documented within one mile of the project area. These sites 16PL77 and 16PL78 are both historic scatters located on the east bank of the Mississippi River. Field investigations included walk over inspection and the excavation of a total of 51 shovel tests pits spaced at 50 meter intervals. No historic or prehistoric cultural material was recovered from these excavations or observed on the surface. ESI concludes the report with “Excavation of the area should have no affect on historic resources, and no further investigations are necessary”.

The CEMVN believes that the existing evidence suggests that the proposed 29 acre proposed Chauvin borrow pit does not contain unrecorded cultural resources. Communication between CEMVN staff archaeologist Dr. Valerie McCormack and with your Tribal Preservation Officer Ms. Carrie V. Wilson reveal that the Quapaw Tribe of Oklahoma prefers to review borrow projects in Orleans Parish Louisiana. While this project lies in Plaquemines Parish, CEMVN invites comments from the Quapaw Tribe of Oklahoma in order to meet CEMVN responsibilities under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, (36 CFR 800.3) and Executive Order 13175 that directs Government-to-Government consultation. If you or anyone in your organization desires a copy of this report or other material relating to this project please contact, please contact Dr. Valerie McCormack at 504-862-2167.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

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

RE: Draft Reconnaissance Survey of the Proposed Chauvin Borrow Area, Nairn, Plaquemines, Parish, Louisiana (IER #22)

Chief John Berrey
Quapaw Tribe of Oklahoma
P.O. Box 765
Quapaw, OK 74363

Dear Chief Berrey:

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Mississippi Valley, New Orleans District (CEMVN) is currently identifying borrow sources for its continuing efforts to repair and strengthen levees in Southeastern Louisiana. The proposed 29 acre Chauvin borrow area is located in Township 19S, Range 41E, Section 28. The project area lies near Nairn, on the west bank of the Mississippi River in Plaquemines Parish, Louisiana. CEMVN contracted Earth Search, Inc. to complete a Reconnaissance level cultural resource survey of the proposed Chauvin borrow pit. Earth Search, Inc. has completed a draft report, and CEMVN is pleased to present the report to your office for your review. Information regarding this cultural resource survey will be included in the Individual Environmental Report #22.

The proposed borrow pit would be excavated to a maximum depth of 20 feet below ground surface. Highway 23 would provide access to the proposed borrow site. Given that the proposed action has the potential to impact cultural resources, the CEMVN requests that the Quapaw Tribe of Oklahoma review of the project as per 36 CFR 800.3(c).

A draft report includes the results of background research, a literature review, site record search, and the field work. The background research and geomorphology define the project area as having a low probability for the presence of archaeological sites. Only two archaeological sites have been documented within one mile of the project area. These sites 16PL77 and 16PL78 are both historic scatters located on the east bank of the Mississippi River. Field investigations included walk over inspection and the excavation of a total of 51 shovel tests pits spaced at 50 meter intervals. No historic or prehistoric cultural material was recovered from these excavations or observed on the surface. ESI concludes the report with “Excavation of the area should have no affect on historic resources, and no further investigations are necessary”.

December 11, 2007
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Sincerely,

Elizabeth Wiggins
Chief, Environmental Planning
and Compliance Branch

CEMVN-PM-RN

WIGGINS
CEMVN-PM-R
DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
NEW ORLEANS DISTRICT, CORPS OF ENGINEERS
P.O. BOX 90267
NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA 70160-0267

January 14, 2008

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

Ms. Pam Breaux
State Historic Preservation Officer
Office of Cultural Development
Department of Culture, Recreation, and Tourism
P.O. Box 44247
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70804

RE: Draft Reconnaissance Survey of the Proposed Westbank Borrow Pit F,
Jefferson Parish, Louisiana (IER #22)

Dear Ms. Breaux:

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Mississippi Valley, New Orleans District (CEMVN) is currently identifying borrow sources for its continuing efforts to repair and strengthen levees in Southeastern Louisiana. The proposed 148 acre Westbank F borrow area, Jefferson Parish, is located in Township 13S, Range 22E, Sections 16,18,19, 20, 22, 23,44, 45,46, 47,48,50, and 51. CEMVN contracted Earth Search, Inc. (ESI) to complete a cultural resources reconnaissance survey of the proposed Westbank F borrow pit. Earth Search, Inc. has completed the draft report, and CEMVN is pleased to present the report to your office for your review. Information regarding this cultural resource survey will be included in the Individual Environmental Report (IER) #22, a National Environmental Policy Act document.

The proposed borrow pit would be excavated to a maximum depth of 20 feet below ground surface. Both Highway 90 and the Avondale Gardens Canal Access road would provide access to the proposed borrow site. Given that the proposed action has the potential to impact cultural resources, the CEMVN requests a review of the project as per 36 CFR 800.3(c).

The enclosed draft report includes the results of background research, a literature review, site record search, and the field work. A review of the project area soils and geomorphology reveal that the borrow lies within drained backswamp. The proposed Westbank F borrow area contains heavy clay, poorly drained and frequently flooded sediments. An initial site investigation in August 2007 revealed that much of the project area was heavily overgrown with vegetation and inundated. ESI archaeologists returned to Westbank F in November 2007 after most of the deciduous vegetation cleared. A total of 5 judgmentally placed STPS was excavated to explore soils and to test for archaeological deposits. No historic or prehistoric material was
observed on the surface or in these STPs. ESI concludes “There is no evidence of archaeological deposits or historic properties within the APE. Borrow excavation will have no affect on historic resources. No further work is recommended”.

The CEMVN believes that the existing evidence suggests that the proposed 148 acre proposed Westbank F borrow pit does not contain unrecorded cultural resources. The CEMVN therefore believes that cultural resources will not be impacted if this land is excavated as a borrow pit and recommends that the borrow area be developed as proposed. In the event that unanticipated discoveries are encountered, work will stop immediately and consulting parties will be contacted. We request that you review this information pursuant to National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, (36 CFR 800.3) and provide comment. If you require additional information, please contact Dr. Valerie McCormack at 504-862-2167.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Wiggins
Chief, Environmental Planning and Compliance Branch

Enclosures: Reconnaissance Survey of the Proposed Westbank Borrow Pit F, Jefferson Parish, Louisiana (two copies).
February 4, 2008

Ms. Elizabeth Wiggins
Chief, Environmental Planning and Compliance Branch
Department of the Army
New Orleans District, Corps of Engineers
P.O. Box 60267
New Orleans, Louisiana 70160-0276

Re: Draft Reconnaissance Survey Report
LA Division of Archaeology Report No. 22-3035
Reconnaissance Survey of the Proposed Westbank
Borrow Pit F, Jefferson Parish, Louisiana
Earth Search, Inc.

Dear Ms. Wiggins:

We acknowledge the receipt of your letter dated January 14, 2008 and two copies of the above referenced report. We have completed our review of the report and offer the following comments.

With a few exceptions (see enclosed comments) the report meets the Division of Archaeology's standards. We concur with the findings presented in the draft report by Earth Search, Inc. that the proposed area for the Westbank borrow Pit F does not contain unrecorded historic properties and it is unlikely that historic properties will be affected by the excavation of the borrow pit.

Please review the enclosed technical comments and the photocopy of the draft report with comments or corrections noted. They are not extensive and require minor editing of report structure as well as the inclusion of a cultural history overview chapter. We request that you submit two copies of the final report after making these adjustments. If you should have any questions please contact Stacie Palmer at the Division of Archaeology spalmer@crt/state.la.us or 225-342-8170.

Sincerely,

Pam Breaux
State Historic Preservation Officer
Technical Comments:

1. Please modify the report structure to reflect the Division of Archaeology’s report writing requirements. These requirements can be found at:
   https://www.crt.state.la.us/archaeology/REVJEW/REESTANDARDS.shtml

2. A chapter on culture history needs to be added to the report.
Ms. Elizabeth Wiggins
February 4, 2008
Page 2

PB:SP:s

Enclosures: As stated

CC: Dr. Jill-Karen Yakubik
Earth Search, Inc.
P.O. Box 770336
New Orleans, LA 70177-0336
Planning, Programs, and
Project Management Division
Environmental Planning
and Compliance Branch.
Attn: CEMVN-PM-RN

Chief Lonnie Martin
Chitimacha Tribe of Louisiana
P.O. Box 661
Charenton, LA 70523

RE: Draft Reconnaissance Survey of the Proposed Westbank Borrow Pit F,
Jefferson, Parish, Louisiana (IER #22)

Dear Chief Martin:

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Mississippi Valley, New Orleans District (CEMVN) is currently identifying borrow sources for its continuing efforts to repair and strengthen levees in Southeastern Louisiana. The proposed 148 acre Westbank F borrow area, Jefferson Parish, is located in Township 13S, Range 22E, Sections 16,18,19, 20, 22, 23,44, 45,46, 47,48,50, and 51. CEMVN contracted Earth Search, Inc. (ESI) to complete a cultural resources reconnaissance survey of the proposed Westbank F borrow pit. Earth Search, Inc. has completed the draft report, and CEMVN is pleased to present the report to the Chitimacha Tribe of Louisiana for your review. Information regarding this cultural resource survey will be included in the Individual Environmental Report (IER) #22, a National Environmental Policy Act document.

The proposed borrow pit would be excavated to a maximum depth of 20 feet below ground surface. Both Highway 90 and the Avondale Gardens Canal Access road would provide access to the proposed borrow site. Given that the proposed action has the potential to impact cultural resources, the CEMVN requests a review of the project as per 36 CFR 800.3(c).

A draft report as been forwarded to Ms. Kimberly Walden of the Chitimacha Tribe of Louisiana. This draft report includes the results of background research, a literature review, site record search, and the field work. A review of the project area soils and geomorphology reveal that the borrow lies within drained backswamp. The proposed Westbank F borrow area contains heavy clay, poorly drained and frequently flooded sediments. An initial site investigation in August 2007 revealed that much of the project area was heavily overgrown with vegetation and inundated. ESI archaeologists returned to Westbank F in November 2007 after most of the deciduous vegetation cleared. A total of 5 judgmentally placed STPS was excavated to explore soils and to test for archaeological deposits. No historic or prehistoric material was observed on the surface or in these STPs. ESI concludes "There is no evidence of archaeological deposits or
historic properties within the APE. Borrow excavation will have no affect on historic resources. No further work is recommended”.

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Sincerely,

[Signature]

Elizabeth Wiggins
Chief, Environmental Planning
and Compliance Branch

CF: Ms. Kimberly Walden, Chitimacha Tribe of Louisiana
Planning, Programs, and
Project Management Division
Environmental Planning
and Compliance Branch.
Attn: CEMVN-PM-RN

Chief Beasley Denson
Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians
P.O. Box 6257
Choctaw, MS 39350

RE: Draft Reconnaissance Survey of the Proposed Westbank Borrow Pit F,
Jefferson, Parish, Louisiana (IER #22)

Dear Chief Denson:

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Mississippi Valley, New Orleans District (CEMVN) is currently identifying borrow sources for its continuing efforts to repair and strengthen levees in Southeastern Louisiana. The proposed 148 acre Westbank F borrow area, Jefferson Parish, is located in Township 13S, Range 22E, Sections 16,18,19, 20, 22, 23,44, 45,46, 47,48,50, and 51. CEMVN contracted Earth Search, Inc. (ESI) to complete a cultural resources reconnaissance survey of the proposed Westbank F borrow pit. Earth Search, Inc. has completed the draft report, and CEMVN is pleased to present the report to the Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians for your review. Information regarding this cultural resource survey will be included in the Individual Environmental Report (IER) #22, a National Environmental Policy Act document.

The proposed borrow pit would be excavated to a maximum depth of 20 feet below ground surface. Both Highway 90 and the Avondale Gardens Canal Access road would provide access to the proposed borrow site. Given that the proposed action has the potential to impact cultural resources, the CEMVN requests a review of the project as per 36 CFR 800.3(c).

A draft report as been forwarded to Mr. Kenneth H. Carleton, of the Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians. This draft report includes the results of background research, a literature review, site record search, and the field work. A review of the project area soils and geomorphology reveal that the borrow lies within drained backswamp. The proposed Westbank F borrow area contains heavy clay, poorly drained and frequently flooded sediments. An initial site investigation in August 2007 revealed that much of the project area was heavily overgrown with vegetation and inundated. ESI archaeologists returned to Westbank F in November 2007 after most of the deciduous vegetation cleared. A total of 5 judgmentally placed STPS was excavated to explore soils and to test for archaeological deposits. No historic or prehistoric material was observed on the surface or in these STPs. ESI concludes “There is no evidence of
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Sincerely,

[Signature]

Elizabeth Wiggins
Chief, Environmental Planning and Compliance Branch

CF: Mr. Kenneth H. Carleton, Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians
Planning, Programs, and 
Project Management Division
Environmental Planning
and Compliance Branch.
Attn: CEMVN-PM-RN

Enoch Haney, Principal Chief
Seminole Nation of Oklahoma
P.O. Box 1498
Wewoka, OK 74884

RE: Draft Reconnaissance Survey of the Proposed Westbank Borrow Pit F,
Jefferson, Parish, Louisiana (IER #22)

Dear Chief Haney:

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Mississippi Valley, New Orleans District (CEMVN) is currently identifying borrow sources for its continuing efforts to repair and strengthen levees in Southeastern Louisiana. The proposed 148 acre Westbank F borrow area, Jefferson Parish, is located in Township 13S, Range 22E, Sections 16, 18, 19, 20, 22, 23, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 50, and 51. CEMVN contracted Earth Search, Inc. (ESI) to complete a cultural resources reconnaissance survey of the proposed Westbank F borrow pit. Earth Search, Inc. has completed the draft report, and CEMVN is pleased to present the report to the Seminole Nation of Oklahoma for your review. Information regarding this cultural resource survey will be included in the Individual Environmental Report (IER) #22, a National Environmental Policy Act document.

The proposed borrow pit would be excavated to a maximum depth of 20 feet below ground surface. Both Highway 90 and the Avondale Gardens Canal Access road would provide access to the proposed borrow site. Given that the proposed action has the potential to impact cultural resources, the CEMVN requests a review of the project as per 36 CFR 800.3(c).

A draft report has been forwarded to Mr. Pare Bowlegs of the Seminole Nation of Oklahoma. This draft report includes the results of background research, a literature review, site record search, and the field work. A review of the project area soils and geomorphology reveal that the borrow lies within drained backswamp. The proposed Westbank F borrow area contains heavy clay, poorly drained and frequently flooded sediments. An initial site investigation in August 2007 revealed that much of the project area was heavily overgrown with vegetation and inundated. ESI archaeologists returned to Westbank F in November 2007 after most of the deciduous vegetation cleared. A total of 5 judgmentally placed STPS was excavated to explore soils and to test for archaeological deposits. No historic or prehistoric material was observed on the surface or in these STPs. ESI concludes “There is no evidence of archaeological deposits or
historic properties within the APE. Borrow excavation will have no affect on historic resources. No further work is recommended”.

The CEMVN believes that the existing evidence suggests that the proposed 148 acre proposed Westbank F borrow pit does not contain unrecorded cultural resources. The CEMVN therefore believes that cultural resources will not be impacted if this land is excavated as a borrow pit and recommends that the borrow area be developed as proposed. In the event that unanticipated discoveries are encountered, work will stop immediately and consulting parties will be contacted. We request that the Seminole Nation of Oklahoma review this information pursuant to National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, (36 CFR 800.3) and provide comment. If you require additional information, please contact Dr. Valerie McCormack at 504-862-2167.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Elizabeth Wiggins
Chief, Environmental Planning
and Compliance Branch

CF: Mr. Pare Bowlegs, Seminole Nation of Oklahoma
January 14, 2008

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

Chistine Norris, Principal Chief
Jena Band of the Choctaw Indians
P.O. Box 14
Jena, LA 71342

RE: Draft Reconnaissance Survey of the Proposed Westbank Borrow Pit F,
Jefferson, Parish, Louisiana (IER #22)

Dear Chief Norris:

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Mississippi Valley, New Orleans District (CEMVN) is currently identifying borrow sources for its continuing efforts to repair and strengthen levees in Southeastern Louisiana. The proposed 148 acre Westbank F borrow area, Jefferson Parish, is located in Township 13S, Range 22E, Sections 16,18,19, 20, 22, 23,44, 45,46, 47,48,50, and 51. CEMVN contracted Earth Search, Inc. (ESI) to complete a cultural resources reconnaissance survey of the proposed Westbank F borrow pit. Earth Search, Inc. has completed the draft report, and CEMVN is pleased to present the report to the Jena Band of the Choctaw Indians for your review. Information regarding this cultural resource survey will be included in the Individual Environmental Report (IER) #22, a National Environmental Policy Act document.

The proposed borrow pit would be excavated to a maximum depth of 20 feet below ground surface. Both Highway 90 and the Avondale Gardens Canal Access road would provide access to the proposed borrow site. Given that the proposed action has the potential to impact cultural resources, the CEMVN requests a review of the project as per 36 CFR 800.3(c).

The enclosed draft report includes the results of background research, a literature review, site record search, and the field work. A review of the project area soils and geomorphology reveal that the borrow lies within drained backswamp. The proposed Westbank F borrow area contains heavy clay, poorly drained and frequently flooded sediments. An initial site investigation in August 2007 revealed that much of the project area was heavily overgrown with vegetation and inundated. ESI archaeologists returned to Westbank F in November 2007 after most of the deciduous vegetation cleared. A total of 5 judgmentally placed STPS was excavated to explore soils and to test for archaeological deposits. No historic or prehistoric material was observed on the surface or in these STPs. ESI concludes "There is no evidence of archaeological
deposits or historic properties within the APE. Borrow excavation will have no affect on historic resources. No further work is recommended”.

The CEMVN believes that the existing evidence suggests that the proposed 148 acre proposed Westbank F borrow pit does not contain unrecorded cultural resources. The CEMVN therefore believes that cultural resources will not be impacted if this land is excavated as a borrow pit and recommends that the borrow area be developed as proposed. In the event that unanticipated discoveries are encountered, work will stop immediately and consulting parties will be contacted. We request that the Jena Band of the Choctaw Indians review this information pursuant to National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, (36 CFR 800.3) and provide comment. If you require additional information, please contact Dr. Valerie McCormack at 504-862-2167.

Sincerely,

[Signature]
Elizabeth Wiggins
Chief, Environmental Planning
and Compliance Branch

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

Mitchell Cypress, Chairman  
Seminole Tribe of Florida  
6300 Stirling Road  
Hollywood, FL 33024

RE: Draft Reconnaissance Survey of the Proposed Westbank Borrow Pit F,  
Jefferson, Parish, Louisiana (IER #22)

Dear Chairman Cypress:

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Mississippi Valley, New Orleans District (CEMVN) is currently identifying borrow sources for its continuing efforts to repair and strengthen levees in Southeastern Louisiana. The proposed 148 acre Westbank F borrow area, Jefferson Parish, is located in Township 13S, Range 22E, Sections 16, 18, 19, 20, 22, 23, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 50, and 51. CEMVN contracted Earth Search, Inc. (ESI) to complete a cultural resources reconnaissance survey of the proposed Westbank F borrow pit. Earth Search, Inc. has completed the draft report, and CEMVN is pleased to present the report to the Seminole Tribe of Florida for your review. Information regarding this cultural resource survey will be included in the Individual Environmental Report (IER) #22, a National Environmental Policy Act document.

The proposed borrow pit would be excavated to a maximum depth of 20 feet below ground surface. Both Highway 90 and the Avondale Gardens Canal Access road would provide access to the proposed borrow site. Given that the proposed action has the potential to impact cultural resources, the CEMVN requests a review of the project as per 36 CFR 800.3(c).

The draft report prepared by ESI includes the results of background research, a literature review, site record search, and the field work. A review of the project area soils and geomorphology reveal that the borrow lies within drained backswamp. The proposed Westbank F borrow area contains heavy clay, poorly drained and frequently flooded sediments. An initial site investigation in August 2007 revealed that much of the project area was heavily overgrown with vegetation and inundated. ESI archaeologists returned to Westbank F in November 2007 after most of the deciduous vegetation cleared. A total of 5 judgmentally placed STPs was excavated to explore soils and to test for archaeological deposits. No historic or prehistoric material was observed on the surface or in these STPs. ESI concludes “There is no evidence of
archaeological deposits or historic properties within the APE. Borrow excavation will have no affect on historic resources. No further work is recommended”.

The CEMVN believes that the existing evidence suggests that the proposed 148 acre proposed Westbank F borrow pit does not contain unrecorded cultural resources. The CEMVN therefore believes that cultural resources will not be impacted if this land is excavated as a borrow pit and recommends that the borrow area be developed as proposed. In the event that unanticipated discoveries are encountered, work will stop immediately and consulting parties will be contacted. Communication between CEMVN staff archaeologists Mr. Mike Swanda and Dr. Valerie McCormack and members of your preservation staff indicate that the Seminole Nation of Florida prefers to review CEMVN borrow projects in South Louisiana only if information suggests a likelihood for the presence of burials. CEMVN invites comments from the Seminole Nation of Florida in order to meet CEMVN responsibilities under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, (36 CFR 800.3) and Executive Order 13175 that directs Government-to-Government consultation. If you or anyone in your organization desires a copy of this report or other material relating to this project please contact, please contact Dr. Valerie McCormack at 504-862-2167.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

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

Kevin Sickey, Chief
Coushatta Tribe of Louisiana
P.O. Box 818
Elton, LA 70532

RE: Draft Reconnaissance Survey of the Proposed Westbank Borrow Pit F,
Jefferson, Parish, Louisiana (IER #22)

Dear Chief Sickey:

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Mississippi Valley, New Orleans District (CEMVN) is currently identifying borrow sources for its continuing efforts to repair and strengthen levees in Southeastern Louisiana. The proposed 148 acre Westbank F borrow area, Jefferson Parish, is located in Township 13S, Range 22E, Sections 16,18,19, 20, 22, 23,44, 45,46, 47,48,50, and 51. CEMVN contracted Earth Search, Inc. (ESI) to complete a cultural resources reconnaissance survey of the proposed Westbank F borrow pit. Earth Search, Inc. has completed the draft report, and CEMVN is pleased to present the report to the Coushatta Tribe of Louisiana for your review. Information regarding this cultural resource survey will be included in the Individual Environmental Report (IER) #22, a National Environmental Policy Act document.

The proposed borrow pit would be excavated to a maximum depth of 20 feet below ground surface. Both Highway 90 and the Avondale Gardens Canal Access road would provide access to the proposed borrow site. Given that the proposed action has the potential to impact cultural resources, the CEMVN requests a review of the project as per 36 CFR 800.3(c).

A draft report as been forwarded to Mr. Rayne Langley and Mr. Leland Thompson of the Coushatta Tribe of Louisiana. This draft report includes the results of background research, a literature review, site record search, and the field work. A review of the project area soils and geomorphology reveal that the borrow lies within drained backswamp. The proposed Westbank F borrow area contains heavy clay, poorly drained and frequently flooded sediments. An initial site investigation in August 2007 revealed that much of the project area was heavily overgrown with vegetation and inundated. ESI archaeologists returned to Westbank F in November 2007 after most of the deciduous vegetation cleared. A total of 5 judgmentally placed STPS was excavated to explore soils and to test for archaeological deposits. No historic or prehistoric material was observed on the surface or in these STPs. ESI concludes “There is no evidence of
archaeological deposits or historic properties within the APE. Borrow excavation will have no
affect on historic resources. No further work is recommended”.

The CEMVN believes that the existing evidence suggests that the proposed 148 acre
proposed Westbank F borrow pit does not contain unrecorded cultural resources. The CEMVN
therefore believes that cultural resources will not be impacted if this land is excavated as a
borrow pit and recommends that the borrow area be developed as proposed. In the event that
unanticipated discoveries are encountered, work will stop immediately and consulting parties
will be contacted. We request that the Coushatta Tribe of Louisiana review this information
pursuant to National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, (36 CFR 800.3) and provide
comment. If you require additional information, please contact Dr. Valerie McCormack at 504-
862-2167.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Wiggins
Chief, Environmental Planning
and Compliance Branch

CF: Mr. Rayne Langley and Mr. Leland Thompson, Coushatta Tribe of Louisiana
Planning, Programs, and  
Project Management Division  
Environmental Planning  
and Compliance Branch.  
Attn: CEMVN-PM-RN  

Gregory E. Pyle, Chief  
Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma  
P.O. Box Drawer 1210  
Durant, OK 74701  

RE: Draft Reconnaissance Survey of the Proposed Westbank Borrow Pit F,  
Jefferson, Parish, Louisiana (IER #22)  

Dear Chief Pyle:  

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Mississippi Valley, New Orleans District (CEMVN) is currently identifying borrow sources for its continuing efforts to repair and strengthen levees in Southeastern Louisiana. The proposed 148 acre Westbank F borrow area, Jefferson Parish, is located in Township 13S, Range 22E, Sections 16,18,19, 20, 22, 23,44, 45,46, 47,48,50, and 51. CEMVN contracted Earth Search, Inc. (ESI) to complete a cultural resources reconnaissance survey of the proposed Westbank F borrow pit. Earth Search, Inc. has completed the draft report, and CEMVN is pleased to present the report to the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma for your review. Information regarding this cultural resource survey will be included in the Individual Environmental Report (IER) #22, a National Environmental Policy Act document.  

The proposed borrow pit would be excavated to a maximum depth of 20 feet below ground surface. Both Highway 90 and the Avondale Gardens Canal Access road would provide access to the proposed borrow site. Given that the proposed action has the potential to impact cultural resources, the CEMVN requests a review of the project as per 36 CFR 800.3(c).  

A draft report as been forwarded to Mr. Terry D. Cole of the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma. This draft report includes the results of background research, a literature review, site record search, and the field work. A review of the project area soils and geomorphology reveal that the borrow lies within drained backswamp. The proposed Westbank F borrow area contains heavy clay, poorly drained and frequently flooded sediments. An initial site investigation in August 2007 revealed that much of the project area was heavily overgrown with vegetation and inundated. ESI archaeologists returned to Westbank F in November 2007 after most of the deciduous vegetation cleared. A total of 5 judgmentally placed STPS was excavated to explore soils and to test for archaeological deposits. No historic or prehistoric material was observed on the surface or in these STPS. ESI concludes “There is no evidence of archaeological deposits or
historic properties within the APE. Borrow excavation will have no affect on historic resources. No further work is recommended”.

The CEMVN believes that the existing evidence suggests that the proposed 148 acre proposed Westbank F borrow pit does not contain unrecorded cultural resources. The CEMVN therefore believes that cultural resources will not be impacted if this land is excavated as a borrow pit and recommends that the borrow area be developed as proposed. In the event that unanticipated discoveries are encountered, work will stop immediately and consulting parties will be contacted. We request that the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma review this information pursuant to National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, (36 CFR 800.3) and provide comment. If you require additional information, please contact Dr. Valerie McCormack at 504-862-2167.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Elizabeth Wiggins
Chief, Environmental Planning and Compliance Branch

CF: Mr. Terry D. Cole, Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma
Planning, Programs, and
Project Management Division
Environmental Planning
and Compliance Branch.
Attn: CEMVN-PM-RN

LaRue Parker, Chairperson
Caddo Nation of Oklahoma
P.O. Box 487
Binger, OK 73009

RE: Draft Reconnaissance Survey of the Proposed Westbank Borrow Pit F,
Jefferson, Parish, Louisiana (IER #22)

Dear Chief Parker:

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Mississippi Valley, New Orleans District (CEMVN) is currently identifying borrow sources for its continuing efforts to repair and strengthen levees in Southeastern Louisiana. The proposed 148 acre Westbank F borrow area, Jefferson Parish, is located in Township 13S, Range 22E, Sections 16,18,19, 20, 22, 23,44, 45,46, 47,48,50, and 51. CEMVN contracted Earth Search, Inc. (ESI) to complete a cultural resources reconnaissance survey of the proposed Westbank F borrow pit. Earth Search, Inc. has completed the draft report, and CEMVN is pleased to present the report to the Caddo Nation of Oklahoma for your review. Information regarding this cultural resource survey will be included in the Individual Environmental Report (IER) #22, a National Environmental Policy Act document.

The proposed borrow pit would be excavated to a maximum depth of 20 feet below ground surface. Both Highway 90 and the Avondale Gardens Canal Access road would provide access to the proposed borrow site. Given that the proposed action has the potential to impact cultural resources, the CEMVN requests a review of the project as per 36 CFR 800.3(c).

A draft report as been forwarded to Mr. Rober Cast of the Caddo Nation of Oklahoma. This draft report includes the results of background research, a literature review, site record search, and the field work. A review of the project area soils and geomorphology reveal that the borrow lies within drained backswamp. The proposed Westbank F borrow area contains heavy clay, poorly drained and frequently flooded sediments. An initial site investigation in August 2007 revealed that much of the project area was heavily overgrown with vegetation and inundated. ESI archaeologists returned to Westbank F in November 2007 after most of the deciduous vegetation cleared. A total of 5 judgmentally placed STPS was excavated to explore soils and to test for archaeological deposits. No historic or prehistoric material was observed on the surface or in these STPs. ESI concludes "There is no evidence of archaeological deposits or
historic properties within the APE. Borrow excavation will have no affect on historic resources. No further work is recommended”.

The CEMVN believes that the existing evidence suggests that the proposed 148 acre proposed Westbank F borrow pit does not contain unrecorded cultural resources. The CEMVN therefore believes that cultural resources will not be impacted if this land is excavated as a borrow pit and recommends that the borrow area be developed as proposed. In the event that unanticipated discoveries are encountered, work will stop immediately and consulting parties will be contacted. We request that the Caddo Nation of Oklahoma review this information pursuant to National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, (36 CFR 800.3) and provide comment. If you require additional information, please contact Dr. Valerie McCormack at 504-862-2167.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Elizabeth Wiggins
Chief, Environmental Planning and Compliance Branch

CF: Mr. Rober Cast, Caddo Nation of Oklahoma
January 14, 2008

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

Oscola Clayton M. Sylestine, Principal Chief  
571 State Park Rd.  
Livingston, TX 77351

RE: Draft Reconnaissance Survey of the Proposed Westbank Borrow Pit F,  
Jefferson, Parish, Louisiana (IER #22)

Dear Principal Chief Sylestine:

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Mississippi Valley, New Orleans District (CEMVN) is currently identifying borrow sources for its continuing efforts to repair and strengthen levees in Southeastern Louisiana. The proposed 148 acre Westbank F borrow area, Jefferson Parish, is located in Township 13S, Range 22E, Sections 16,18,19, 20, 22, 23,44, 45, 46, 47,48,50, and 51. CEMVN contracted Earth Search, Inc. (ESI) to complete a cultural resources reconnaissance survey of the proposed Westbank F borrow pit. Earth Search, Inc. has completed the draft report, and CEMVN is pleased to present the report to the Alabama Coushatta Tribe of Texas for your review. Information regarding this cultural resource survey will be included in the Individual Environmental Report (IER) #22, a National Environmental Policy Act document.

The proposed borrow pit would be excavated to a maximum depth of 20 feet below ground surface. Both Highway 90 and the Avondale Gardens Canal Access road would provide access to the proposed borrow site. Given that the proposed action has the potential to impact cultural resources, the CEMVN requests a review of the project as per 36 CFR 800.3(c).

A draft report as been forwarded to Historic Preservation Officer of the Alabama Coushatta Tribe of Texas. This draft report includes the results of background research, a literature review, site record search, and the field work. A review of the project area soils and geomorphology reveal that the borrow lies within drained backswamp. The proposed Westbank F borrow area contains heavy clay, poorly drained and frequently flooded sediments. An initial site investigation in August 2007 revealed that much of the project area was heavily overgrown with vegetation and inundated. ESI archaeologists returned to Westbank F in November 2007 after most of the deciduous vegetation cleared. A total of 5 judgmentally placed STPs was excavated to explore soils and to test for archaeological deposits. No historic or prehistoric material was observed on the surface or in these STPs. ESI concludes “There is no evidence of
archaeological deposits or historic properties within the APE. Borrow excavation will have no
affect on historic resources. No further work is recommended”.

The CEMVN believes that the existing evidence suggests that the proposed 148 acre
proposed Westbank F borrow pit does not contain unrecorded cultural resources. The CEMVN
therefore believes that cultural resources will not be impacted if this land is excavated as a
borrow pit and recommends that the borrow area be developed as proposed. In the event that
unanticipated discoveries are encountered, work will stop immediately and consulting parties
will be contacted. We request that the Alabama Coushatta Tribe of Texas review this
information pursuant to National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, (36 CFR 800.3)
and provide comment. If you require additional information, please contact Dr. Valerie
McCormack at 504-862-2167.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Elizabeth Wiggins
Chief, Environmental Planning
and Compliance Branch

Enclosures: Reconnaissance Survey of the Proposed Westbank Borrow Pit F, Jefferson Parish,
Louisiana.

CF: Historic Preservation Officer, Alabama Coushatta Tribe of Texas
Planning, Programs, and
Project Management Division
Environmental Planning
and Compliance Branch.
Attn: CEMVN-PM-RN

Chairman Earl Barbry Sr.
Tunica-Biloxi Tribe of Louisiana
P.O. Box 1589
Marksville, LA 71351

RE: Draft Reconnaissance Survey of the Proposed Westbank Borrow Pit F,
Jefferson, Parish, Louisiana (IER #22)

Dear Chairman Barbry:

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Mississippi Valley, New Orleans District (CEMVN) is currently identifying borrow sources for its continuing efforts to repair and strengthen levees in Southeastern Louisiana. The proposed 148 acre Westbank F borrow area, Jefferson Parish, is located in Township 13S, Range 22E, Sections 16,18,19, 20, 22, 23,44, 45,46, 47,48,50, and 51. CEMVN contracted Earth Search, Inc. (ESI) to complete a cultural resources reconnaissance survey of the proposed Westbank F borrow pit. Earth Search, Inc. has completed the draft report, and CEMVN is pleased to present the report to the Tunica-Biloxi Tribe of Louisiana for your review. Information regarding this cultural resource survey will be included in the Individual Environmental Report (IER) #22, a National Environmental Policy Act document.

The proposed borrow pit would be excavated to a maximum depth of 20 feet below ground surface. Both Highway 90 and the Avondale Gardens Canal Access road would provide access to the proposed borrow site. Given that the proposed action has the potential to impact cultural resources, the CEMVN requests a review of the project as per 36 CFR 800.3(c).

A draft report as been forwarded to Earl Barbry, Jr. of the Tunica-Biloxi Tribe of Louisiana. This draft report includes the results of background research, a literature review, site record search, and the field work. A review of the project area soils and geomorphology reveal that the borrow lies within drained backswamp. The proposed Westbank F borrow area contains heavy clay, poorly drained and frequently flooded sediments. An initial site investigation in August 2007 revealed that much of the project area was heavily overgrown with vegetation and inundated. ESI archaeologists returned to Westbank F in November 2007 after most of the deciduous vegetation cleared. A total of 5 judgmentally placed STPS was excavated to explore soils and to test for archaeological deposits. No historic or prehistoric material was observed on the surface or in these STPs. ESI concludes “There is no evidence of archaeological deposits or
historic properties within the APE. Borrow excavation will have no affect on historic resources. No further work is recommended”.

The CEMVN believes that the existing evidence suggests that the proposed 148 acre proposed Westbank F borrow pit does not contain unrecorded cultural resources. The CEMVN therefore believes that cultural resources will not be impacted if this land is excavated as a borrow pit and recommends that the borrow area be developed as proposed. In the event that unanticipated discoveries are encountered, work will stop immediately and consulting parties will be contacted. We request that the Tunica-Biloxi Tribe of Louisiana review this information pursuant to National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, (36 CFR 800.3) and provide comment. If you require additional information, please contact Dr. Valerie McCormack at 504-862-2167.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Elizabeth Wiggins
Chief, Environmental Planning and Compliance Branch

CF: Earl Barbry, Jr., Tunica-Biloxi Tribe of Louisiana
Planning, Programs, and
Project Management Division
Environmental Planning
and Compliance Branch.
Attn: CEMVN-PM-RN

John Berrey, Chairman
Quapaw Tribe of Oklahoma
P.O. Box 765
Quapaw, OK 74363

RE: Draft Reconnaissance Survey of the Proposed Westbank Borrow Pit F,
Jefferson, Parish, Louisiana (IER #22)

Dear Chairman Berrey:

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Mississippi Valley, New Orleans District (CEMVN) is currently identifying borrow sources for its continuing efforts to repair and strengthen levees in Southeastern Louisiana. The proposed 148 acre Westbank F borrow area, Jefferson Parish, is located in Township 13S, Range 22E, Sections 16,18,19, 20, 22, 23,44, 45,46, 47,48,50, and 51. CEMVN contracted Earth Search, Inc. (ESI) to complete a cultural resources reconnaissance survey of the proposed Westbank F borrow pit. Earth Search, Inc. has completed the draft report, and CEMVN is pleased to present the report to the Quapaw Tribe of Oklahoma for your review. Information regarding this cultural resource survey will be included in the Individual Environmental Report (IER) #22, a National Environmental Policy Act document.

The proposed borrow pit would be excavated to a maximum depth of 20 feet below ground surface. Both Highway 90 and the Avondale Gardens Canal Access road would provide access to the proposed borrow site. Given that the proposed action has the potential to impact cultural resources, the CEMVN requests a review of the project as per 36 CFR 800.3(c).

The draft report prepared by ESI includes the results of background research, a literature review, site record search, and the field work. A review of the project area soils and geomorphology reveal that the borrow lies within drained backswamp. The proposed Westbank F borrow area contains heavy clay, poorly drained and frequently flooded sediments. An initial site investigation in August 2007 revealed that much of the project area was heavily overgrown with vegetation and inundated. ESI archaeologists returned to Westbank F in November 2007 after most of the deciduous vegetation cleared. A total of 5 judgmentally placed STPs was excavated to explore soils and to test for archaeological deposits. No historic or prehistoric material was observed on the surface or in these STPs. ESI concludes “There is no evidence of
archaeological deposits or historic properties within the APE. Borrow excavation will have no affect on historic resources. No further work is recommended”.

The CEMVN believes that the existing evidence suggests that the proposed 148 acre proposed Westbank F borrow pit does not contain unrecorded cultural resources. The CEMVN therefore believes that cultural resources will not be impacted if this land is excavated as a borrow pit and recommends that the borrow area be developed as proposed. In the event that unanticipated discoveries are encountered, work will stop immediately and consulting parties will be contacted. Communication between CEMVN staff archaeologist Dr. Valerie McCormack and with your Tribal Preservation Officer Ms. Carrie V. Wilson reveal that the Quapaw Tribe of Oklahoma prefers to review borrow projects in Orleans Parish Louisiana. While this project lies in Jefferson Parish, CEMVN invites comments from the Quapaw Tribe of Oklahoma in order to meet CEMVN responsibilities under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, (36 CFR 800.3) and Executive Order 13175 that directs Government-to-Government consultation. If you or anyone in your organization desires a copy of this report or other material relating to this project please contact, please contact Dr. Valerie McCormack at 504-862-2167.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Elizabeth Wiggins
Chief, Environmental Planning
and Compliance Branch
January 14, 2008

Valerie J. McCormack
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
New Orleans District
Planning, Programs, and Project Management Division
Environmental Planning and Compliance Branch
Cultural Resources

Dear Ms McCormack:

The Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians has no concerns about this borrow area. If during construction any archaeological material is encountered, all work in the vicinity of the discovery should be stopped and I should be contacted as soon as possible for further consultation.

Kenneth H. Carleton
Tribal Historic Preservation Officer/Archaeologist
Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians
P.O. Box 6257 or 101 Industrial Road
Choctaw, MS 39350
601.650.7316
FAX: 601.650.7454
Dear Mr. Carleton:
The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New Orleans District (CEMVN) is planning on developing the proposed Westbank F borrow pit in Jefferson Parish, LA. Sediment from the borrow will be used for levee repair and improvements for coastal and hurricane protection. Two files are attached: (1) a letter from the CEMVN to the Chief Denson and (2) a .pdf of the Phase I cultural resource survey report.

We request that you review this information as per the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended (36 CFR 800.3) and provide comment. Also please inform us, if you choose not to provide comment. If you require additional information or have any questions, please contact me at the phone number below or e-mail me.

In addition, the CEMVN plans to develop several more borrow pits in the future. If you prefer to be notified by a hard copy please inform me, and I will send you information through the postal service in the future.

Thank you for this consideration,
Valerie McCormack

Valerie J. McCormack
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
New Orleans District
Planning, Programs, and Project Management Division
Environmental Planning and Compliance Branch
Cultural Resources
504-862-2167

McCormack, Valerie J MVN

From: postmaster@tunica.org
Sent: Monday, January 14, 2008 12:03 PM
To: McCormack, Valerie J MVN
Subject: Message delivered (earlii@tunica.org)

This is a multi-part message in MIME format.

--6/1200333772/MailSite/5032/7688
Content-Transfer-Encoding: quoted-printable
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"

Your message has been delivered
to the following recipient(s):

earlii@tunica.org
Message delivered
McCormack, Valerie J MVN

From: EIS Exchange Service Account
Sent: Monday, January 14, 2008 12:03 PM
To: McCormack, Valerie J MVN
Subject: Delivery Status Notification (Relay)

Attachments: ATT91035.txt; ATT91036.txt

This is an automatically generated Delivery Status Notification.

Your message has been successfully relayed to the following recipients, but the requested delivery status notifications may not be generated by the destination.

histpres@actribe.org

McCormack, Valerie J MVN

From: McCormack, Valerie J MVN
Sent: Monday, January 14, 2008 12:02 PM
To: Earl Barbry Jr. (earlii@tunica.org)
Subject: Proposed borrow, Westbank F, Jefferson Parish, LA

Attachments: T-BofLA-wbF.pdf; WestBankF_01102008.pdf

Dear Mr. Barbry:
The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New Orleans District (CEMVN) is planning on developing the proposed Westbank F borrow pit in Jefferson Parish, LA. Sediment from the borrow will be used for levee repair and improvements for coastal and hurricane protection. Two files area attached: (1) a letter from the CEMVN to Chairman Barbry and (2) a .pdf of the Phase I cultural resource survey report.

We request that you review this information as per the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended (36 CFR 800.3) and provide comment. Also please inform us, if you choose not to provide comment. If you require additional information or have any questions, please contact me at the phone number below or e-mail me.

In addition, the CEMVN plans to develop several more borrow pits in the future. If you prefer to be notified by a hard copy please inform me, and I will send you information through the postal service in the future.

Thank you for this consideration,
Valerie McCormack

Valerie J. McCormack
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
New Orleans District
Dear Historic Preservation Officer:

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New Orleans District (CEMVN) is planning on developing the proposed Westbank F borrow pit in Jefferson Parish, LA. Sediment from the borrow will be used for levee repair and improvements for coastal and hurricane protection. Two files area attached: (1) a letter from the CEMVN to Chief Sylestine and (2) a .pdf of the Phase I cultural resource survey report.

We request that you review this information as per the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended (36 CFR 800.3) and provide comment. Also please inform us, if you choose not to provide comment. If you require additional information or have any questions, please contact me at the phone number below or e-mail me.

In addition, the CEMVN plans to develop several more borrow pits in the future. If you prefer to be notified by a hard copy please inform me, and I will send you information through the postal service in the future.

Thank you for this consideration,
Valerie McCormack
Dear Mr. Cast:

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New Orleans District (CEMVN) is planning on developing the proposed Westbank F borrow pit in Jefferson Parish, LA. Sediment from the borrow will be used for levee repair and improvements for coastal and hurricane protection. Two files area attached: (1) a letter from the CEMVN to Chairperson Parker and (2) a .pdf of the Phase I cultural resource survey report.

We request that you review this information as per the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended (36 CFR 800.3) and provide comment. Also please inform us, if you choose not to provide comment. If you require additional information or have any questions, please contact me at the phone number below or e-mail me.

In addition, the CEMVN plans to develop several more borrow pits in the future. If you prefer to be notified by a hard copy please inform me, and I will send you information through the postal service in the future.

Thank you for this consideration,
Valerie McCormack

Valerie J. McCormack
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
New Orleans District
Planning, Programs, and Project Management Division
Environmental Planning and Compliance Branch
Cultural Resources
504-862-2167
Dear Mr. Langley and Mr. Thomas:

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New Orleans District (CEMVN) is planning on developing the proposed Westbank F borrow pit in Jefferson Parish, LA. Sediment from the borrow will be used for levee repair and improvements for coastal and hurricane protection. Two files are attached: (1) a letter from the CEMVN to the Chief Sickey and (2) a .pdf of the Phase I cultural resource survey report.

We request that you review this information as per the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended (36 CFR 800.3) and provide comment. Also please inform us, if you choose not to provide comment. If you require additional information or have any questions, please contact me at the phone number below or e-mail me.

In addition, the CEMVN plans to develop several more borrow pits in the future. If you prefer to be notified by a hard copy please inform me, and I will send you information through the postal service in the future.

Valerie J. McCormack
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
New Orleans District
Planning, Programs, and Project Management Division
Environmental Planning and Compliance Branch
Cultural Resources
504-862-2167
Dear Chief Norris:

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New Orleans District (CEMVN) is planning on developing the proposed Westbank F borrow pit in Jefferson Parish, LA. Sediment from the borrow will be used for levee repair and improvements for coastal and hurricane protection. Two files are attached: (1) a letter from the CEMVN to you (hard copy has been sent via U.S. Postal Service) and (2) a .pdf of the Phase I cultural resource survey report.

We request that you review this information as per the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended (36 CFR 800.3) and provide comment. Also please inform us, if you choose not to provide comment. If you require additional information or have any questions, please contact me at the phone number below or e-mail me.

In addition, the CEMVN plans to develop several more borrow pits in the future. If you prefer to be notified by a hard copy please inform me, and I will send you information through the postal service in the future.

Thank you for this consideration,
Valerie McCormack

Valerie J. McCormack
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
New Orleans District
Planning, Programs, and Project Management Division
Environmental Planning and Compliance Branch
Cultural Resources
504-862-2167
This is an automatically generated Delivery Status Notification.

Your message has been successfully relayed to the following recipients, but the requested delivery status notifications may not be generated by the destination.

HPO@seminolenation.com

McCormack, Valerie J MVN

From: McCormack, Valerie J MVN
Sent: Monday, January 14, 2008 11:52 AM
To: Pare Bowlegs (HPO@seminolenation.com)
Subject: Proposed Westbank F borrow in Jefferson Parish, LA

Attachments: WestBankF_01102008.pdf; SN-wbF.pdf

Dear Mr. Bowlegs:

A private contractor is planning on developing a borrow pit in Hancock County, Mississippi and selling the material to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New Orleans District (CEMVN). Sediment from the borrow will be used for levee repair and improvements for coastal and hurricane protection. Two files are attached: (1) a letter from the CEMVN to Chief Haney and (2) a .pdf of the Phase I cultural resource survey report.

We request that you review this information as per the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended (36 CFR 800.3) and provide comment. Also please inform us, if you choose not to provide comment. If you require additional information or have any questions, please contact me at the phone number below or e-mail me.

In addition, the CEMVN plans to develop several more borrow pits in the future. If you prefer to be notified by a hard copy please inform me, and I will send you information through the postal service in the future.

Thank you for this consideration,

Valerie McCormack

Valerie J. McCormack
Dear Mr. Carleton:

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New Orleans District (CEMVN) is planning on developing the proposed WESTbank F borrow pit in Jefferson Parish, LA. Sediment from the borrow will be used for levee repair and improvements for coastal and hurricane protection. Two files area attached: (1) a letter from the CEMVN to the Chief Denson and (2) a .pdf of the Phase I cultural resource survey report.

We request that you review this information as per the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended (36 CFR 800.3) and provide comment. Also please inform us, if you choose not to provide comment. If you require additional information or have any questions, please contact me at the phone number below or e-mail me.

In addition, the CEMVN plans to develop several more borrow pits in the future. If you prefer to be notified by a hard copy please inform me, and I will send you information through the postal service in the future.

Thank you for this consideration,
Valerie McCormack

Valerie J. McCormack
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
New Orleans District
Planning, Programs, and Project Management Division
Environmental Planning and Compliance Branch
Cultural Resources
504-862-2167
Planning, Programs, and  
Project Management Division  
Environmental Planning  
and Compliance Branch.  
Attn: CEMVN-PM-RN

Ms. Pam Breaux  
State Historic Preservation Officer  
Office of Cultural Development  
Department of Culture, Recreation, and Tourism  
P.O. Box 44247  
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70804

RE: Westbank I Borrow Pit, Jefferson Parish, Township 13S, Range 22E, Sections 1, 2, 23, and 26

Dear Ms. Breaux:

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Mississippi Valley, New Orleans District (CEMVN) is currently identifying borrow sources for its continuing efforts to repair and strengthen levees in Southeastern Louisiana. The proposed 33 acre Westbank I borrow area, Jefferson Parish, is located in Township 13S, Range 22E, Sections 1, 2, 23, and 26. CEMVN contracted Earth Search, Inc. to complete a Phase I cultural resource survey of the proposed Westbank I borrow pit. The proposed borrow areas is located on the New Orleans West 7.5' USGS topographic quadrangle, and can be viewed on Figure 1 in the enclosed management summary. The borrow pit will be excavated to a maximum depth of 20 feet below ground surface. Given that the proposed action has the potential to impact cultural resources, the CEMVN requests a review of the project as per 36 CFR 800.3(c).

The enclosed management summary includes a literature review, site record search, and results of the field work. On July 10, 2007, a property caretaker, Vincent Vastola, reported to CEMVN archaeologist Jerica Richardson that a mass burial dating to the early 19th century is located in the vicinity of the project area. Mr. Vastola, however, had no specific information on the location of such mass burial. ESI's historian Harriet Swift investigated these claims and failed to find any evidence to substantiate the claims. This background research is being synthesized and will appear in the Phase I survey report (Rhonda Smith, personal communication 9/29/2007). General background research revealed that no previously recorded archaeological sites are present in the project area, and only one archaeological site is located within a one mile radius of the project area. Field investigations included the excavation of shovel tests placed along six transects that paralleled the long axis of the proposed borrow. ESI concludes that
“Borrow pit excavation in this area will not impact any historic resources, and no further cultural resources investigation is recommended”.

The CEMVN believes that the existing evidence suggests that the proposed 33 acre proposed Westbank I borrow pit does not contain unrecorded cultural resources. The CEMVN therefore believes that cultural resources will not be impacted if this land is excavated as a borrow pit and recommends that the borrow area be developed as proposed. In the event that unanticipated discoveries are encountered, work will stop immediately and consulting parties will be contacted. We request that you review this information pursuant to National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, (36 CFR 800.3.) and provide comment. If you require additional information, please contact Valerie McCormack at 504-862-2167.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Elizabeth Wiggins
Chief, Environmental Planning
and Compliance Branch

Enclosures: Management Summary of Phase I Survey of the Proposed Westbank Borrow Pit I,
Jefferson Parish, LA.

CF: Alabama Coushatta Tribe of Texas, Beryl Battise
   Caddo Nation of Oklahoma, Robert Cast
   Chitimacha Tribe of Louisiana, Kimberly, S. Walden
   Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma, Terry D. Cole
   Coushatta Tribe of Louisiana, Leland Thompson
   Jena Band of the Choctaw Indians, Christine Norris
   Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians, Kenneth H. Carleton
   Seminole Nation of Oklahoma, Pare Bowlegs
   Seminole Tribe of Florida, Bill Steele
   Tunica-Biloxi Tribe of Louisiana, Earl Barby, Jr.
Planning, Programs, and  
Project Management Division  
Environmental Planning  
and Compliance Branch.  
Attn: CEMVN-PM-RN

Ms. Pam Breaux  
State Historic Preservation Officer  
Office of Cultural Development  
Department of Culture, Recreation, and Tourism  
P.O. Box 44247  
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70804

RE: Westbank I Borrow Pit, Jefferson Parish, Township 13S, Range 22E, Sections 1, 2, 23, and 26

Dear Ms. Breaux:

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Mississippi Valley, New Orleans District (CEMVN) is currently identifying borrow sources for its continuing efforts to repair and strengthen levees in Southeastern Louisiana. The proposed 33 acre Westbank I borrow area, Jefferson Parish, is located in Township 13S, Range 22E, Sections 1, 2, 23, and 26. CEMVN contracted Earth Search, Inc. to complete a Phase I cultural resource survey of the proposed Westbank I borrow pit. The proposed borrow areas is located on the New Orleans West 7.5’ USGS topographic quadrangle, and can be viewed on Figure 1 in the enclosed management summary. The borrow pit will be excavated to a maximum depth of 20 feet below ground surface. Given that the proposed action has the potential to impact cultural resources, the CEMVN requests a review of the project as per 36 CFR 800.3(c).

The enclosed management summary includes a literature review, site record search, and results of the field work. On July 10, 2007, a property caretaker, Vincent Vastoia, reported to CEMVN archaeologist Jerica Richardson that a mass burial dating to the early 19th century is located in the vicinity of the project area. Mr. Vastoia, however, had no specific information on the location of such mass burial. ESI’s historian Harriet Swift investigated these claims and failed to find any evidence to substantiate the claims. This background research is being synthesized and will appear in the Phase I survey report (Rhonda Smith, personal communication 9/29/2007). General background research revealed that no previously recorded archaeological sites are present in the project area, and only one archaeological site is located within a one mile radius of the project area. Field investigations included the excavation of shovel tests placed along six transects that paralleled the long axis of the proposed borrow. ESI concludes that
The CEMVN believes that the existing evidence suggests that the proposed 33 acre proposed Westbank borrow pit does not contain unrecorded cultural resources. The CEMVN therefore believes that cultural resources will not be impacted if this land is excavated as a borrow pit and recommends that the borrow area be developed as proposed. In the event that unanticipated discoveries are encountered, work will stop immediately and consulting parties will be contacted. We request that you review this information pursuant to National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, (36 CFR 800.3.) and provide comment. If you require additional information, please contact Valerie McCormack at 504-862-2167.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Wiggins
Chief, Environmental Planning
and Compliance Branch

Enclosures: Management Summary of Phase I Survey of the Proposed Westbank Borrow Pit I, Jefferson Parish, LA.
Planning, Programs, and
Project Management Division
Environmental Planning
and Compliance Branch:
Attn: CEMVN-PM-RN

Mr. Terry D. Cole
Director/Historic Preservation Officer
Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma
P.O. Box Drawer 1210
Durant, OK 74701

RE: Westbank I Borrow Pit, Jefferson Parish, Township 13S, Range
22E, Sections 1, 2, 23, and 26

Dear Mr. Cole:

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Mississippi Valley, New Orleans District (CEMVN) is currently identifying borrow sources for its continuing efforts to repair and strengthen levees in Southeastern Louisiana. The proposed 33 acre Westbank I borrow area, Jefferson Parish, is located in Township 13S, Range 22E, Sections 1, 2, 23, and 26. CEMVN contracted Earth Search, Inc. to complete a Phase I cultural resource survey of the proposed Westbank I borrow pit. The proposed borrow areas is located on the New Orleans West 7.5’ USGS topographic quadrangle, and can be viewed on Figure 1 in the enclosed management summary. The borrow pit will be excavated to a maximum depth of 20 feet below ground surface. Given that the proposed action has the potential to impact cultural resources, the CEMVN requests a review of the project as per 36 CFR 800.3(c).

The enclosed management summary includes a literature review, site record search, and results of the field work. On July 10, 2007, a property caretaker, Vincent Vastola, reported to CEMVN archaeologist Jerica Richardson that a mass burial dating to the early 19th century is located in the vicinity of the project area. Mr. Vastola, however, had no specific information on the location of such mass burial. ESI’s historian Harriet Swift investigated these claims and failed to find any evidence to substantiate the claims. This background research is being synthesized and will appear in the Phase I survey report (Rhonda Smith, personal communication 9/29/2007). General background research revealed that no previously recorded archaeological sites are present in the project area, and only one archaeological site is located within a one mile radius of the project area. Field investigations included the excavation of shovel tests placed along six transects that paralleled the long axis of the proposed borrow. ESI concludes that “Borrow pit excavation in this area will not impact any historic resources, and no further cultural resources investigation is recommended.”
The CEMVN believes that the existing evidence suggests that the proposed 33 acre proposed Westbank I borrow pit does not contain unrecorded cultural resources. The CEMVN therefore believes that cultural resources will not be impacted if this land is excavated as a borrow pit and recommends that the borrow area be developed as proposed. In the event that unanticipated discoveries are encountered, work will stop immediately and consulting parties will be contacted. We request that you review this information pursuant to National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, (36 CFR 800.3.) and provide comment. If you require additional information, please contact Valerie McCormack at 504-862-2167.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Elizabeth Wiggins
Chief, Environmental Planning
and Compliance Branch

Enclosures: Management Summary of Phase I Survey of the Proposed Westbank Borrow Pit I, Jefferson Parish, LA.
Planning, Programs, and
Project Management Division
Environmental Planning
and Compliance Branch.
Attn: CEMVN-PM-RN

Mr. Terry D. Cole
Director/Historic Preservation Officer
Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma
P.O. Box Drawer 1210
Durant, OK 74701

RE: Westbank I Borrow Pit, Jefferson Parish, Township 13S, Range 22E, Sections 1, 2, 23, and 26

Dear Mr. Cole:

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Mississippi Valley, New Orleans District (CEMVN) is currently identifying borrow sources for its continuing efforts to repair and strengthen levees in Southeastern Louisiana. The proposed 33 acre Westbank I borrow area, Jefferson Parish, is located in Township 13S, Range 22E, Sections 1, 2, 23, and 26. CEMVN contracted Earth Search, Inc. to complete a Phase I cultural resource survey of the proposed Westbank I borrow pit. The proposed borrow areas is located on the New Orleans West 7.5' USGS topographic quadrangle, and can be viewed on Figure 1 in the enclosed management summary. The borrow pit will be excavated to a maximum depth of 20 feet below ground surface. Given that the proposed action has the potential to impact cultural resources, the CEMVN requests a review of the project as per 36 CFR 800.3(c).

The enclosed management summary includes a literature review, site record search, and results of the field work. On July 10, 2007, a property caretaker, Vincent Vastola, reported to CEMVN archaeologist Jerica Richardson that a mass burial dating to the early 19th century is located in the vicinity of the project area. Mr. Vastola, however, had no specific information on the location of such mass burial. ESI's historian Harriet Swift investigated these claims and failed to find any evidence to substantiate the claims. This background research is being synthesized and will appear in the Phase I survey report (Rhonda Smith, personal communication 9/29/2007). General background research revealed that no previously recorded archaeological sites are present in the project area, and only one archaeological site is located within a one mile radius of the project area. Field investigations included the excavation of shovel tests placed along six transects that paralleled the long axis of the proposed borrow. ESI concludes that "Borrow pit excavation in this area will not impact any historic resources, and no further cultural resources investigation is recommended".
“Borrow pit excavation in this area will not impact any historic resources, and no further cultural resources investigation is recommended”.

The CEMVN believes that the existing evidence suggests that the proposed 33 acre proposed Westbank 1 borrow pit does not contain unrecorded cultural resources. The CEMVN therefore believes that cultural resources will not be impacted if this land is excavated as a borrow pit and recommends that the borrow area be developed as proposed. In the event that unanticipated discoveries are encountered, work will stop immediately and consulting parties will be contacted. We request that you review this information pursuant to National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, (36 CFR 800.3.) and provide comment. If you require additional information, please contact Valerie McCormack at 504-862-2167.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Wiggins
Chief, Environmental Planning
and Compliance Branch

Enclosures: Management Summary of Phase I Survey of the Proposed Westbank Borrow Pit 1, Jefferson Parish, LA.

CF: Alabama Coushatta Tribe of Texas, Beryl Battise
    Caddo Nation of Oklahoma, Robert Cast
    Chitimacha Tribe of Louisiana, Kimberly, S. Walden
    Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma, Terry D. Cole
    Coushatta Tribe of Louisiana, Leland Thompson
    Jena Band of the Choctaw Indians, Christine Norris
    Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians, Kenneth H. Carleton
    Seminole Nation of Oklahoma, Pare Bowlegs
    Seminole Tribe of Florida, Bill Steele
    Tunica-Biloxi Tribe of Louisiana, Earl Barbry, Jr.
Planning, Programs, and
Project Management Division
Environmental Planning
   and Compliance Branch.
Attn: CEMVN-PM-RN

Ms. Pam Breaux
State Historic Preservation Officer
Office of Cultural Development
Department of Culture, Recreation, and Tourism
P.O. Box 44247
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70804

RE: Draft Reconnaissance Survey of the Proposed Westbank N Borrow
   Area, Plaquemines, Parish, Louisiana (IER #22)

Dear Ms. Breaux:

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Mississippi Valley, New Orleans District (CEMVN) is currently identifying borrow sources for its continuing efforts to repair and strengthen levees in Southeastern Louisiana. The proposed 76 acre Westbank N borrow area, Plaquemines Parish, is located in Township 15S, Range 24E, Sections 45, 47, 74, and 75. CEMVN contracted Earth Search, Inc. to complete a Phase I cultural resource survey of the proposed Westbank N borrow pit. Earth Search, Inc. has completed the draft report, and CEMVN is pleased to present the report to your office for your review. Information regarding this cultural resource survey will be included in the Individual Environmental Report #22.

The proposed borrow pit would be excavated to a maximum depth of 20 feet below ground surface. Walker Road would provide access to the proposed borrow site. Given that the proposed action has the potential to impact cultural resources, the CEMVN requests a review of the project as per 36 CFR 800.3(c).

The enclosed draft report includes the results of background research, a literature review, site record search, and the field work. A total of 87 STPS were excavated and no historic or prehistoric material. ESI concludes that "No historic or prehistoric cultural remains were recovered as a result of the reconnaissance survey of the project area. Excavation of the area should have no affect on historic resources, and no further investigations are necessary".

The CEMVN believes that the existing evidence suggests that the proposed 76 acre proposed Westbank N borrow pit does not contain unrecorded cultural resources. The CEMVN therefore believes that cultural resources will not be impacted if this land is excavated as a
borrow pit and recommends that the borrow area be developed as proposed. In the event that unanticipated discoveries are encountered, work will stop immediately and consulting parties will be contacted. We request that you review this information pursuant to National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, (36 CFR 800.3.) and provide comment. If you require additional information, please contact Valerie McCormack at 504-862-2167.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Elizabeth Wiggins
Chief, Environmental Planning
and Compliance Branch

Enclosures: Reconnaissance Survey of the Proposed Westbank N Borrow Area, Plaquemines Parish, Louisiana.

CF: Alabama Coushatta Tribe of Texas, Chairman Kevin Batisse and Beryl Battise
Caddo Nation of Oklahoma, Chairperson LaRue Parker and Robert Cast
Chitimacha Tribe of Louisiana, Chairman Alton LeBlanc and Kimberly, S. Walden
Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma, Chief Gregory E. Pyle and Terry D. Cole
Coushatta Tribe of Louisiana, Chief Kevin Sickey and Leland Thompson
Jena Band of the Choctaw Indians, Principal Chief Christine Norris
Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians, Chief Beasely Denson and Kenneth H. Carleton
Seminole Nation of Oklahoma, Chairman John Berrey and Pare Bowlegs
Seminole Tribe of Florida, Chairman Mitchell Cypress
Quapaw Tribe of Oklahoma, Chairman John Berrey
Tunica-Biloxi Tribe of Louisiana, Chairman Earl J. Barbary Sr. and Earl Barbry, Jr.
December 26, 2007

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

Re: Draft Reconnaissance CRM Report  
LA Division of Archaeology Report No. 22-3022  
Reconnaissance Survey of the Proposed West Bank N Borrow Area, Plaquemines Parish, Louisiana  
Earth Search, Inc.

Dear Ms. Wiggins:

We acknowledge receipt of your letter dated November 28, 2007, transmitting two copies of the above-referenced report. We have completed our review and offer the following comments.

The report meets most of the Division of Archaeology’s standards and we concur with the findings presented in the draft report by Earth Search, Inc. It does not appear that any subsurface archaeological sites will be affected by the planned project for which the cultural resources investigations were done. There are standing structures within the project area, however, that have not been taken into account in the reconnaissance survey. Enclosed figures show the locations of structures that should be noted in the final version of this report.

Technical comments of a minor nature are also included with this letter, as are photocopied pages of the report with other comments/corrections noted. Please address these as appropriate and transmit two copies of the final report. Should you have any questions concerning our comments, do not hesitate to contact Dennis Jones in the Division of Archaeology at (225) 342-8170 or by email at djones@crt.state.la.us.
Ms. Elizabeth Wiggins  
December 26, 2007  
Page 2

Sincerely,

Pam Breaux  
State Historic Preservation Officer  

PB:DJ:s

C: Dr. Jill-Karen Yakubik, Earth Search, Inc. (w/enclosures)
TECHNICAL COMMENTS

1. Page 2, Figure 1. The location map for the project area would be enhanced if the location of the area in relation to Oakville, La could be presented.

2. Pages 3-4. The reporting of the past cultural resource investigations in the vicinity of the project area is well done and corroborates the absence of subsurface cultural resources within the current project area.

3. Pages 4 & 6. The dimensions of the project area given as 200 m by 1700 m do not agree with the scaled dimensions of the project area in Figure 4.

4. This reconnaissance survey has not addressed the presence of what appear to be standing structures within the project area. See attached figures.
Location of structure within project area

Downloaded detail of Bertrandville, LA quad available from http://atlas.lsu.edu/rasterdown.htm
Downloaded detail from Google Earth.com showing presence of structures within the project area.
Figure 1. Excerpt from USGS *Bertrandville, LA* 1:24,000 quadrangle showing the project area in red.
Figure 3. Map showing location of excavated shovel tests.
DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
NEW ORLEANS DISTRICT, CORPS OF ENGINEERS
P.O. BOX 60267
NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA 70160-0267

November 28, 2007

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

Chairman Alton LeBlanc
Chitimacha Tribe of Louisiana
P.O. Box 661
Charenton, LA 70523

RE: Draft Reconnaissance Survey of the Proposed Westbank N Borrow
Area, Plaquemines, Parish, Louisiana (IER #22)

Dear Chairman LeBlanc:

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Mississippi Valley, New Orleans District (CEMVN) is currently identifying borrow sources for its continuing efforts to repair and strengthen levees in Southeastern Louisiana. The proposed 76 acre Westbank N borrow area, Plaquemines Parish, is located in Township 15S, Range 24E, Sections 45, 47, 74, and 75. CEMVN contracted Earth Search, Inc. to complete a Phase I cultural resource survey of the proposed Westbank N borrow pit. Earth Search, Inc. has completed the draft report, and CEMVN is pleased to present the report to your office for your review. Information regarding this cultural resource survey will be included in the Individual Environmental Report #22.

The proposed borrow pit would be excavated to a maximum depth of 20 feet below ground surface. Walker Road would provide access to the proposed borrow site. Given that the proposed action has the potential to impact cultural resources, the CEMVN requests that the Chitimacha Tribe of Louisiana review of the project as per 36 CFR 800.3(c).

The draft report includes the results of background research, a literature review, site record search, and the field work. A total of 87 STPS were excavated and no historic or prehistoric material. ESI concludes that “No historic or prehistoric cultural remains were recovered as a result of the reconnaissance survey of the project area. Excavation of the area should have no affect on historic resources, and no further investigations are necessary”. The draft report and a copy of this letter have been submitted to Ms. Kimberly Walden of the Chitimacha Tribe of Louisiana for review and comment.

The CEMVN believes that the existing evidence suggests that the proposed 76 acre proposed Westbank N borrow pit does not contain unrecorded cultural resources. The CEMVN therefore believes that cultural resources will not be impacted if this land is excavated as a
borrow pit and recommends that the borrow area be developed as proposed. In the event that unanticipated discoveries are encountered, work will stop immediately and consulting parties will be contacted. We request that you review this information pursuant to National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, (36 CFR 800.3.) and provide comment. If you require additional information, please contact Valerie McCormack at 504-862-2167.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Elizabeth Wiggins
Chief, Environmental Planning and Compliance Branch

CF: Ms. Kimberly Walden, Chitimacha Tribe of Louisiana
December 27, 2007

Ms. Elizabeth Wiggins
Chief, Environmental Planning and Compliance Branch
U.S. Corps of Engineers
CEMVN-PM-RN
P.O. Box 60267
New Orleans, LA 70160-0267

Re: Draft Reconnaissance Survey of the Proposed Westbank N Borrow Area
Plaquemines Parish, LA

Dear Ms. Wiggins:

We are in receipt of your letter, dated December 11, 2007, concerning the above referenced project. The parish where the proposed project is to take place is part of the aboriginal Chitimacha homeland. That is, historically and prehistorically the Chitimacha Tribe of Louisiana was located near this area. This homeland contains many village sites, religious/sacred sites, and burial sites, which must be taken into account in the planning process.

Our records and oral traditions do not indicate that a specific Chitimacha archaeological site or Traditional Cultural Property is in the immediate vicinity of your project, therefore we have no objection to the implementation of the proposed activity. However, if archaeological remains representing a village site and/or burial site are discovered during the process of construction you should stop and contact the tribe and the State Historic Preservation Office immediately, in order to begin consultation regarding the encountered remains.

The Chitimacha Tribe of Louisiana appreciates your compliance with federal and state laws concerning Native American notification and consultation. Should you have any questions, do not hesitate to contact me (337) 923-9923.

Sincerely,

[Signature]
Kimberly S. Walden,
Director, Cultural Department

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

Chief Beasley Denson
Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians
P.O. Box 6257
Choctaw, MS 39350

RE: Draft Reconnaissance Survey of the Proposed Westbank N Borrow
   Area, Plaquemines, Parish, Louisiana (IER #22)

Dear Chief Denson:

   The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Mississippi Valley, New Orleans District (CEMVN)
is currently identifying borrow sources for its continuing efforts to repair and strengthen levees
in Southeastern Louisiana. The proposed 76 acre Westbank N borrow area, Plaquemines Parish,is located in Township 15S, Range 24E, Sections 45, 47, 74, and 75. CEMVN contracted Earth
Search, Inc. to complete a Phase I cultural resource survey of the proposed Westbank N borrow
pit. Earth Search, Inc. has completed the draft report, and CEMVN is pleased to present the
report to your office for your review. Information regarding this cultural resource survey will be
included in the Individual Environmental Report #22.

   The proposed borrow pit would be excavated to a maximum depth of 20 feet below
ground surface. Walker Road would provide access to the proposed borrow site. Given that the
proposed action has the potential to impact cultural resources, the CEMVN requests that the
Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians review of the project as per 36 CFR 800.3(c).

   The draft report includes the results of background research, a literature review, site
record search, and the field work. A total of 87 STPS were excavated and no historic or
prehistoric material. ESI concludes that “No historic or prehistoric cultural remains were
recovered as a result of the reconnaissance survey of the project area. Excavation of the area
should have no affect on historic resources, and no further investigations are necessary”. The
draft report and a copy of this letter have been submitted to Mr. Kenneth H. Carleton of the
Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians for review and comment.

   The CEMVN believes that the existing evidence suggests that the proposed 76 acre
proposed Westbank N borrow pit does not contain unrecorded cultural resources. The CEMVN
therefore believes that cultural resources will not be impacted if this land is excavated as a
borrow pit and recommends that the borrow area be developed as proposed. In the event that unanticipated discoveries are encountered, work will stop immediately and consulting parties will be contacted. We request that you review this information pursuant to National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, (36 CFR 800.3.) and provide comment. If you require additional information, please contact Valerie McCormack at 504-862-2167.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Elizabeth Wiggins
Chief, Environmental Planning
and Compliance Branch

CF: Mr. Kenneth H. Carleton, Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians
January 15, 2008

Valerie J. McCormack
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
New Orleans District
Planning, Programs, and Project Management Division
Environmental Planning and Compliance Branch
Cultural Resources

Dear Ms McCormack:

The Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians has no concerns about the proposed Westbank N borrow, Plaquemines Parish. If during construction any archaeological material is encountered, all work in the vicinity of the discovery should be stopped and I should be contacted as soon as possible for further consultation.

Kenneth H. Carleton
Tribal Historic Preservation Officer/Archaeologist
Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians
P.O. Box 6257 or 101 Industrial Road
Choctaw, MS 39350
601.650.7316
FAX: 601.650.7454

-----Original Message-----
From: McCormack, Valerie J MVN [mailto:Valerie.J.Mccormack@usace.army.mil]
Sent: Friday, November 30, 2007 10:01 AM
To: Carleton, Ken
Subject: Proposed Westbank N borrow, Plaquemines Parish

Dear Mr. Carleton:

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New Orleans District (CEMVN) is proposing to develop the Westbank N borrow pit in Plaquemines Parish, Louisiana. Sediment from the borrow will be used for levee repair and improvements for coastal and hurricane protection. Summary information on these investigations will appear in the Individual Environmental Report # 22, a National Environmental Policy Act document. Earth Search, Inc. under contract to
CEMVN conducted a reconnaissance survey of the project area. No cultural resources were identified within the Area of Potential Effects following the completion of background research and fieldwork. Information regarding the investigations can be found in the attached report. Also a letter from CEMVN to Chief Denson requesting Section 106 review is attached.

We request that the Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians review this information as per the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended (36 CFR 800.3) and provide comment. Also please inform us, if you choose not to provide comment. If you require additional information or have any questions, please contact me at the phone number below or e-mail me.

In addition, if you prefer to be notified by a hard copy please inform me, and I will send you information through the postal service in the future.

For more information on NEPA alternative arrangements please visit www.nolaenvironmental.gov

<<WestBankNDraft.pdf>> <<WestbankN-MSChoctaw.pdf>>

Valerie J. McCormack
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
New Orleans District
Planning, Programs, and Project Management Division
Environmental Planning and Compliance Branch
Cultural Resources
504-862-2167
Planning, Programs, and
Project Management Division
Environmental Planning
and Compliance Branch.
Attn: CEMVN-PM-RN

Principal Chief Enoch Haney
Seminole Nation of Oklahoma
P.O. Box 1498
Wewoka, OK 74884

RE: Draft Reconnaissance Survey of the Proposed Westbank N Borrow
Area, Plaquemines, Parish, Louisiana (IER #22)

Dear Principal Chief Haney:

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Mississippi Valley, New Orleans District (CEMVN) is currently identifying borrow sources for its continuing efforts to repair and strengthen levees in Southeastern Louisiana. The proposed 76 acre Westbank N borrow area, Plaquemines Parish, is located in Township 15S, Range 24E, Sections 45, 47, 74, and 75. CEMVN contracted Earth Search, Inc. to complete a Phase I cultural resource survey of the proposed Westbank N borrow pit. Earth Search, Inc. has completed the draft report, and CEMVN is pleased to present the report to your office for your review. Information regarding this cultural resource survey will be included in the Individual Environmental Report #22.

The proposed borrow pit would be excavated to a maximum depth of 20 feet below ground surface. Walker Road would provide access to the proposed borrow site. Given that the proposed action has the potential to impact cultural resources, the CEMVN requests that the Seminole Nation of Oklahoma review of the project as per 36 CFR 800.3(c).

The draft report includes the results of background research, a literature review, site record search, and the field work. A total of 87 STPS were excavated and no historic or prehistoric material. ESI concludes that “No historic or prehistoric cultural remains were recovered as a result of the reconnaissance survey of the project area. Excavation of the area should have no affect on historic resources, and no further investigations are necessary. The draft report and a copy of this letter have been submitted to Mr. Pare Bowlegs of the Seminole Nation of Oklahoma for review and comment.

The CEMVN believes that the existing evidence suggests that the proposed 76 acre proposed Westbank N borrow pit does not contain unrecorded cultural resources. The CEMVN therefore believes that cultural resources will not be impacted if this land is excavated as a
borrow pit and recommends that the borrow area be developed as proposed. In the event that unanticipated discoveries are encountered, work will stop immediately and consulting parties will be contacted. We request that you review this information pursuant to National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, (36 CFR 800.3.) and provide comment. If you require additional information, please contact Valerie McCormack at 504-862-2167.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Elizabeth Wiggins
Chief, Environmental Planning
and Compliance Branch

CF: Mr. Pare Bowlegs, Seminole Nation of Oklahoma
Planning, Programs, and
Project Management Division
Environmental Planning
and Compliance Branch.
Attn: CEMVN-PM-RN

Principal Chief Chistine Norris
Jena Band of the Choctaw Indians
P.O. Box 14
Jena, LA 71342

RE: Draft Reconnaissance Survey of the Proposed Westbank N Borrow
Area, Plaquemines, Parish, Louisiana (IER #22)

Dear Principal Chief Norris:

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Mississippi Valley, New Orleans District (CEMVN) is currently identifying borrow sources for its continuing efforts to repair and strengthen levees in Southeastern Louisiana. The proposed 76 acre Westbank N borrow area, Plaquemines Parish, is located in Township 15S, Range 24E, Sections 45, 47, 74, and 75. CEMVN contracted Earth Search, Inc. to complete a Phase I cultural resource survey of the proposed Westbank N borrow pit. Earth Search, Inc. has completed the draft report, and CEMVN is pleased to present the report to your office for your review. Information regarding this cultural resource survey will be included in the Individual Environmental Report #22.

The proposed borrow pit would be excavated to a maximum depth of 20 feet below ground surface. Walker Road would provide access to the proposed borrow site. Given that the proposed action has the potential to impact cultural resources, the CEMVN requests that the Jena Band of the Choctaw Indians review of the project as per 36 CFR 800.3(c).

The enclosed draft report includes the results of background research, a literature review, site record search, and the field work. A total of 87 STPS were excavated and no historic or prehistoric material. ESI concludes that “No historic or prehistoric cultural remains were recovered as a result of the reconnaissance survey of the project area. Excavation of the area should have no affect on historic resources, and no further investigations are necessary.

The CEMVN believes that the existing evidence suggests that the proposed 76 acre proposed Westbank N borrow pit does not contain unrecorded cultural resources. The CEMVN therefore believes that cultural resources will not be impacted if this land is excavated as a borrow pit and recommends that the borrow area be developed as proposed. In the event that unanticipated discoveries are encountered, work will stop immediately and consulting parties
will be contacted. We request that you review this information pursuant to National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, (36 CFR 800.3.) and provide comment. If you require additional information, please contact Valerie McCormack at 504-862-2167.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Elizabeth Wiggins  
Chief, Environmental Planning  
and Compliance Branch

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

Mitchell Cypress
Seminole Tribe of Florida
6300 Stirling Road
Hollywood, FL 33024

RE: Draft Reconnaissance Survey of the Proposed Westbank N Borrow
Area, Plaquemines, Parish, Louisiana (IER #22)

Dear Mitchell Cypress:

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Mississippi Valley, New Orleans District (CEMVN) is currently identifying borrow sources for its continuing efforts to repair and strengthen levees in Southeastern Louisiana. The proposed 76 acre Westbank N borrow area, Plaquemines Parish, is located in Township 15S, Range 24E, Sections 45, 47, 74, and 75. CEMVN contracted Earth Search, Inc. to complete a Phase I cultural resource survey of the proposed Westbank N borrow pit. Earth Search, Inc. has completed the draft report, and CEMVN is pleased to present the report to your office for your review. Information regarding this cultural resource survey will be included in the Individual Environmental Report #22.

The proposed borrow pit would be excavated to a maximum depth of 20 feet below ground surface. Walker Road would provide access to the proposed borrow site. Given that the proposed action has the potential to impact cultural resources, the CEMVN requests that the Seminole Tribe of Florida review of the project as per 36 CFR 800.3(c).

The draft report includes the results of background research, a literature review, site record search, and the field work. A total of 87 STPS were excavated and no historic or prehistoric material. ESI concludes that “No historic or prehistoric cultural remains were recovered as a result of the reconnaissance survey of the project area. Excavation of the area should have no affect on historic resources, and no further investigations are necessary”.

The CEMVN believes that the existing evidence suggests that the proposed 76 acre proposed Westbank N borrow pit does not contain unrecorded cultural resources. Communication between CEMVN staff archaeologists Mr. Mike Swanda and Dr. Valerie McCormack and members of your preservation staff indicate that the Seminole Nation of Florida prefers to review CEMVN borrow projects in South Louisiana only if information suggests a
likelihood for the presence of burials. CEMVN invites comments from the Seminole Nation of Florida in order to meet CEMVN responsibilities under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, (36 CFR 800.3) and Executive Order 13175 that directs Government-to-Government consultation. If you or anyone in your organization desires a copy of this report or other material relating to this project please contact, please contact Dr. Valerie McCormack at 504-862-2167.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

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

Kevin Sickey  
Coushatta Tribe of Louisiana  
P.O. Box 818  
Elton, LA 70532

RE: Draft Reconnaissance Survey of the Proposed Westbank N Borrow  
Area, Plaquemines, Parish, Louisiana (IER #22)

Dear Kevin Sickey:

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Mississippi Valley, New Orleans District (CEMVN) is currently identifying borrow sources for its continuing efforts to repair and strengthen levees in Southeastern Louisiana. The proposed 76 acre Westbank N borrow area, Plaquemines Parish, is located in Township 15S, Range 24E, Sections 45, 47, 74, and 75. CEMVN contracted Earth Search, Inc. to complete a Phase I cultural resource survey of the proposed Westbank N borrow pit. Earth Search, Inc. has completed the draft report, and CEMVN is pleased to present the report to your office for your review. Information regarding this cultural resource survey will be included in the Individual Environmental Report #22.

The proposed borrow pit would be excavated to a maximum depth of 20 feet below ground surface. Walker Road would provide access to the proposed borrow site. Given that the proposed action has the potential to impact cultural resources, the CEMVN requests that the Coushatta Tribe of Louisiana review the project as per 36 CFR 800.3(c).

The draft report includes the results of background research, a literature review, site record search, and the field work. A total of 87 STPS were excavated and no historic or prehistoric material. ESI concludes that “No historic or prehistoric cultural remains were recovered as a result of the reconnaissance survey of the project area. Excavation of the area should have no affect on historic resources, and no further investigations are necessary”. The draft report and a copy of this letter have been submitted to Mr. Rayne Langley and Mr. Leland Thompson of the Coushatta Tribe of Louisiana for review and comment.

The CEMVN believes that the existing evidence suggests that the proposed 76 acre proposed Westbank N borrow pit does not contain unrecorded cultural resources. The CEMVN therefore believes that cultural resources will not be impacted if this land is excavated as a
borrow pit and recommends that the borrow area be developed as proposed. In the event that unanticipated discoveries are encountered, work will stop immediately and consulting parties will be contacted. We request that you review this information pursuant to National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, (36 CFR 800.3.) and provide comment. If you require additional information, please contact Valerie McCormack at 504-862-2167.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Elizabeth Wiggins
Chief, Environmental Planning
and Compliance Branch

CF: Mr. Rayne Langley, Coushatta Tribe of Louisiana
   Mr. Leland Thompson, Coushatta Tribe of Louisiana
Planning, Programs, and
Project Management Division
Environmental Planning
and Compliance Branch.
Attn: CEMVN-PM-RN

Gregory Pyle
Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma
P.O. Box Drawer 1210
Durant, OK 74701

RE: Draft Reconnaissance Survey of the Proposed Westbank N Borrow
Area, Plaquemines, Parish, Louisiana (IER #22)

Dear Gregory Pyle:

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Mississippi Valley, New Orleans District (CEMVN) is currently identifying borrow sources for its continuing efforts to repair and strengthen levees in Southeastern Louisiana. The proposed 76 acre Westbank N borrow area, Plaquemines Parish, is located in Township 15S, Range 24E, Sections 45, 47, 74, and 75. CEMVN contracted Earth Search, Inc. to complete a Phase I cultural resource survey of the proposed Westbank N borrow pit. Earth Search, Inc. has completed the draft report, and CEMVN is pleased to present the report to your office for your review. Information regarding this cultural resource survey will be included in the Individual Environmental Report #22.

The proposed borrow pit would be excavated to a maximum depth of 20 feet below ground surface. Walker Road would provide access to the proposed borrow site. Given that the proposed action has the potential to impact cultural resources, the CEMVN requests that the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma review of the project as per 36 CFR 800.3(c).

The draft report includes the results of background research, a literature review, site record search, and the field work. A total of 87 STPS were excavated and no historic or prehistoric material. ESI concludes that "No historic or prehistoric cultural remains were recovered as a result of the reconnaissance survey of the project area. Excavation of the area should have no affect on historic resources, and no further investigations are necessary. The draft report and a copy of this letter have been submitted to Mr. Terry D. Cole of the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma for review and comment.

The CEMVN believes that the existing evidence suggests that the proposed 76 acre proposed Westbank N borrow pit does not contain unrecorded cultural resources. The CEMVN therefore believes that cultural resources will not be impacted if this land is excavated as a
borrow pit and recommends that the borrow area be developed as proposed. In the event that unanticipated discoveries are encountered, work will stop immediately and consulting parties will be contacted. We request that you review this information pursuant to National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, (36 CFR 800.3.) and provide comment. If you require additional information, please contact Valerie McCormack at 504-862-2167.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Elizabeth Wiggins
Chief, Environmental Planning and Compliance Branch

CF: Mr. Terry D. Cole, Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma
December 5, 2007

Elizabeth Wiggins
Dept. of the Army
New Orleans District, Corps of Engineers
P.O. Box 60267
New Orleans, Louisiana 70160-0267

Dear Elizabeth Wiggins:

We have reviewed the following proposed project(s) as to its effect regarding religious
and/or cultural significance to historic properties that may be affected by an undertaking
of the projects area of potential effect.

Project Description: Westbank N. Borrow area

Project Location: T15S, R24E, Sec., 45, 47, 74, 75

County-State: Plaquemines Parish, Louisiana

Comments: After further review of the above mentioned project(s), to the best of our
knowledge it will have no adverse effect on any historic properties in the project’s area of
potential effect. However, should construction expose buried archaeological or building
materials such as chipped stone, tools, pottery, bone, historic crockery, glass or metal
items, this office should be contacted immediately @ 1-800-522-6170 ext. 2137.

Sincerely,

Terry D. Cole
Tribal Historic Preservation Officer
Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma

By Caren A. Johnson
Administrative Assistant

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

LaRue Parker
Caddo Nation of Oklahoma
P.O. Box 487
Binger, OK 73009

RE: Draft Reconnaissance Survey of the Proposed Westbank N Borrow Area, Plaquemines, Parish, Louisiana (IER #22)

Dear LaRue Parker:

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Mississippi Valley, New Orleans District (CEMVN) is currently identifying borrow sources for its continuing efforts to repair and strengthen levees in Southeastern Louisiana. The proposed 76 acre Westbank N borrow area, Plaquemines Parish, is located in Township 15S, Range 24E, Sections 45, 47, 74, and 75. CEMVN contracted Earth Search, Inc. to complete a Phase I cultural resource survey of the proposed Westbank N borrow pit. Earth Search, Inc. has completed the draft report, and CEMVN is pleased to present the report to your office for your review. Information regarding this cultural resource survey will be included in the Individual Environmental Report #22.

The proposed borrow pit would be excavated to a maximum depth of 20 feet below ground surface. Walker Road would provide access to the proposed borrow site. Given that the proposed action has the potential to impact cultural resources, the CEMVN requests that the Caddo Nation of Oklahoma review the project as per 36 CFR 800.3(c).

The draft report includes the results of background research, a literature review, site record search, and the field work. A total of 87 STPS were excavated and no historic or prehistoric material. ESI concludes that “No historic or prehistoric cultural remains were recovered as a result of the reconnaissance survey of the project area. Excavation of the area should have no affect on historic resources, and no further investigations are necessary”. The draft report and a copy of this letter have been submitted to Mr. Rober Cast of the Caddo Nation of Oklahoma for review and comment.

The CEMVN believes that the existing evidence suggests that the proposed 76 acre proposed Westbank N borrow pit does not contain unrecorded cultural resources. The CEMVN therefore believes that cultural resources will not be impacted if this land is excavated as a
borrow pit and recommends that the borrow area be developed as proposed. In the event that unanticipated discoveries are encountered, work will stop immediately and consulting parties will be contacted. We request that you review this information pursuant to National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, (36 CFR 800.3.) and provide comment. If you require additional information, please contact Valerie McCormack at 504-862-2167.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Elizabeth Wiggins
Chief, Environmental Planning
and Compliance Branch

CF: Mr. Rober Cast, Caddo Nation of Oklahoma
Planning, Programs, and
Project Management Division
Environmental Planning
and Compliance Branch.
Attn: CEMVN-PM-RN

Kevin Battise
Alabama Coushatta Tribe of Texas
571 State Park Rd. 56
Livingston, TX 77351

RE: Draft Reconnaissance Survey of the Proposed Westbank N Borrow
Area, Plaquemines, Parish, Louisiana (IER #22)

Dear Kevin Battise:

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Mississippi Valley, New Orleans District (CEMVN) is currently identifying borrow sources for its continuing efforts to repair and strengthen levees in Southeastern Louisiana. The proposed 76 acre Westbank N borrow area, Plaquemines Parish, is located in Township 15S, Range 24E, Sections 45, 47, 74, and 75. CEMVN contracted Earth Search, Inc. to complete a Phase I cultural resource survey of the proposed Westbank N borrow pit. Earth Search, Inc. has completed the draft report, and CEMVN is pleased to present the report to your office for your review. Information regarding this cultural resource survey will be included in the Individual Environmental Report #22.

The proposed borrow pit would be excavated to a maximum depth of 20 feet below ground surface. Walker Road would provide access to the proposed borrow site. Given that the proposed action has the potential to impact cultural resources, the CEMVN requests that the Alabama Coushatta Tribe of Texas review of the project as per 36 CFR 800.3(c).

The draft report includes the results of background research, a literature review, site record search, and the field work. A total of 87 STPS were excavated and no historic or prehistoric material. ESI concludes that “No historic or prehistoric cultural remains were recovered as a result of the reconnaissance survey of the project area. Excavation of the area should have no affect on historic resources, and no further investigations are necessary. The draft report and a copy of this letter have been submitted to Ms. Beryl Battise of the Alabama Coushatta Tribe of Texas for review and comment.

The CEMVN believes that the existing evidence suggests that the proposed 76 acre proposed Westbank N borrow pit does not contain unrecorded cultural resources. The CEMVN therefore believes that cultural resources will not be impacted if this land is excavated as a
borrow pit and recommends that the borrow area be developed as proposed. In the event that unanticipated discoveries are encountered, work will stop immediately and consulting parties will be contacted. We request that you review this information pursuant to National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, (36 CFR 800.3.) and provide comment. If you require additional information, please contact Valerie McCormack at 504-862-2167.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Elizabeth Wiggins
Chief, Environmental Planning
and Compliance Branch

CF: Ms. Beryl Battise, Alabama Coushatta Tribe of Texas
Planning, Programs, and
Project Management Division
Environmental Planning
and Compliance Branch.
Attn: CEMVN-PM-RN

Chairman Earl Barbry Sr.
Tunica-Biloxi Tribe of Louisiana
P.O. Box 1589
Marksville, LA 71351

RE: Draft Reconnaissance Survey of the Proposed Westbank N Borrow Area, Plaquemines, Parish, Louisiana (IER #22)

Dear Chairman Barbry:

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Mississippi Valley, New Orleans District (CEMVN) is currently identifying borrow sources for its continuing efforts to repair and strengthen levees in Southeastern Louisiana. The proposed 76 acre Westbank N borrow area, Plaquemines Parish, is located in Township 15S, Range 24E, Sections 45, 47, 74, and 75. CEMVN contracted Earth Search, Inc. to complete a Phase I cultural resource survey of the proposed Westbank N borrow pit. Earth Search, Inc. has completed the draft report, and CEMVN is pleased to present the report to your office for your review. Information regarding this cultural resource survey will be included in the Individual Environmental Report #22.

The proposed borrow pit would be excavated to a maximum depth of 20 feet below ground surface. Walker Road would provide access to the proposed borrow site. Given that the proposed action has the potential to impact cultural resources, the CEMVN requests that the Tunica-Biloxi Tribe of Louisiana review of the project as per 36 CFR 800.3(c).

The draft report includes the results of background research, a literature review, site record search, and the field work. A total of 87 STPS were excavated and no historic or prehistoric material. ESI concludes that “No historic or prehistoric cultural remains were recovered as a result of the reconnaissance survey of the project area. Excavation of the area should have no affect on historic resources, and no further investigations are necessary”. The draft report and a copy of this letter have been submitted to Earl Barbry, Jr. of the Tunica-Biloxi Tribe of Louisiana for review and comment.

The CEMVN believes that the existing evidence suggests that the proposed 76 acre proposed Westbank N borrow pit does not contain unrecorded cultural resources. The CEMVN therefore believes that cultural resources will not be impacted if this land is excavated as a
borrow pit and recommends that the borrow area be developed as proposed. In the event that unanticipated discoveries are encountered, work will stop immediately and consulting parties will be contacted. We request that you review this information pursuant to National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, (36 CFR 800.3.) and provide comment. If you require additional information, please contact Valerie McCormack at 504-862-2167.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Elizabeth Wiggins
Chief, Environmental Planning
and Compliance Branch

CF: Earl Barbry, Jr., Tunica-Biloxi Tribe of Louisiana
Planning, Programs, and
Project Management Division
Environmental Planning
and Compliance Branch.
Attn: CEMVN-PM-RN

John Berrey
Quapaw Tribe of Oklahoma
P.O. Box 765
Quapaw, OK 74363

RE: Draft Reconnaissance Survey of the Proposed Westbank N Borrow
Area, Plaquemines, Parish, Louisiana (IER #22)

Dear John Berrey:

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Mississippi Valley, New Orleans District (CEMVN) is currently identifying borrow sources for its continuing efforts to repair and strengthen levees in Southeastern Louisiana. The proposed 76 acre Westbank N borrow area, Plaquemines Parish, is located in Township 15S, Range 24E, Sections 45, 47, 74, and 75. CEMVN contracted Earth Search, Inc. to complete a Phase I cultural resource survey of the proposed Westbank N borrow pit. Earth Search, Inc. has completed the draft report, and CEMVN is pleased to present the report to your office for your review. Information regarding this cultural resource survey will be included in the Individual Environmental Report #22.

The proposed borrow pit would be excavated to a maximum depth of 20 feet below ground surface. Walker Road would provide access to the proposed borrow site. Given that the proposed action has the potential to impact cultural resources, the CEMVN requests that the Quapaw Tribe of Oklahoma review of the project as per 36 CFR 800.3(c).

The draft report includes the results of background research, a literature review, site record search, and the field work. A total of 87 STPS were excavated and no historic or prehistoric material. ESI concludes that “No historic or prehistoric cultural remains were recovered as a result of the reconnaissance survey of the project area. Excavation of the area should have no affect on historic resources, and no further investigations are necessary”. A copy of this letter and the draft report have been submitted to Ms. Carrie V. Wilson of the Quapaw Tribe of Oklahoma for review and comment.

The CEMVN believes that the existing evidence suggests that the proposed 76 acre proposed Westbank N borrow pit does not contain unrecorded cultural resources. Communication between CEMVN staff archaeologist Dr. Valerie McCormack and with your
Tribal Preservation Officer Ms. Carrie V. Wilson reveal that the Quapaw Tribe of Oklahoma prefers to review borrow projects in Orleans Parish Louisiana. While this project lies in Plaquemines Parish, CEMVN invites comments from the Quapaw Tribe of Oklahoma in order to meet CEMVN responsibilities under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, (36 CFR 800.3) and Executive Order 13175 that directs Government-to-Government consultation. If you or anyone in your organization desires a copy of this report or other material relating to this project please contact, please contact Dr. Valerie McCormack at 504-862-2167.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Elizabeth Wiggins
Chief, Environmental Planning
and Compliance Branch
Mr. Carleton:

I am resending a message regarding a proposed borrow pit in Plaquemines Parish. I have not yet received a response from you. Since you typically respond quickly, I'm not sure if you received this e-mail or if it became buried among your many e-mails.

Thanks,
Valerie

-----Original Message-----
From: McCormack, Valerie J MVN
Sent: Friday, November 30, 2007 10:01 AM
To: Kenneth H. Carleton (kcarleton@choctaw.org)
Subject: Proposed Westbank N borrow, Plaquemines Parish

Dear Mr. Carleton:

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New Orleans District (CEMVN) is proposing to develop the Westbank N borrow pit in Plaquemines Parish, Louisiana. Sediment from the borrow will be used for levee repair and improvements for coastal and hurricane protection. Summary information on these investigations will appear in the Individual Environmental Report # 22, a National Environmental Policy Act document. Earth Search, Inc. under contract to CEMVN conducted a reconnaissance survey of the project area. No cultural resources were identified within the Area of Potential Effects following the completion of background research and fieldwork. Information regarding the investigations can be found in the attached report. Also a letter from CEMVN to Chief Denson requesting Section 106 review is attached.

We request that the Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians review this information as per the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended (36 CFR 800.3) and provide comment. Also please inform us, if you choose not to provide comment. If you require additional information or have any questions, please contact me at the phone number below or e-mail me.

In addition, if you prefer to be notified by a hard copy please inform me, and I will send you information through the postal service in the future.

For more information on NEPA alternative arrangements please visit www.nolaenvironmental.gov

Valerie J. McCormack
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
New Orleans District
Planning, Programs, and Project Management Division
Environmental Planning and Compliance Branch
Cultural Resources
504-862-2167
Dear Mr. Bowlegs:

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New Orleans District (CEMVN) is proposing to develop the Westbank N borrow pit in Plaquemines Parish, Louisiana. Sediment from the borrow will be used for levee repair and improvements for coastal and hurricane protection. Summary information on these investigations will appear in the Individual Environmental Report # 22, a National Environmental Policy Act document. Earth Search, Inc. under contract to CEMVN conducted a reconnaissance survey of the project area. No cultural resources were identified within the Area of Potential Effects following the completion of background research and fieldwork. Information regarding the investigations can be found in the attached report. Also a letter from CEMVN to Principal Chief Haney requesting Section 106 review is attached.

We request that the Seminole Nation of Oklahoma review this information as per the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended (36 CFR 800.3) and provide comment. Also please inform us, if you choose not to provide comment. If you require additional information or have any questions, please contact me at the phone number below or e-mail me.

In addition, if you prefer to be notified by a hard copy please inform me, and I will send you information through the postal service in the future.

For more information on NEPA alternative arrangements please visit www.nolaenvironmental.gov

Cheers,
Valerie McCormack

P.S. Pare--I'm expecting to send out two more letters on borrow pits in the next week or so. I believe it will be a few months before we have the Phase I investigations completed on more borrow pits.

Valerie J. McCormack
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
New Orleans District
Planning, Programs, and Project Management Division
   Environmental Planning and Compliance Branch
Cultural Resources
504-862-2167
McCormack, Valerie J MVN

From: EIS Exchange Service Account
Sent: Friday, November 30, 2007 10:49 AM
To: McCormack, Valerie J MVN
Subject: Delivery Status Notification (Relay)

Attachments: ATT464708.txt; ATT464709.txt

This is an automatically generated Delivery Status Notification.

Your message has been successfully relayed to the following recipients, but the requested delivery status notifications may not be generated by the destination.

culture@caddonation-nsn.gov

McCormack, Valerie J MVN

From: McCormack, Valerie J MVN
Sent: Friday, November 30, 2007 10:48 AM
To: Beryl Battise (histpres@actribe.org)
Subject: Proposed Westbank N borrow pit, Plaquemines parish

Attachments: WestBankNDraft.pdf; WestbankN_ALCoushatta.pdf

Dear Ms. Battise:

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New Orleans District (CEMVN) is proposing to develop the Westbank N borrow pit in Plaquemines Parish, Louisiana. Sediment from the borrow will be used for levee repair and improvements for coastal and hurricane protection. Summary information on these investigations will appear in the Individual Environmental Report # 22, a National Environmental Policy Act document. Earth Search, Inc. under contract to CEMVN conducted a reconnaissance survey of the project area. No cultural resources were identified within the Area of Potential Effects following the completion of background research and fieldwork. Information regarding the investigations can be found in the attached report. Also a letter from CEMVN to Chairman Battise requesting Section 106 review is attached.

We request that the Alabama Coushatta Tribe of Texas review this information as per the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended (36 CFR 800.3) and provide comment. Also please inform us, if you choose not to provide comment. If you require additional information or have any questions, please contact me at the phone number below or e-mail me.

In addition, if you prefer to be notified by a hard copy please inform me, and I will send you information through the postal service in the future.

For more information on NEPA alternative arrangements please visit
Dear Mr. Cast:

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New Orleans District (CEMVN) is proposing to develop the Westbank N borrow pit in Plaquemines Parish, Louisiana. Sediment from the borrow will be used for levee repair and improvements for coastal and hurricane protection. Summary information on these investigations will appear in the Individual Environmental Report #22, a National Environmental Policy Act document. Earth Search, Inc. under contract to CEMVN conducted a reconnaissance survey of the project area. No cultural resources were identified within the Area of Potential Effects following the completion of background research and fieldwork. Information regarding the investigations can be found in the attached report. Also a letter from CEMVN to Chairperson Parker requesting Section 106 review is attached.

We request that the Caddo Nation of Oklahoma review this information as per the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended (36 CFR 800.3) and provide comment. Also please inform us, if you choose not to provide comment. If you require additional information or have any questions, please contact me at the phone number below or e-mail me.

In addition, if you prefer to be notified by a hard copy please inform me, and I will send you information through the postal service in the future.

For more information on NEPA alternative arrangements please visit www.nolaenvironmental.gov
Dear Mr. Carleton:

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New Orleans District (CEMVN) is proposing to develop the Westbank N borrow pit in Plaquemines Parish, Louisiana. Sediment from the borrow will be used for levee repair and improvements for coastal and hurricane protection. Summary information on these investigations will appear in the Individual Environmental Report # 22, a National Environmental Policy Act document. Earth Search, Inc. under contract to CEMVN conducted a reconnaissance survey of the project area. No cultural resources were identified within the Area of Potential Effects following the completion of background research and fieldwork. Information regarding the investigations can be found in the attached report. Also a letter from CEMVN to Chief Denson requesting Section 106 review is attached.

We request that the Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians review this information as per the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended (36 CFR 800.3) and provide comment. Also please inform us, if you choose not to provide comment. If you require additional information or have any questions, please contact me at the phone number below or e-mail me.

In addition, if you prefer to be notified by a hard copy please inform me, and I will send you information through the postal service in the future.

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Valerie J. McCormack
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
New Orleans District
Planning, Programs, and Project Management Division
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