



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

REPLY TO
 ATTENTION OF:

October 1, 2008

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

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

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

Scott Hutcheson 11-10-08
 Scott Hutcheson Date
 State Historic Preservation Officer

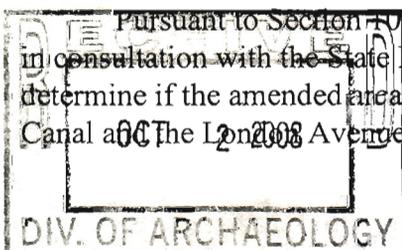
RE: Request to Continue Consultation Under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act for the Lake Ponchartrain and Vicinity Hurricane Protection Project, Orleans East Bank Outfall Canals, Individual Environmental Report #5, Jefferson and Orleans Parishes, Louisiana.

Dear Mr. Hutcheson:

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Mississippi Valley Division, New Orleans District (CEMVN), is amending the Area of Potential Effects (APE) for the project area currently being studied under Individual Environmental Report #5, Lake Ponchartrain and Vicinity Hurricane Protection Project, Orleans East Bank Outfall Canals, Individual Environmental Report #5, Jefferson and Orleans Parishes, Louisiana. This amendment shifts the Orleans Avenue Canal APE to the north and slightly extends the London Avenue Canal APE north to Lakeshore Drive. No changes are proposed to the 17th Street Canal APE.

In our letter to your office dated February 22, 2008, the District provided project documentation in support of a "no historic properties affected" finding for the three original project APE's located at Orleans Avenue, London Avenue, and 17th Street Canals. Your office concurred with our opinion in a letter dated March 17, 2008. Copies of these letters are attached herein.

Pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA), the District, in consultation with the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) and Indian Tribes, will determine if the amended areas of potential effects (APE) established for the Orleans Avenue Canal and the London Avenue Canal contains historic properties.



The amended Orleans Canal APE, as proposed, is approximately 30 acres in size and has been shifted to the north where it now partially extends into Lake Pontchartrain. The amended APE for the London Avenue has been slightly extended north approximately 140 feet and is now adjacent to south side of Lakeshore Drive. Maps showing the boundaries of the amended APE's are attached herein.

Proposed activities in the APE's include the construction of a new permanent pump station and gates at or near the mouth of each of the outfall canals operating in series with the existing Sewerage and Water Board of New Orleans (SWBNO) pump stations (PS). Under normal conditions, the gates would remain open and bypass flow through the new pump station. During those events where the combination of storm surge from Lake Pontchartrain and flow from the existing SWBNO pump stations could create a condition where the safe water elevation in the canals is exceeded, the gates would be closed and the new pump stations operated. The existing SWBNO PS #3, #4, #6, and #7 would remain in service and operate concurrently or in series with the new pump stations and the outfall canals would continue to convey stormwater from the SWBNO pump stations to the new pump stations. The proposed action leaves in place the floodwalls that flank the outfall canals, and these floodwalls would remain an integral part of the city's internal flood protection system. The floodwalls on the protected side of the new pump stations would be maintained in their current condition and would not be reconstructed.

In a recent cultural resources investigation conducted by R. Christopher Goodwin & Associates, Inc, researchers utilized background research, previous cultural resource investigation review, soil and topographic analyses, field reconnaissance data, and remote sensing survey data to assess historic structures, identify high potential areas for archaeological resources, and locate remote sensing targets exhibiting cultural resources characteristics in the IER #5 study area (Heller et al. 2008). This study evaluated the amended APE locations. No terrestrial or submerged cultural resources were identified in the amended Orleans Avenue Canal or London Avenue Canal APE's.

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

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

Sincerely,



For Elizabeth Wiggins
Chief, Environmental Planning
and Compliance Branch

Enclosures

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

References Cited

Heller, Nathanael, Troy J. Nowak, Kathryn A. Ryberg, Katy Coyle, Lindsay Hannah, and Ginny Jones.

2008 *Management Summary: Phase I Cultural Resources Survey and Archeological Inventory of the Lake Pontchartrain and Vicinity Project, Individual Environmental Report Area 5 (IER #5), Jefferson and Orleans Parishes, Louisiana.* Prepared by R. Christopher Goodwin & Associates, Inc., New Orleans. On file, New Orleans District Corps of Engineers.