Date: 9/10/99
To: Laura Wilkinson
Fax No.: 504-862-2897
Subject: JEN #9
Pages: 3, including this cover sheet.
Comments:

Michael Trusclair, District Conservationist
14246 U.S. Hwy. 90
Boutte, LA 70039
Phone: 985-758-2162 ext. 3
Fax: 985-758-7734
# FARMLAND CONVERSION IMPACT RATING

## PART I (To be completed by Federal Agency)

Name Of Project: Individual Environmental Report (IER) #9

Federal Agency Involved: USACE CEMVN

Proposed Land Use: Flood Control Structures (Floodwalls & Gates)

County And State: St. Bernard Parish, Louisiana

Date Of Land Evaluation Request: 9/9/09

## PART II (To be completed by NRCS)

Does the site contain prime, unique, statewide or local important farmland? (If no, the FPPA does not apply – do not complete additional parts of this form).

- Yes ☐ No ☑

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Major Crop(s)</th>
<th>Farmable Land In Govt. Jurisdiction Acres:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Soybeans</td>
<td>19.734 % of 232 Acres</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name Of Land Evaluation System Used:</th>
<th>Name Of Local Site Assessment System:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>St. Bernard Far'r'y</td>
<td>none</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Date Request Received By NRCS: 9/9/09

## PART III (To be completed by Federal Agency)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Site A</th>
<th>Site B</th>
<th>Site C</th>
<th>Site D</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10.0</td>
<td>0.0</td>
<td>0.0</td>
<td>0.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## PART IV (To be completed by NRCS) Land Evaluation Information

| A. Total Acres To Be Converted Directly | 10.0 |
| B. Total Acres To Be Converted Indirectly | 0.0 |
| C. Total Acres Converted In Site | 10.0 |

## PART V (To be completed by NRCS) Land Evaluation Criterion

| Relative Value Of Farmland To Be Converted (Scale of 0 to 100 Points) | 88 |

## PART VI (To be completed by Federal Agency) Site Assessment Criteria (These criteria are explained in 7 CFR 659.3b)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Maximum Points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Area In Nonurban Use</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Perimeter In Nonurban Use</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Percent Of Site Being Farmed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Protection Provided By State And Local Government</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Distance From Urban Buildup Area</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Distance To Urban Support Services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. Size Of Present Farm Unit Compared To Average</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. Creation Of Nonfarmable Farmland</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9. Availability Of Farm Support Services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10. On-Farm Investments</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11. Effects Of Conversion On Farm Support Services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12. Compatibility With Existing Agricultural Use</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

TOTAL SITE ASSESSMENT POINTS: 160

## PART VII (To be completed by Federal Agency)

Relative Value Of Farmland (From Part V): 100

Total Site Assessment (From Part VI above or a local site assessment): 160

TOTAL POINTS (Total of above 2 lines): 260

Site Selected: Date Of Selection: Was A Local Site Assessment Used?: Yes ☐ No ☑

Reason For Selection:

*(See Instructions on reverse side)*
December 30, 2009

Ms. Joan M. Exnicios  
Chief, Environmental Planning and Compliance Branch  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
Planning, Programs, and Project Management Division  
P.O. Box 60267  
New Orleans, Louisiana 70160-0267

Dear Ms. Exnicios:

RE: IER # 9 LAKE PONTCHARTRAIN AND VICINITY  
CAERNARVON FLOODWALL  
ST. BERNARD PARISH, LOUISIANA

In response to your request for NRCS review of the referenced project site location to identify natural resource constraints, if any, that may impact design and permitting, I have reviewed the Farmland and Hydric Soil Classifications.

Farmland Classification

The Farmland Protection Policy Act (FPPA)-Subtitle I of Title XV, Section 1539-1549 of PL 97-98, final rules and regulations were published in the Federal Register on June 17, 1994. These rules state that projects are subject to FPPA requirements if they may irreversibly convert farmland (directly or indirectly) to nonagricultural use and are completed by a federal agency or with assistance from a federal agency. For the purpose of FPPA, farmland includes prime farmland, unique farmland, and land of statewide or local importance. Farmland subject to FPPA requirements does not have to be currently used for cropland. It can be forestland, pastureland, cropland, or other land, but not water or urban built-up land.

NRCS policy clarifies the Rule by stating that activities not subject to FPPA include:

1. Federal permitting and licensing  
2. Projects planned and completed without assistance of a federal agency  
3. Projects on land already in urban development or used for water storage  
5. Construction for national defense purposes  
6. Construction of on-farm structures needed for farm operations  
7. Surface mining, where restoration to agricultural use is planned  
8. Construction of new minor secondary structures, such as a garage or storage shed.
Ms. Exnicios  
December 30, 2009  
Page 2 of 2

The soils on the proposed Caernarvon Floodwall are in the vicinity of Prime Farmland, however, since the project is within an urban area of St. Bernard Parish and is "built-up", there will be no impact to prime farmland. It appears the project will not impact any NRCS work in the immediate area. Also, this project will not impact any farmland protection efforts in the area.

I have attached the Farmland Classification with this response for your convenience and use.

Should you have any questions regarding the above comments, feel free to contact Mike Trusclair, District Conservationist, in our Boutte Field Office at (985) 758-2162, Ext. 3.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

E. J. "Ed" Giering, P.E.  
State Conservation Engineer

cc: Mike Trusclair, District Conservationist, NRCS, Boutte, Louisiana
MAP LEGEND

Area of Interest (AOI)

Soils

Area of Interest (AOI)

Soil Map Units

Soil Ratings

All areas are prime farmland
Prime farmland if drained
Prime farmland if protected from flooding or not frequently flooded during the growing season
Prime farmland if irrigated and either protected from flooding or not frequently flooded during the growing season
Prime farmland if irrigated and drained

Prime farmland if subsoiled, completely removing the root inhibiting soil layer
Prime farmland if irrigated and the product of I (soil erodibility) x C (climate factor) does not exceed 60
Prime farmland if irrigated and reclaimed of excess salts and sodium
Farmland of statewide importance
Farmland of local importance
Farmland of unique importance
Not rated or not available

Political Features

Cities

Water Features

Oceans
Streams and Canals

Transportation

Rails
Interstate Highways

US Routes
Major Roads
Local Roads

MAP INFORMATION

Map Scale: 1:2,520 if printed on A size (8.5" x 11") sheet.
The soil surveys that comprise your AOI were mapped at 1:24,000.

Please rely on the bar scale on each map sheet for accurate map measurements.

Source of Map: Natural Resources Conservation Service
Coordinate System: UTM Zone 16N NAD83

This product is generated from the USDA-NRCS certified data as of the version date(s) listed below.

Soil Survey Area: St. Bernard Parish, Louisiana
Survey Area Data: Version 8, Sep 8, 2009

Date(s) aerial images were photographed: 9/20/2007

The orthophoto or other base map on which the soil lines were compiled and digitized probably differs from the background imagery displayed on these maps. As a result, some minor shifting of map unit boundaries may be evident.
Farmland Classification

| Farmland Classification — Summary by Map Unit — St. Bernard Parish, Louisiana |
|-------------------------------------------------|----------------|----------------|-----------------|
| Map unit symbol | Map unit name | Rating | Acres in AOI | Percent of AOI |
| AD | Aquent, dredged, frequently flooded | Not prime farmland | 2.2 | 58.2% |
| Cm | Canclenne silt loam | All areas are prime farmland | 1.5 | 37.8% |
| Va | Vacherie silt loam, gently undulating | All areas are prime farmland | 0.2 | 4.0% |
| **Totals for Area of Interest** | | | **3.8** | **100.0%** |

Description

Farmland classification identifies map units as prime farmland, farmland of statewide importance, farmland of local importance, or unique farmland. It identifies the location and extent of the soils that are best suited to food, feed, fiber, forage, and oilseed crops. NRCS policy and procedures on prime and unique farmlands are published in the "Federal Register," Vol. 43, No. 21, January 31, 1978.

Rating Options

Aggregation Method: No Aggregation Necessary

Tie-break Rule: Lower