



US Army Corps
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New Orleans District

News Release

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Corps public meeting provides update on plans to reduce risk from storm surge

NEW ORLEANS - The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New Orleans District, is hosting a public meeting on Tuesday, Jul. 1, 2008 at St. Dominic School's gymnasium, 6326 Memphis St., in Lakeview to discuss development of the Greater New Orleans Hurricane and Storm Damage Risk Reduction System.

The meeting presentation will discuss the proposed action that will reduce risk of Lake Borgne storm surge to communities in St. Bernard and Orleans parishes including New Orleans East, Lower Ninth Ward and the majority of the Orleans East Bank Sub-Basin (IER 11 Tier 2 Borgne). Project managers will also discuss plans to improve the New Orleans Lakefront Levee west of the Industrial Canal (IER 4) and review the process being used to determine the proposed action for the Outfall Canal Closure Structures (IER 5).

"Each alternative under IER 5 meets the 100-year protection level standards and are thus, equal in the level of protection they will provide," said John Ashley, branch chief for the Corps' Permanent Protection System for the Outfall Canals. "The way we achieve that protection varies from one alternative to the next."

An open house begins at 6:00 p.m. and is followed by a presentation at 7 p.m. The meeting presentation will also include a brief overview of the potential areas from which borrow material may be obtained. Borrow is a specific type of clay the Corps needs to upgrade the current levee system. A discussion period will follow the presentation.

Public meetings are part of the Corps' commitment to meet National Environmental Policy Act alternative arrangements for environmental compliance efforts and to provide construction updates on the hurricane system that will reduce risk associated with a storm event that has a one percent chance of occurring in any given year. Alternative arrangements allow

the Corps to expedite the environmental process required of all federally funded projects while fully complying with the intent of the NEPA.

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

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For more information or to sign up to be on a meeting notification list please visit the following web site: www.nolaenvironmental.gov.

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