Public safety is the Corps of Engineers’ top priority. Congress has fully authorized and funded the Hurricane and Storm Damage Risk Reduction System (HSDRRS) for southeast Louisiana. The $14.45 billion HSDRRS includes five parishes and consists of 350 miles of levees and floodwalls; 73 non-Federal pumping stations; 3 canal closure structures with pumps; and 4 gated outlets.

Project Summary
The Western Tie-In project area is located on the west bank of the Mississippi River in the western portion of Jefferson Parish and the eastern portion of St. Charles Parish. Once completed, it will link the Lake Cataouatche earthen levee to the Mississippi River Levee system in Ama, LA. Communities benefiting from the Western Tie-In project include Ama, Waggaman, Avondale and Bridge City.

The structural features being built by the Corps will reduce the risk associated with a storm surge event that has a one percent chance of occurring in any given year, or a 100-year storm surge. The total construction value of the project is an estimated $140 million.

Project Features
The Western Tie-In project consists of approximately 4.5 miles of levees and floodwalls along the Davis Pond Freshwater Diversion Canal and Outer Cataouatche Canal. The Western Tie-In also includes a navigable closure structure across Bayou Verret for maritime access, an elevated crossing at Hwy 90, two railroad gates and a second highway crossing that ties into the Mississippi River Levee.

Project Status
All eight Western Tie-In contracts have been awarded and have features in place to defend against a 100-year storm surge event. Seven of these contracts are substantially complete. All construction will be completed before the 2013 hurricane season.