## DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY



NORTH ATLANTIC DIVISION, CORPS OF ENGINEERS FORT HAMILTON MILITARY COMMUNITY BROOKLYN, NY 11252-6700

REPLY TO ATTENTION OF

CEPCX-CSDR

8 June 2009

MEMORANDUM FOR: Commander, Mississippi Valley Division, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, ATTN: Mr. Robert Fitzgerald, CEMVD-RB, P.O. Box 80, Vicksburg, Mississippi, 39181-0080

SUBJECT: PCX-CSDR Endorsement of Independent External Peer Review of West Bank and Vicinity LA (WBV) Project Description Document (PDD) and Individual Environmental Report (IER) for Providing 100-Year Level of Risk Reduction to the Harvey-Algiers Canal

- 1. The National Planning Center of Expertise for Coastal and Storm Damage Reduction (PCX-CSDR) managed the Independent External Peer Review (IEPR) of the WBV PDD and IER for Providing 100-Year Level of Risk Reduction to the Harvey-Algiers Canal for Task Force Hope (TFH). IEPR was conducted by Battelle Corporation through their contract with the Army Research Office. The IEPR panel consisted of 5 individuals selected by Battelle with technical expertise in geotechnical, structural, hydraulic, mechanical, operations and maintenance, and civil engineering; and environmental science. Overall, 144 comments, 20 being flagged as critical, were entered into Dr. Checks. All comments were resolved. The final report of the IEPR panel is entitled, "Final Independent External Peer Review Report- West Bank and Vicinity, LA (WBV) Project Description Document (PDD) and Individual Environmental Report (IER) for Providing 100-Year Level of Risk Reduction to the Harvey-Algiers Canal, May 27, 2009."
- 2. Responses to the IEPR comments were prepared by the New Orleans District Office (MVN) and results of this process should be communicated by MVN to USACE Headquarters. TFH should post the enclosed report on their website and the PCX-CSDR, MVD, and CECW-P should establish links to this website.
- 3. In summary, the IEPR for the WBV PDD and IER for Providing 100-Year Level of Risk Reduction to the Harvey-Algiers Canal was conducted in accordance with EC1105-2-410, has been fully coordinated with the PCX-CSDR, and the PCX-CSDR endorses the "Final Independent External Peer Review Report- West Bank and Vicinity, LA (WBV) Project Description Document (PDD) and Individual Environmental Report (IER) for Providing 100-Year Level of Risk Reduction to the Harvey-Algiers Canal, May 27, 2009."

4. For further information, please contact me at 917-613-3873, Mr. Larry Cocchieri, Deputy Director at (718) 765-7071 or Ms. Amy Guise, PCX TEPR lead at 410-962-2558.

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JOSEPH R. VIETRI

Director, National Planning Center of Expertise for Coastal Storm Damage

Reduction

CEPCX-CSDR 8 June 2009

SUBJECT: PCX-CSDR Endorsement of Independent External Peer Review for the West Bank and Vicinity (WBV) Project Description Document (PDD) and Alternative Evaluation Process (AEP) for Providing 100-Year Level of Protection to the Harvey-Algiers Canal

## CF:

CENAB-PL-P (Guise)

CENAB-EN (Fritz)

CEPCX-CSDR (Cocchieri)

TFH, Director, Ms. Karen Durham-Aguilera (CEMVN-TFH)

CEMVN Commander, Colonel Alvin Lee (CEMVN)

CEMVN-PM-O (Thomas Podany)

CEMVN-PM-O (CPT Kimberly Giles)

CEMVN-PM-OF (Elizabeth Wiggins)

CEMVN-PM-OF (Timothy Connell)

CEMVN-PM-OF (Kevin Wagner)

CEMVN-ED (Walter Baumy)

CEMVN-ED (Jean Vossen)

CEMVN-TFH (Julie LeBlanc)

CEMVD-PD-N (Brian Chewning)

CEMVD-PD-N (Rayford Wilbanks)