



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

REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

CEPCX-CSDR

10 February 2012

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

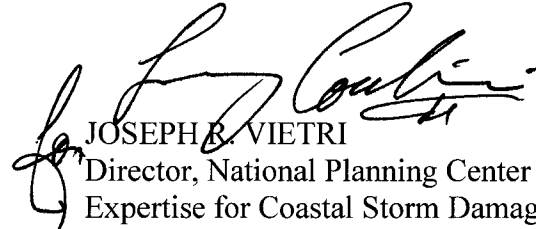
SUBJECT: PCX-CSDR Endorsement of Independent External Peer Review of the Gulf Intracoastal Waterway (GIWW) West Closure Complex (WCC) - Design Review

1. The National Planning Center of Expertise for Coastal and Storm Damage Reduction (PCX-CSDR) managed the Independent External Peer Review (IEPR) for the design phase of the Gulf Intracoastal Waterway (GIWW) West Closure Complex (WCC) Project for Task Force Hope (TFH). The IEPR was conducted by Battelle Memorial Institute through their contract with the Army Research Office. The IEPR panel consisted of 8 individuals selected by Battelle with technical expertise in geotechnical, structural, civil, hydraulic, mechanical, materials, electrical and operations and maintenance engineering. Five major project features were reviewed as part of this IEPR to include the pump station, large sector gate, sluice gate, 404c wall, and closure wall. Overall, 384 comments, 128 being flagged as critical, were entered into Dr. Checks. All comments were closed at the end of the review, with some comments closed with further recommendations. The final report of the IEPR panel is entitled, "Final Independent External Peer Review Design Review Report for the Independent Review of the Greater New Orleans Hurricane and Storm Damage Risk Reduction System (HSDRRS) Gulf Intracoastal Waterway (GIWW) West Closure Complex, December 22, 2011." Section 4.3 of the final report discusses the important and/or critical comments identified by the review panel as well as the recommendations resulting from the comment resolution process.
2. Responses to the IEPR comments were prepared by the Protection Restoration Office (PRO) and results of this process should be communicated by the PRO to MVD. 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 design phase of the Gulf Intracoastal Waterway (GIWW) West Closure Complex (WCC) Project was conducted in accordance with EC1165-2-209, has been fully coordinated with the PCX-CSDR, and the PCX-CSDR endorses the "Final Independent External Peer Review Design Review Report for the Independent Review of the Greater New Orleans Hurricane and Storm Damage Risk Reduction System (HSDRRS) Gulf Intracoastal Waterway (GIWW) West Closure Complex, December 22, 2011."

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4. For further information, please contact me at (917) 613-3873, Mr. Larry Cocchieri, Deputy at (347) 370-4571 or Ms. Amy Guise, PCX IEPR lead at (410) 962-2558.

Encls
as



JOSEPH B. VIETRI
Director, National Planning Center of
Expertise for Coastal Storm Damage
Reduction

CF:
CPD Reading File
CENAB-PL-P (Guise)
CENAB-EN (Fritz)
CEPCX-CSDR (Cocchieri)
TFH, Chief, Michael Park (CEMVN-TFH)
CEMVN Commander, Colonel Edward Fleming (CEMVN)
CEMVN-PM-O (Thomas Podany)
CEMVN-PM-OF (Julie Vignes)
CEMVN-PM-OF (Timothy Connell)
CEMVN-PM-OF (Kevin Wagner)
CEMVN-ED (Walter Baumy)
CEMVN-ED (Jean Vossen)
CEMVN-TFH (Tawanda Wilson-Prater)
CEMVD-PD-N (Brian Chewning)
CEMVD-PD-N (Rayford Wilbanks)