

## **Appendix F**

### **State Historic Preservation Officer Coordination Letter**



SCOTT ANGELLE  
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

**State of Louisiana**  
OFFICE OF THE LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR  
DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE, RECREATION & TOURISM  
OFFICE OF CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT

PAM BREAU  
SECRETARY

July 21, 2010

Ms. Joan Exnicios  
Environmental Planning and Compliance Branch  
New Orleans District, Corps of Engineers  
P.O. Box 60267  
New Orleans, LA 70160-0267

Re: Management Summary of Phase I CRM Investigations  
LA Division of Archaeology Report No. 22-3516  
*Management Summary: Phase I Cultural Resources  
Investigations of the White Ditch Diversion Area,  
Plaquemines Parish, Louisiana*  
R. Christopher Goodwin and Associates, Inc.

Dear Ms. Exnicios:

We are in receipt of your letter dated June 16, 2010, transmitting two copies of the above-cited report. We have completed our review and have the following comments to offer.

We concur with the findings presented in the management summary that four archaeological sites have been found within the project area for construction of a medium diversion area in Plaquemines Parish and the recommendations made in the report regarding each site. Namely, site 16PL15 lacks sufficient integrity to be eligible for the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP); 16PL16's eligibility for the NRHP is currently undetermined due to the presence of human remains that has thus far precluded subsurface investigations; 16PL193 is not eligible for the NRHP; and 16PL194 is also not eligible for the NRHP. In addition, the report considered the disputed location of French Fort De La Boulaye (16PL27), a National Historic Landmark. The project for which these investigations were conducted will not impact the originally reported site of this fort.

Technical comments concerning several items are included with this letter. Please address these as appropriate in the preparation of the draft report for this project and transmit two copies for our further review and comments. In addition, all site forms and site update forms submitted to the Louisiana Division of Archaeology must be accepted before a report can be finalized. Should you have any questions concerning our current comments, do not hesitate to contact Dennis Jones in the Division of Archaeology at (225) 342-6932 or by email at [djones@crt.state.la.us](mailto:djones@crt.state.la.us).

Ms. Joan Exnicios  
July 21, 2010  
Page 2

Sincerely,

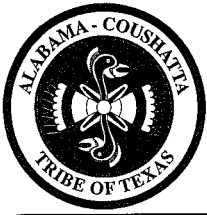
A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Phil Boggan". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, prominent initial "P".

Phil Boggan  
Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer  
SH:DJ:s

C: Mr. Nathanael Heller, R. Christopher Goodwin and Associates, Inc.

## TECHNICAL COMMENTS

1. Page 2, Figure 1. Please label some of the notable geographic features in this figure such as the Mississippi River, Oak River, Shell Bayou, etc. Please add an inset of the entire state of LA showing the location of the project area to this figure.
2. Page 3, Figure 2. Oak River is misnamed River aux Chien (Dog River) in this figure. River aux Chenes would be the proper name. Please add an inset of the entire state of LA showing the location of the project area to this figure.
3. Page 17. Please designate "Location 3" that was inspected for potential cultural resources in Figure 2. Is this the same location as the "single suspected archeological site location [that] was visited as planned in the task order...?"
4. Page 28. Did the human remains observed on the surface at 16PL16 indicate more than a single individual?
5. Page 43. Please include the locations of the Pointe a la Hache Oil and Gas Field, Location 3, and Phoenix, LA in Figure 2.
6. Page 49. Figure 2 should be referenced in the text for the location of 16PL194 and all other archaeological sites.
7. Page 50, Figure 37 and page 53. Mention is made in the text of a new location for the proposed flow constrictor near 16PL194. If possible please show this location in Figure 37. Despite the decision to avoid adverse effect on 16PL194, the Louisiana Division of Archaeology agrees with the recommendation in this management summary that this site contains potential for research as well as human remains. Should any future projects possibly affect this site, Phase II archaeological testing will be necessary to determine the site's eligibility for the NRHP.



# ALABAMA-COUSHATTA TRIBE OF TEXAS

571 State Park Rd 56 • Livingston, Texas 77351 • (936) 563-1100

July 21, 2010

Gary Demarcay  
New Orleans District, Corps of Engineers  
Attn: CEMVN-PM-R  
P.O. Box 60267  
New Orleans, LA 70160-0267

Dear Mr. Demarcay:

On behalf of Mikko Oscola Clayton Sylestine and the Alabama-Coushatta Tribe, our appreciation is expressed on your efforts to consult us regarding the revised White Ditch Management Summary in Plaquemines Parish.

Our Tribe maintains ancestral associations throughout the state of Louisiana despite the absence of written records to completely identify Tribal activities, villages, trails, or grave sites. However, it is our objective to ensure significances of Native American ancestry, especially of the Alabama-Coushatta Tribe, are administered with the utmost attention.

Upon review of your June 23, 2010 submission, the proposed location exists beyond our scope of interest for the state of Louisiana. Therefore, no impacts to religious, cultural, or historical assets of the Alabama-Coushatta Tribe of Texas will occur in conjunction with this proposal.

Should you require additional assistance, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Bryant J. Celestine".

Bryant J. Celestine  
Historic Preservation Officer



**DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY**  
NEW ORLEANS DISTRICT, CORPS OF ENGINEERS  
P.O. BOX 60267  
NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA 70160-0267

APRIL 1, 2009

Planning, Programs, and  
Project Management Division  
Environmental Planning  
And Compliance Branch  
Attn: CEMVN-PM-RN

Mr. Scott Hutcheson  
State Historic Preservation Officer  
Office of Cultural Development  
Department of Culture, Recreation and Tourism  
P.O. Box 4427  
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70804

Dear Mr. Hutcheson:

**Re: Initiation of Section 106 consultation for the White Ditch Diversion Project.**

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New Orleans District is studying the possibility of constructing a diversion canal along the Mississippi River in Plaquemines Parish, Louisiana. Subsidence, erosion, channelization, saltwater intrusion, storm damages and the absence of freshwater, sediments and nutrients from the Mississippi River have all caused significant adverse impacts to the White Ditch project area (attachment), resulting in extensive wetland loss and ecosystem degradation. One of the objectives of this project is to provide additional freshwater, nutrients and fine sediment to the area between the Mississippi River and River aux Chenes ridges. Additional objectives include restoring functional hydrology and improving habitat conditions for fish and wildlife.

Attached is an aerial photograph with the proposed project boundary marked in orange. We have checked the Department of Archaeology web site and have noted that your records show four archaeological sites that are possibly within the proposed project area. These sites are 16PL15, 16PL16, 16PL25 and 16PL81.

We are writing this letter to see if you have any specific concerns regarding this project or about the sites mentioned above. If you do, please contact Gary DeMarcay at (504) 862-2039.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Joan Exnicios".

Joan Exnicios, Acting  
Chief, Environmental Planning  
And Compliance Branch



**DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY**  
**NEW ORLEANS DISTRICT, CORPS OF ENGINEERS**  
**P.O. BOX 60267**  
**NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA 70160-0267**

April 2, 2009

Planning, Programs, and  
Project Management Division  
Environmental Planning  
And Compliance Branch  
Attn: CEMVN-PM-RN

Chairman Mitchell Cypress  
Seminole Tribe of Florida  
6300 Sterling Rd.  
Hollywood, FL 33024

Dear Chairman Cypress:

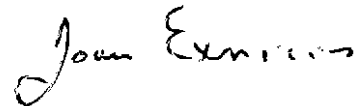
The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New Orleans District is studying the possibility of constructing a diversion canal along the Mississippi River in Plaquemines Parish, Louisiana. Subsidence, erosion, channelization, saltwater intrusion, storm damages and the absence of freshwater, sediments and nutrients from the Mississippi River have all caused significant adverse impacts to the White Ditch project area (attachment), resulting in extensive wetland loss and ecosystem degradation. One of the objectives of this project is to provide additional freshwater, nutrients and fine sediment to the area between the Mississippi River and River aux Chenes ridges. Additional objectives include restoring functional hydrology and improving habitat conditions for fish and wildlife.

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The aerial photograph and site forms have been sent separately to Willard Steele, Tribal Historic Preservation Officer and to Dawn Hutchins, Compliance Review Supervisor, Tribal Historic Preservation Office for any comments on the three sites mentioned above or any other interests the Seminole Tribe of Florida might have in the area.

Thank you for your help with this project. If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact Gary DeMarcey at (504) 862-2039.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Joan Exnicios". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "J".

Joan Exnicios, Acting  
Chief, Environmental Planning  
And Compliance Branch

cc: Willard S. Steele, Tribal Historic Preservation Officer  
Dawn Hutchins, Compliance Review Supervisor  
w/attachments





**DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY**  
NEW ORLEANS DISTRICT, CORPS OF ENGINEERS  
P.O. BOX 60267  
NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA 70160-0267

April 2, 2009

Planning, Programs, and  
Project Management Division  
Environmental Planning  
And Compliance Branch  
Attn: CEMVN-PM-RN

Chairman John Berrey  
Quapaw Tribe of Oklahoma  
P.O. Box 765  
Quapaw, OK 74363

Dear Chairman Berrey:

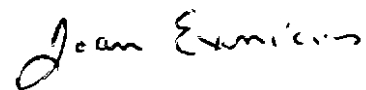
The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New Orleans District is studying the possibility of constructing a diversion canal along the Mississippi River in Plaquemines Parish, Louisiana. Subsidence, erosion, channelization, saltwater intrusion, storm damages and the absence of freshwater, sediments and nutrients from the Mississippi River have all caused significant adverse impacts to the White Ditch project area (attachment), resulting in extensive wetland loss and ecosystem degradation. One of the objectives of this project is to provide additional freshwater, nutrients and fine sediment to the area between the Mississippi River and River aux Chenes ridges. Additional objectives include restoring functional hydrology and improving habitat conditions for fish and wildlife.

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The aerial photograph and site forms have been sent separately to Carrie Wilson, Quapaw Tribe of Oklahoma Historic Preservation Officer for any comments on the three sites mentioned above or any other interests the Quapaw Tribe of Oklahoma might have in the area.

Thank you for your help with this project. If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact Gary DeMarcay at (504) 862-2039.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Joan Exnicios". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "J" and a long, sweeping underline.

Joan Exnicios, Acting  
Chief, Environmental Planning  
And Compliance Branch

cc: Carrie V. Wilson, Historic Preservation Officer



**DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY**  
**NEW ORLEANS DISTRICT, CORPS OF ENGINEERS**  
P.O. BOX 60267  
NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA 70160-0267

April 2, 2009

Planning, Programs, and  
Project Management Division  
Environmental Planning  
And Compliance Branch  
Attn: CEMVN-PM-RN

Chief Beasley Denson  
Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians  
P.O. Box 6257  
Choctaw, MS 39350

Dear Chief Denson:

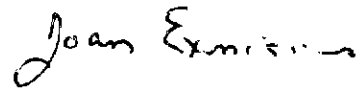
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The aerial photograph and site forms have been sent separately to Kenneth Carleton, Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians Historic Preservation Officer for any comments on the three sites mentioned above or any other interests the Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians might have in the area.

Thank you for your help with this project. If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact Gary DeMarcay at (504) 862-2039.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Joan Exnicios". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Joan Exnicios, Acting  
Chief, Environmental Planning  
And Compliance Branch

cc: Kenneth H. Carleton, Historic Preservation Officer  
w/attachments



**DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY**  
NEW ORLEANS DISTRICT, CORPS OF ENGINEERS  
P.O. BOX 60267  
NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA 70160-0267

April 2, 2009

Planning, Programs, and  
Project Management Division  
Environmental Planning  
And Compliance Branch  
Attn: CEMVN-PM-RN

Principal Chief Christine Norris  
Jena Band of the Choctaw Indians  
P.O. Box 14  
Jena, LA 71342

Dear Chief Norris:

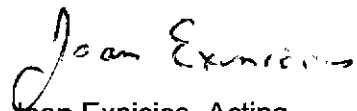
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The aerial photograph and site forms have been sent separately to Lillie McCormack, Jena Band of Choctaw Indians Environmental Director for any comments on the three sites mentioned above or any other interests the Jena Band of Choctaw Indians might have in the area.

Thank you for your help with this project. If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact Gary DeMarca at (504) 862-2039.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Joan Exnicios". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "J".

Joan Exnicios, Acting  
Chief, Environmental Planning  
And Compliance Branch

Cc: Lillie McCormick, Environmental Director



**DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY**  
**NEW ORLEANS DISTRICT, CORPS OF ENGINEERS**  
**P.O. BOX 60267**  
**NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA 70160-0267**

April 2, 2009

Planning, Programs, and  
Project Management Division  
Environmental Planning  
And Compliance Branch  
Attn: CEMVN-PM-RN

Chief Kevin Sickey  
Coushatta Tribe of Louisiana  
P.O. Box 818  
Elton, LA 70532

Dear Chief Sickey:

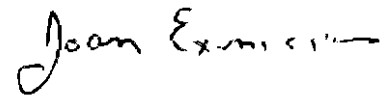
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The aerial photograph and site forms have been sent separately to Bertney and Linda Langley, Coushatta Tribe of Louisiana Cultural Contacts for any comments on the three sites mentioned above or any other interests the Coushatta Tribe might have in the area.

Thank you for your help with this project. If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact Gary DeMarcay at (504) 862-2039.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Joan Exnicios". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal flourish at the end.

Joan Exnicios, Acting  
Chief, Environmental Planning  
And Compliance Branch

cc: Bertney and Linda Langley, Cultural Contacts  
w/attachments





**DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY**  
**NEW ORLEANS DISTRICT, CORPS OF ENGINEERS**  
**P.O. BOX 60267**  
**NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA 70160-0267**

April 2, 2009

Planning, Programs, and  
Project Management Division  
Environmental Planning  
And Compliance Branch  
Attn: CEMVN-PM-RN

Chief Gregory E. Pyle  
Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma  
P.O. Box Drawer 1210  
Durant, OK 74701

Dear Chief Pyle:

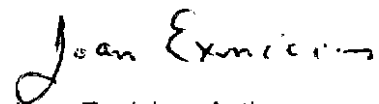
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The aerial photograph and site forms have been sent separately to Terry Cole, Choctaw Tribe of Oklahoma, Director, Tribal Historic Preservation Officer for any comments on the three sites mentioned above or any other interests the Choctaw Tribe of Oklahoma might have in the area.

Thank you for your help with this project. If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact Gary DeMarcay at (504) 862-2039.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Joan Exnicios". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "J".

Joan Exnicios, Acting  
Chief, Environmental Planning  
And Compliance Branch

cc: Terry D. Cole, Director/THPO  
w/attachments



**DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY**  
**NEW ORLEANS DISTRICT, CORPS OF ENGINEERS**  
P.O. BOX 60267  
NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA 70160-0267

April 2, 2009

Planning, Programs, and  
Project Management Division  
Environmental Planning  
And Compliance Branch  
Attn: CEMVN-PM-RN

Chairman Lonnie L. Martin  
Chitimacha Tribe of Louisiana  
P.O. Box 661  
Charenton, LA 70523

Dear Chairman Martin:

**Re: Initiation of Section 106 consultation for the White Ditch Diversion Project.**

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New Orleans District is studying the possibility of constructing a diversion canal along the Mississippi River in Plaquemines Parish, Louisiana. Subsidence, erosion, channelization, saltwater intrusion, storm damages and the absence of freshwater, sediments and nutrients from the Mississippi River have all caused significant adverse impacts to the White Ditch project area (attachment), resulting in extensive wetland loss and ecosystem degradation. One of the objectives of this project is to provide additional freshwater, nutrients and fine sediment to the area between the Mississippi River and River aux Chenes ridges. Additional objectives include restoring functional hydrology and improving habitat conditions for fish and wildlife.

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The aerial photograph and site forms have been sent separately to Kimberly Walden, Chitimacha Tribe of Louisiana Cultural Director for any comments on the three sites mentioned above or any other interests the Chitimacha Tribe might have in the area.

Thank you for your help with this project. If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact Gary DeMarcey at (504) 862-2039.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Joan Exnicios". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "J" and "E".

Joan Exnicios, Acting  
Chief, Environmental Planning  
And Compliance Branch

cc: Kimberly S. Walden, Cultural Director w/attachments



**DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY**  
**NEW ORLEANS DISTRICT, CORPS OF ENGINEERS**  
**P.O. BOX 60267**  
**NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA 70160-0267**

April 1, 2009

Planning, Programs, and  
Project Management Division  
Environmental Planning  
And Compliance Branch  
Attn: CEMVN-PM-RN

Chairperson LaRue Parker  
Caddo Nation of Oklahoma  
P.O. Box 487  
Binger, OK 73009

Dear Chairperson Parker:

**Re: Initiation of Section 106 consultation for the White Ditch Diversion Project.**

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New Orleans District is studying the possibility of constructing a diversion canal along the Mississippi River in Plaquemines Parish, Louisiana. Subsidence, erosion, channelization, saltwater intrusion, storm damages and the absence of freshwater, sediments and nutrients from the Mississippi River have all caused significant adverse impacts to the White Ditch project area (attachment), resulting in extensive wetland loss and ecosystem degradation. One of the objectives of this project is to provide additional freshwater, nutrients and fine sediment to the area between the Mississippi River and River aux Chenes ridges. Additional objectives include restoring functional hydrology and improving habitat conditions for fish and wildlife.

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The aerial photograph and site forms have been sent separately to Robert Cast, Caddo Nation of Oklahoma Historic Preservation Officer.

We are writing this letter to see if you have any specific concerns regarding this project or about the sites mentioned above. If you do, please contact Gary DeMarcay at (504) 862-2039.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Joan Exnicios".

Joan Exnicios, Acting  
Chief, Environmental Planning  
And Compliance Branch

cc: Robert Cast, Historic Preservation Officer



**DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY**  
**NEW ORLEANS DISTRICT, CORPS OF ENGINEERS**  
P.O. BOX 60267  
NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA 70160-0267

APRIL 1, 2009

Planning, Programs, and  
Project Management Division  
Environmental Planning  
And Compliance Branch  
Attn: CEMVN-PM-RN

Principal Chief Oscola Clayton M. Sylestine  
Alabama Coushatta Tribe of Texas  
571 State Park Rd. 56  
Livingston, TX 77351

Dear Principal Chief Sylestine:

**Re: Initiation of Section 106 consultation for the White Ditch Diversion Project.**

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New Orleans District is studying the possibility of constructing a diversion canal along the Mississippi River in Plaquemines Parish, Louisiana. Subsidence, erosion, channelization, saltwater intrusion, storm damages and the absence of freshwater, sediments and nutrients from the Mississippi River have all caused significant adverse impacts to the White Ditch project area (attachment), resulting in extensive wetland loss and ecosystem degradation. One of the objectives of this project is to provide additional freshwater, nutrients and fine sediment to the area between the Mississippi River and River aux Chenes ridges. Additional objectives include restoring functional hydrology and improving habitat conditions for fish and wildlife.

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The aerial photograph and site forms have been sent separately to Bryant Celestine, Alabama Coushatta tribe of Texas Historic Preservation Officer.

We are writing this letter to see if you have any specific concerns regarding this project or about the sites mentioned above. If you do, please contact Gary DeMarcay at (504) 862-2039.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Joan Exnicios".

Joan Exnicios, Acting  
Chief, Environmental Planning  
And Compliance Branch

cc: Bryant J. Celestine  
Historic Preservation Officer  
w/attachments





**DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY**  
**NEW ORLEANS DISTRICT, CORPS OF ENGINEERS**  
**P.O. BOX 60267**  
**NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA 70160-0267**

April 2, 2009

Planning, Programs, and  
Project Management Division  
Environmental Planning  
And Compliance Branch  
Attn: CEMVN-PM-RN

Chairman Earl J. Barbry, Sr.  
Tunica-Biloxi Tribe of Louisiana  
P.O. Box 1589  
Marksville, LA 71351

Dear Chairman Barbry:

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New Orleans District is studying the possibility of constructing a diversion canal along the Mississippi River in Plaquemines Parish, Louisiana. Subsidence, erosion, channelization, saltwater intrusion, storm damages and the absence of freshwater, sediments and nutrients from the Mississippi River have all caused significant adverse impacts to the White Ditch project area (attachment), resulting in extensive wetland loss and ecosystem degradation. One of the objectives of this project is to provide additional freshwater, nutrients and fine sediment to the area between the Mississippi River and River aux Chenes ridges. Additional objectives include restoring functional hydrology and improving habitat conditions for fish and wildlife.

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The aerial photograph and site forms have been sent separately to Earl Barbry, Jr., Tunica-Biloxi Tribe of Louisiana Cultural Director for any comments on the three sites mentioned above or any other interests the Tunica-Biloxi Tribe of Louisiana might have in the area.

Thank you for your help with this project. If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact Gary DeMarcay at (504) 862-2039.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Joan Exnicios". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "J".

Joan Exnicios, Acting  
Chief, Environmental Planning  
And Compliance Branch

cc: Earl Barbry, Jr. Cultural Director  
w/attachments



**DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY**  
**NEW ORLEANS DISTRICT, CORPS OF ENGINEERS**  
P.O. BOX 60267  
NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA 70160-0267  
JUNE 23, 2010

Planning, Programs, and  
Project Management Division  
Environmental Planning  
and Compliance Branch

Chairman Mitchell Cypress  
Seminole Tribe of Florida  
6300 Sterling Rd.  
Hollywood, Florida 33024

**Re: Management Summary, Phase I Cultural Resources Investigation for the White Ditch  
Diversion Area, Plaquemines Parish, Louisiana**

Dear Chairman Cypress:

A copy of this letter and the enclosures are being sent to the Seminole Tribe of Florida Tribal Historic Preservation Officer, Mr. Willard Steele and the Compliance Review Supervisor, Ms. Dawn Hutchins. If you wish to see the attachments, please contact Ms. Deere, or, if you wish you may contact Mr. Gary DeMarcay of my staff at (504) 862-2039.

Enclosed for your review is the Management Summary for the White Ditch Diversion Project. The US Army Corps of Engineers, New Orleans District (CEMVN) and the State of Louisiana proposes to construct a medium diversion near Phoenix, Louisiana in Plaquemines Parish. To build this project a diversion ditch will be constructed and five flow constrictors will be installed. The diversion is expected to divert approximately 35,000 cfs of Mississippi River water into the area south of River aux Chenes in order to replenish fresh water marsh. The diversion will be active seasonally with the greatest flow occurring only during the spring or during other times of high water.

This Phase I inventory was performed by R.C. Goodwin and Associates (Goodwin) under contract with CEMVN. The strategy for the Phase I survey was developed with Mr. Dennis Jones of your office during a helicopter flyover of the project area.

Two previously recorded sites and two new sites were investigated during the survey. In addition the reported location of Fort du Mississippi, also known as Fort De La Boulaye (16PL27) is discussed.

Site 16PL15 (Shell Bayou) was originally recorded on a site card in 1952. It is located on the western bank of Shell Bayou, a distributary that connects Spanish Lake to River aux Chenes. At the time of the recordation the site was described as a shell midden of unknown prehistoric age with a 20<sup>th</sup> century historic component. When originally recorded the site was described as a substantial shell ridge that extended into Shell Bayou. The site has since undergone severe erosion and subsidence and now only a small subsurface deposit of shell measuring

approximately 20 meters by 10 meters remain. A twenty centimeter level of crushed shell was encountered during shovel testing. No artifacts were recovered during the current investigation and apparently none were recovered when originally recorded. Goodwin recommends the site to be not eligible to the National Register of Historic Places. We agree with that recommendation.

Site 16PL16 (Orange Bayou) was also originally recorded in 1952. At that time the site was limited to the right descending bank of Orange Bayou at the intersection of River aux Chenes. It was described as a prehistoric shell midden dating to the Coles Creek and Mississippian periods. During the investigations for the subject project the site was found to be more extensive than originally thought. Rather than being limited to the right descending bank of Orange Bayou the site limits have been expanded to the east and west sides of Orange Bayou and to the south side of River aux Chenes. The Goodwin investigations demonstrated that the site dates to the Coles Creek and Mississippian Periods with the strongest component belonging to the Plaquemine culture, Barataria Phase.

Upon arrival at the site Goodwin noticed human remains scattered on the site's surface. Following the Louisiana Unmarked Human Burials Preservation Act of 1991 the Plaquemines Parish Sheriff's Office and the Plaquemines Parish Coroner's Office were notified and visited the site and examined the remains. It was determined that the human remains dated to the prehistoric period. Following this the CEMVN archaeologist, a representative from the Louisiana Division of Archaeology and the Cultural Director for the Chitimacha Tribe visited the site.

In consultation between CEMVN and the Chitimacha Tribe (the Tribe) the Tribe expressed the belief that the project will have minimal effect on the site and requested that the site not be disturbed by shovel testing. Furthermore, they wish to periodically visit the site to take the remains and place them in deep water and to monitor any effects that the project may have on the site.

Based on the Chitimacha's request, CEMVN did not conduct Phase II investigations to 16PL16 for National Register eligibility. The site is located on the edge of the Area of Potential Effect (APE) and will not be directly affected by construction and any rise in water levels will be seasonal and will not exceed normal rises in water levels caused by wind or tide.

Site 16PL193 is located in the vicinity of the proposed diversion intake pipes. This site is a residence built on the bature of the Mississippi River and is a wood frame structure, proportionally resembling a camelback double shotgun house. However, the entrances are oriented on the longer east elevation, rather than along the side oriented towards the river or the highway. Wooden clapboards serve as the exterior cladding for the building, but gaps in that cladding reveal the structure may have been covered at one time with vertical boards. The building is in poor condition and is open to the elements, with sections of the metal roof loose and/or missing, doors and windows are ajar, and portions of the flooring are missing. Besides the building, site 16PL193 includes the foundations of at least two small outbuildings, a

retaining wall fronting the Mississippi River and scatters of architectural debris and domestic refuse.

The artifacts collected from the surface and shovel tests appear to be less than 50 years old and shovel testing failed to locate any evidence of buried archaeological deposits or cultural features. Likewise, the structure is not notable in architectural style or type of building construction, nor is it a unique building. Furthermore, the materials and design integrity has been compromised by the use of replacement materials. Therefore, it is the opinion of Goodwin and CEMVN that the site is not eligible to the National Register.

Site 16PL194 is a shell midden located on the east bank of Bayou La Croix at the intersection with River aux Chenes. The site contains the brackish water clam *Rangia cuneata* and prehistoric ceramic artifacts. The site is visible in the water adjacent to the bank of Bayou La Croix. Both shell and artifacts extend for approximately 40 meters along the bank of the bayou and into the bayou for a distance of at least 10 meters. Examination of the adjacent bank of River aux Chenes did not indicate an extension of the site into that location. Sherds recovered from the water indicate that there is at least one component representing the Barataria Phase of the Plaquemine culture. The remnants visible of site 16PL194 indicate only a thin layer of shell and cultural material resting on the muddy base of the bayou, suggesting the site may be completely destroyed. Based on the results of Phase I investigations, CEMVN believes that there is little chance that submerged portions of 16PL194 exist and therefore CEMVN has determined that site 16PL194 is not eligible to the National Register of Historic Places. However, since construction of a flow constrictor is proposed for this location CEMVN has relocated the flow constrictor so as not to impact the site.

Fort De La Boulaye was listed as a National Historic Landmark (NHL) in 1960 based on work conducted in the 1930's by Maurice Ries, most notably the recovery of "hand-hewn logs" and a cannonball. The NHL listing places the location of the fort at the Gravolet Canal, where a low ridge intersects the historic canal.


In 1986 Goodwin conducted work to ground truth the location of the fort. That study included extensive primary and secondary historic research, as well as extensive subsurface archaeology, modern and historic aerial photography analysis, historic map overlays, soil chemistry analysis and remote sensing. That study concluded that on the basis of negative results of the studies mentioned above the Gravolet Canal location is rejected and cannot be considered the site of the fort (Jeter et al. 1986:247). Since the fort is not at the Gravolet Canal location it cannot be impacted by the White Ditch Diversion.

Therefore, in compliance with 36 CFR Part 800.2(c)(1)(i) we request your concurrence with a determination of no adverse effect as per 36 CFR Part 800.5(b). Site 16PL16 is on the northern edge of the APE and has little chance of being impacted beyond what is normally caused by rise in water levels due to tidal and wind actions. Sites, 16PL194, is located along Bayou La Croix at the proposed location of one of five flow constrictors. CEMVN will move the location of the flow constrictor down the bayou away from this site and therefore will have no impact on 16PL194. Site 16PL193 is not eligible to the National Register and therefore is not

a historic property. Finally Fort De La Boulaye is not located at its recorded location and cannot be impacted by the proposed project.

Thank you for your help with this project. If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact Gary DeMarcay at (504) 862-2039 or by e-mail at [gary.b.demarcay@usace.army.mil](mailto:gary.b.demarcay@usace.army.mil).

Sincerely,



Joan M. Exnicios  
Chief, Environmental Planning  
and Compliance Branch

Enclosure  
Copy Furnished  
Willard S. Steele, Tribal Historic Preservation Officer

#### REFERENCES CITED

- Jeter, Marvin R., Christopher Goodwin, Hershel Franks, Eric Poplin, Carol Poplin, Jill-Karen Yakubik, Peter Gendel, Russell Magnaghi, Mary Knill, Jeffrey Treffimger, Jack Hill and Wayne Grip
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**DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY**  
NEW ORLEANS DISTRICT, CORPS OF ENGINEERS  
P.O. BOX 60267  
NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA 70160-0267  
JUNE 23, 2010

Regional Planning and  
Environmental Division, South  
New Orleans Environmental Branch

Principal Chief Enoch Kelley Haney  
Seminole Nation of Oklahoma  
P.O. Box 1498  
Wewoka, Oklahoma 74884

**Re: Management Summary, Phase I Cultural Resources Investigation for the White Ditch  
Diversion Area, Plaquemines Parish, Louisiana**

Dear Chief Haney:

A copy of this letter and the attachments are being sent to the Seminole Nation of Oklahoma Tribal Historic Preservation Officer Ms Natalie Deere. If you wish to see the attachments, please contact Ms. Deere, or, if you wish you may contact Mr. Gary DeMarcaay of my staff at (504) 862-2039.

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Upon arrival at the site Goodwin noticed human remains scattered on the site's surface. Following the Louisiana Unmarked Human Burials Preservation Act of 1991 the Plaquemines Parish Sheriff's Office and the Plaquemines Parish Coroner's Office were notified and visited the site and examined the remains. It was determined that the human remains dated to the prehistoric period. Following this the CEMVN archaeologist, a representative from the Louisiana Division of Archaeology and the Cultural Director for the Chitimacha Tribe visited the site.

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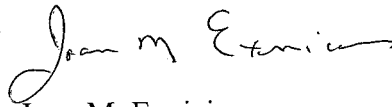
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Sincerely,



Joan M. Exnicios  
Chief, New Orleans Environmental Branch

Enclosure  
Copy Furnished  
Natalie Deere, Tribal Historic Preservation Officer

#### REFERENCES CITED

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**DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY**  
**NEW ORLEANS DISTRICT, CORPS OF ENGINEERS**  
P.O. BOX 60267  
NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA 70160-0267  
JUNE 23, 2010

Regional Planning and  
Environmental Division, South  
New Orleans Environmental Branch

Chairman John Berrey  
Quapaw Tribe of Oklahoma  
P.O. Box 765  
Quapaw, Oklahoma 74363

**Re: Management Summary, Phase I Cultural Resources Investigation for the White Ditch Diversion Area, Plaquemines Parish, Louisiana**

Dear Chairman Berrey:

A copy of this letter and the enclosures are being sent to the Quapaw Tribe of Oklahoma Historic Preservation Officer Ms. Jean Ann Lambert. If you wish to see the attachments, please contact Ms. Lambert, or, if you wish you may contact Mr. Gary DeMarcey of my staff at (504) 862-2039.

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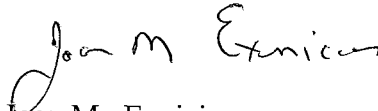
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Enclosure  
Copy Furnished  
Jean Ann Lambert, Historic Preservation Officer

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NEW ORLEANS DISTRICT, CORPS OF ENGINEERS  
P.O. BOX 60267  
NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA 70160-0267  
JUNE 23, 2010

Regional Planning and  
Environmental Division, South  
New Orleans Environmental Branch

Chief Beasley Denson  
Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians  
P.O. Box 6257  
Choctaw, Mississippi 39350

**Re: Management Summary, Phase I Cultural Resources Investigation for the White Ditch Diversion Area, Plaquemines Parish, Louisiana**

Dear Chief Denson:

A copy of this letter and the enclosures are being sent to the Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians tribal Historic Preservation Officer, Mr. Kenneth Carleton. If you wish to see the attachments, please contact Mr. Carleton, or, if you wish you may contact Mr. Gary DeMarcey of my staff at (504) 862-2039.

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Site 16PL193 is located in the vicinity of the proposed diversion intake pipes. This site is a residence built on the bature of the Mississippi River and is a wood frame structure, proportionally resembling a camelback double shotgun house. However, the entrances are oriented on the longer east elevation, rather than along the side oriented towards the river or the highway. Wooden clapboards serve as the exterior cladding for the building, but gaps in that cladding reveal the structure may have been covered at one time with vertical boards. The building is in poor condition and is open to the elements, with sections of the metal roof loose and/or missing, doors and windows are ajar, and portions of the flooring are missing. Besides the building, site 16PL193 includes the foundations of at least two small outbuildings, a retaining wall fronting the Mississippi River and scatters of architectural debris and domestic refuse.



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Therefore, in compliance with 36 CFR Part 800.2(c)(1)(i) we request your concurrence with a determination of no adverse effect as per 36 CFR Part 800.5(b). Site 16PL16 is on the northern edge of the APE and has little chance of being impacted beyond what is normally caused by rise in water levels due to tidal and wind actions. Sites, 16PL194, is located along Bayou La Croix at the proposed location of one of five flow constrictors. CEMVN will move the location of the flow constrictor down the bayou away from this site and therefore will have no impact on 16PL194. Site 16PL193 is not eligible to the National Register and therefore is not a historic property. Finally Fort De La Boulaye is not located at its recorded location and cannot be impacted by the proposed project.

Thank you for your help with this project. If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact Gary DeMarcay at (504) 862-2039 or by e-mail at [gary.b.demarcay@usace.army.mil](mailto:gary.b.demarcay@usace.army.mil).

Sincerely,



Joan M. Exnicios  
Chief, New Orleans Environmental Branch

Enclosure  
Copy Furnished  
Kenneth H. Carleton, Historic Preservation Officer

#### REFERENCES CITED

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**DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY**  
**NEW ORLEANS DISTRICT, CORPS OF ENGINEERS**  
P.O. BOX 60267  
NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA 70160-0267  
JUNE 23, 2010

Regional Planning and  
Environmental Division, South  
New Orleans Environmental Branch

Principal Chief Christine Norris  
Jena Band of the Choctaw Indians  
P.O. Box 14  
Jena, Louisiana 71342

**Re: Management Summary, Phase I Cultural Resources Investigation for the White Ditch  
Diversion Area, Plaquemines Parish, Louisiana**

Dear Chief Norris:

A Copy of this letter and the attachments are being sent to the Jena Band of Choctaw Indians Tribal Historic Preservation Officer Mr. Michael Tarpley. If you wish to see the attachments, please contact Mr. Tarpley, or, if you wish you may contact Mr. Gary DeMarcay of my staff at (504) 862-2039.

Enclosed for your review is the Management Summary for the White Ditch Diversion Project. The US Army Corps of Engineers, New Orleans District (CEMVN) and the State of Louisiana proposes to construct a medium diversion near Phoenix, Louisiana in Plaquemines Parish. To build this project a diversion ditch will be constructed and five flow constrictors will be installed. The diversion is expected to divert approximately 35,000 cfs of Mississippi River water into the area south of River aux Chenes in order to replenish fresh water marsh. The diversion will be active seasonally with the greatest flow occurring only during the spring or during other times of high water.

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Two previously recorded sites and two new sites were investigated during the survey. In addition the reported location of Fort du Mississippi, also known as Fort De La Boulaye (16PL27) is discussed.

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approximately 20 meters by 10 meters remain. A twenty centimeter level of crushed shell was encountered during shovel testing. No artifacts were recovered during the current investigation and apparently none were recovered when originally recorded. Goodwin recommends the site to be not eligible to the National Register of Historic Places. We agree with that recommendation.

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Upon arrival at the site Goodwin noticed human remains scattered on the site's surface. Following the Louisiana Unmarked Human Burials Preservation Act of 1991 the Plaquemines Parish Sheriff's Office and the Plaquemines Parish Coroner's Office were notified and visited the site and examined the remains. It was determined that the human remains dated to the prehistoric period. Following this the CEMVN archaeologist, a representative from the Louisiana Division of Archaeology and the Cultural Director for the Chitimacha Tribe visited the site.

In consultation between CEMVN and the Chitimacha Tribe (the Tribe) the Tribe expressed the belief that the project will have minimal effect on the site and requested that the site not be disturbed by shovel testing. Furthermore, they wish to periodically visit the site to take the remains and place them in deep water and to monitor any effects that the project may have on the site.

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Sincerely,



Joan M. Exnicios  
Chief, New Orleans Environmental Branch

Enclosure  
Copy Furnished  
Michael Tarpley  
Tribal Historic Preservation Officer  
Lillie McCormick, Environmental Director

#### REFERENCES CITED

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**DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY**  
**NEW ORLEANS DISTRICT, CORPS OF ENGINEERS**  
P.O. BOX 60267  
NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA 70160-0267  
JUNE 23, 2010

Regional Planning and  
Environmental Division, South  
New Orleans Environmental Branch

Chief Kevin Sickey  
Coushatta Tribe of Louisiana  
P.O. Box 818  
Elton, Louisiana 70532

**Re: Management Summary, Phase I Cultural Resources Investigation for the White Ditch  
Diversion Area, Plaquemines Parish, Louisiana**

Dear Chief Sickey:

A Copy of this letter and the attachments are being sent to the Coushatta Tribe of Louisiana Cultural Contacts Bertney and Linda Langley. If you wish to see the attachments, please contact Mr. or Ms. Langley, or, if you wish you may contact Mr. Gary DeMarcay of my staff at (504) 862-2039.

Enclosed for your review is the Management Summary for the White Ditch Diversion Project. The US Army Corps of Engineers, New Orleans District (CEMVN) and the State of Louisiana proposes to construct a medium diversion near Phoenix, Louisiana in Plaquemines Parish. To build this project a diversion ditch will be constructed and five flow constrictors will be installed. The diversion is expected to divert approximately 35,000 cfs of Mississippi River water into the area south of River aux Chenes in order to replenish fresh water marsh. The diversion will be active seasonally with the greatest flow occurring only during the spring or during other times of high water.

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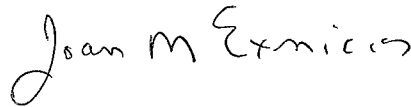
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Joan M. Exincios  
Chief, New Orleans Environmental Branch

Enclosure  
Copy Furnished  
Bertney and Linda Langley, Cultural Contacts

#### REFERENCES CITED

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**DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY**  
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P.O. BOX 60267  
NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA 70160-0267  
JUNE 23, 2010

Regional Planning and  
Environmental Division, South  
New Orleans Environmental Branch

Chief Gregory E. Pyle  
Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma  
P.O. Box Drawer 1210  
Durant, Oklahoma 74701

**Re: Management Summary, Phase I Cultural Resources Investigation for the White Ditch  
Diversion Area, Plaquemines Parish, Louisiana**

Dear Chief Pyle:

A Copy of this letter and the enclosures are being sent to the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma Tribal Historic Preservation Officer Mr. Terry Cole. If you wish to see the attachments, please contact Mr. Cole, or, if you wish you may contact Mr. Gary DeMarcay of my staff at (504) 862-2039.

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Thank you for your help with this project. If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact Gary DeMarcay at (504) 862-2039 or by e-mail at [gary.b.demarcay@usace.army.mil](mailto:gary.b.demarcay@usace.army.mil).

Sincerely,



Joan M. Exnicios  
Chief, New Orleans Environmental Branch

Enclosure  
Copy Furnished  
Terry D. Cole, Director/THPO

#### REFERENCES CITED

- Jeter, Marvin R., Christopher Goodwin, Hershel Franks, Eric Poplin, Carol Poplin, Jill-Karen Yakubik, Peter Gendel, Russell Magnaghi, Mary Knill, Jeffrey Treffinger, Jack Hill and Wayne Grip
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**DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY**  
NEW ORLEANS DISTRICT, CORPS OF ENGINEERS  
P.O. BOX 60267  
NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA 70160-0267  
JUNE 23, 2010

Regional Planning and  
Environmental Division, South  
New Orleans Environmental Branch

Chairman John Paul Darden, Chairman  
Chitimacha Tribe of Louisiana  
P.O. Box 661  
Charenton, Louisiana 70523

**Re: Management Summary, Phase I Cultural Resources Investigation for the White Ditch Diversion Area, Plaquemines Parish, Louisiana**

Dear Chairman Darden:

A Copy of this letter and the enclosures are being sent to the Chitimacha Tribe's Cultural Director Ms. Kimberly Walden. If you wish to see the enclosures, please contact Ms. Walden or if you wish you may contact Mr. Gary DeMarcey of my staff at (504) 862-2039.

Enclosed for your review is the Management Summary for the White Ditch Diversion Project. The US Army Corps of Engineers, New Orleans District (CEMVN) and the State of Louisiana proposes to construct a medium diversion near Phoenix, Louisiana in Plaquemines Parish. To build this project a diversion ditch will be constructed and five flow constrictors will be installed. The diversion is expected to divert approximately 35,000 cfs of Mississippi River water into the area south of River aux Chenes in order to replenish fresh water marsh. The diversion will be active seasonally with the greatest flow occurring only during the spring or during other times of high water.

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Two previously recorded sites and two new sites were investigated during the survey. In addition the reported location of Fort du Mississippi, also known as Fort De La Boulaye (16PL27) is discussed.

Site 16PL15 (Shell Bayou) was originally recorded on a site card in 1952. It is located on the western bank of Shell Bayou, a distributary that connects Spanish Lake to River aux Chenes. At the time of the recordation the site was described as a shell midden of unknown prehistoric age with a 20<sup>th</sup> century historic component. When originally recorded the site was described as a substantial shell ridge that extended into Shell Bayou. The site has since undergone severe erosion and subsidence and now only a small subsurface deposit of shell measuring approximately 20 meters by 10 meters remain. A twenty centimeter level of crushed shell was

encountered during shovel testing. No artifacts were recovered during the current investigation and apparently none were recovered when originally recorded. Goodwin recommends the site to be not eligible to the National Register of Historic Places. We agree with that recommendation.

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Upon arrival at the site Goodwin noticed human remains scattered on the site's surface. Following the Louisiana Unmarked Human Burials Preservation Act of 1991 the Plaquemines Parish Sheriff's Office and the Plaquemines Parish Coroner's Office were notified and visited the site and examined the remains. It was determined that the human remains dated to the prehistoric period. Following this the CEMVN archaeologist, a representative from the Louisiana Division of Archaeology and the Cultural Director for the Chitimacha Tribe visited the site.

In consultation between CEMVN and the Chitimacha Tribe (the Tribe) the Tribe expressed the belief that the project will have minimal effect on the site and requested that the site not be disturbed by shovel testing. Furthermore, they wish to periodically visit the site to take the remains and place them in deep water and to monitor any effects that the project may have on the site.

Based on the Chitimacha's request, CEMVN did not conduct Phase II investigations to 16PL16 for National Register eligibility. The site is located on the edge of the Area of Potential Effect (APE) and will not be directly affected by construction and any rise in water levels will be seasonal and will not exceed normal rises in water levels caused by wind or tide.

Site 16PL193 is located in the vicinity of the proposed diversion intake pipes. This site is a residence built on the bature of the Mississippi River and is a wood frame structure, proportionally resembling a camelback double shotgun house. However, the entrances are oriented on the longer east elevation, rather than along the side oriented towards the river or the highway. Wooden clapboards serve as the exterior cladding for the building, but gaps in that cladding reveal the structure may have been covered at one time with vertical boards. The building is in poor condition and is open to the elements, with sections of the metal roof loose and/or missing, doors and windows are ajar, and portions of the flooring are missing. Besides the building, site 16PL193 includes the foundations of at least two small outbuildings, a retaining wall fronting the Mississippi River and scatters of architectural debris and domestic refuse.



The artifacts collected from the surface and shovel tests appear to be less than 50 years old and shovel testing failed to locate any evidence of buried archaeological deposits or cultural features. Likewise, the structure is not notable in architectural style or type of building construction, nor is it a unique building. Furthermore, the materials and design integrity has been compromised by the use of replacement materials. Therefore, it is the opinion of Goodwin and CEMVN that the site is not eligible to the National Register.

Site 16PL194 is a shell midden located on the east bank of Bayou La Croix at the intersection with River aux Chenes. The site contains the brackish water clam *Rangia cuneata* and prehistoric ceramic artifacts. The site is visible in the water adjacent to the bank of Bayou La Croix. Both shell and artifacts extend for approximately 40 meters along the bank of the bayou and into the bayou for a distance of at least 10 meters. Examination of the adjacent bank of River aux Chenes did not indicate an extension of the site into that location. Sherds recovered from the water indicate that there is at least one component representing the Barataria Phase of the Plaquemine culture. The remnants visible of site 16PL194 indicate only a thin layer of shell and cultural material resting on the muddy base of the bayou, suggesting the site may be completely destroyed. Based on the results of Phase I investigations, CEMVN believes that there is little chance that submerged portions of 16PL194 exist and therefore CEMVN has determined that site 16PL194 is not eligible to the National Register of Historic Places. However, since construction of a flow constrictor is proposed for this location CEMVN has relocated the flow constrictor so as not to impact the site.

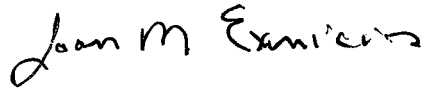
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Joan M. Exnicios  
Chief, New Orleans Environmental Branch

Enclosure  
Copy Furnished  
Kimberly S. Walden, Cultural Director

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NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA 70160-0267  
JUNE 23, 2010

Regional Planning and  
Environmental Division, South  
New Orleans Environmental Branch

Chairperson Brenda Shemayne Edwards  
Caddo Nation of Oklahoma  
P.O. Box 487  
Binger, OK 73009

**Re: Management Summary, Phase I Cultural Resources Investigation for the White Ditch  
Diversion Area, Plaquemines Parish, Louisiana**

Dear Chairperson Edwards:

A copy of this letter and the attachments are being sent to the Caddo Nation of Oklahoma Tribal Historic Preservation Officer Mr. Robert Cast. If you wish to see the attachments, please contact Mr. Cast, or, if you wish you may contact Mr. Gary DeMarcay of my staff at (504) 862-2039.

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Sincerely,



Joan M. Exnicios  
Chief, New Orleans Environmental Branch

Copy Furnished  
Enclosure  
Robert Cast, Historic Preservation Officer

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DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY  
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NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA 70160-0267  
JUNE 23, 2010

Regional Planning and  
Environmental Division, South  
New Orleans Environmental Branch

Principal Chief Oscola Clayton M. Sylestine  
Alabama Coushatta Tribe of Texas  
571 State Park Rd. 56  
Livingston, Texas 77351

**Re: Management Summary, Phase I Cultural Resources Investigation for the White Ditch Diversion Area, Plaquemines Parish, Louisiana**

Dear Principal Chief Sylestine:

A copy of this letter and the attachments are being sent to the Alabama Coushatta Tribe of Texas Historic Preservation Officer Mr. Bryant J. Celestine. If you wish to see the attachments, please contact Mr. Celestine, or, if you wish you may contact Mr. Gary DeMarcaay of my staff at (504) 862-2039.

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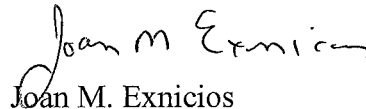
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Sincerely,



Joan M. Exnicios  
Chief, New Orleans Environmental Branch

Enclosures  
Copies Furnished  
Bryant J. Celestine, Historic Preservation Officer

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JUNE 23, 2010

Regional Planning and  
Environmental Division, South  
New Orleans Environmental Branch

Chairman Earl J. Barbry, Sr.  
Tunica-Biloxi Tribe of Louisiana  
P.O. Box 1589  
Marksville, Louisiana 71351

**Re: Management Summary, Phase I Cultural Resources Investigation for the White Ditch  
Diversion Area, Plaquemines Parish, Louisiana**

Dear Chairman Barbry:

A Copy of this letter and the enclosures are being sent to the Tunica-Biloxi Tribe of Louisiana Cultural Director Mr. Earl Barbry, Jr. If you wish to see the attachments, please contact Mr. Barbry, or, if you wish you may contact Mr. Gary DeMarcaay of my staff at (504) 862-2039.

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Two previously recorded sites and two new sites were investigated during the survey. In addition the reported location of Fort du Mississippi, also known as Fort De La Boulaye (16PL27) is discussed.

Site 16PL15 (Shell Bayou) was originally recorded on a site card in 1952. It is located on the western bank of Shell Bayou, a distributary that connects Spanish Lake to River aux Chenes. At the time of the recordation the site was described as a shell midden of unknown prehistoric age with a 20<sup>th</sup> century historic component. When originally recorded the site was described as a substantial shell ridge that extended into Shell Bayou. The site has since undergone severe erosion and subsidence and now only a small subsurface deposit of shell measuring

approximately 20 meters by 10 meters remain. A twenty centimeter level of crushed shell was encountered during shovel testing. No artifacts were recovered during the current investigation and apparently none were recovered when originally recorded. Goodwin recommends the site to be not eligible to the National Register of Historic Places. We agree with that recommendation.

Site 16PL16 (Orange Bayou) was also originally recorded in 1952. At that time the site was limited to the right descending bank of Orange Bayou at the intersection of River aux Chenes. It was described as a prehistoric shell midden dating to the Coles Creek and Mississippian periods. During the investigations for the subject project the site was found to be more extensive than originally thought. Rather than being limited to the right descending bank of Orange Bayou the site limits have been expanded to the east and west sides of Orange Bayou and to the south side of River aux Chenes. The Goodwin investigations demonstrated that the site dates to the Coles Creek and Mississippian Periods with the strongest component belonging to the Plaquemine culture, Barataria Phase.

Upon arrival at the site Goodwin noticed human remains scattered on the site's surface. Following the Louisiana Unmarked Human Burials Preservation Act of 1991 the Plaquemines Parish Sheriff's Office and the Plaquemines Parish Coroner's Office were notified and visited the site and examined the remains. It was determined that the human remains dated to the prehistoric period. Following this the CEMVN archaeologist, a representative from the Louisiana Division of Archaeology and the Cultural Director for the Chitimacha Tribe visited the site.

In consultation between CEMVN and the Chitimacha Tribe (the Tribe) the Tribe expressed the belief that the project will have minimal effect on the site and requested that the site not be disturbed by shovel testing. Furthermore, they wish to periodically visit the site to take the remains and place them in deep water and to monitor any effects that the project may have on the site.

Based on the Chitimacha's request, CEMVN did not conduct Phase II investigations to 16PL16 for National Register eligibility. The site is located on the edge of the Area of Potential Effect (APE) and will not be directly affected by construction and any rise in water levels will be seasonal and will not exceed normal rises in water levels caused by wind or tide.

Site 16PL193 is located in the vicinity of the proposed diversion intake pipes. This site is a residence built on the batture of the Mississippi River and is a wood frame structure, proportionally resembling a camelback double shotgun house. However, the entrances are oriented on the longer east elevation, rather than along the side oriented towards the river or the highway. Wooden clapboards serve as the exterior cladding for the building, but gaps in that cladding reveal the structure may have been covered at one time with vertical boards. The building is in poor condition and is open to the elements, with sections of the metal roof loose and/or missing, doors and windows are ajar, and portions of the flooring are missing. Besides the building, site 16PL193 includes the foundations of at least two small outbuildings, a

retaining wall fronting the Mississippi River and scatters of architectural debris and domestic refuse.

The artifacts collected from the surface and shovel tests appear to be less than 50 years old and shovel testing failed to locate any evidence of buried archaeological deposits or cultural features. Likewise, the structure is not notable in architectural style or type of building construction, nor is it a unique building. Furthermore, the materials and design integrity has been compromised by the use of replacement materials. Therefore, it is the opinion of Goodwin and CEMVN that the site is not eligible to the National Register.

Site 16PL194 is a shell midden located on the east bank of Bayou La Croix at the intersection with River aux Chenes. The site contains the brackish water clam *Rangia cuneata* and prehistoric ceramic artifacts. The site is visible in the water adjacent to the bank of Bayou La Croix. Both shell and artifacts extend for approximately 40 meters along the bank of the bayou and into the bayou for a distance of at least 10 meters. Examination of the adjacent bank of River aux Chenes did not indicate an extension of the site into that location. Sherds recovered from the water indicate that there is at least one component representing the Barataria Phase of the Plaquemine culture. The remnants visible of site 16PL194 indicate only a thin layer of shell and cultural material resting on the muddy base of the bayou, suggesting the site may be completely destroyed. Based on the results of Phase I investigations, CEMVN believes that there is little chance that submerged portions of 16PL194 exist and therefore CEMVN has determined that site 16PL194 is not eligible to the National Register of Historic Places. However, since construction of a flow constrictor is proposed for this location CEMVN has relocated the flow constrictor so as not to impact the site.

Fort De La Boulaye was listed as a National Historic Landmark (NHL) in 1960 based on work conducted in the 1930's by Maurice Ries, most notably the recovery of "hand-hewn logs" and a cannonball. The NHL listing places the location of the fort at the Gravolet Canal, where a low ridge intersects the historic canal.

In 1986 Goodwin conducted work to ground truth the location of the fort. That study included extensive primary and secondary source historic research, as well as extensive subsurface archaeology, modern and historic aerial photography analysis, historic map overlays, soil chemistry analysis and remote sensing. That study concluded that on the basis of negative results of the studies mentioned above the Gravolet Canal location is rejected and cannot be considered the site of the fort (Jeter et al. 1986:247). Since the fort is not at the Gravolet Canal location it cannot be impacted by the White Ditch Diversion.

Therefore, in compliance with 36 CFR Part 800.2(c)(1)(i) we request your concurrence with a determination of no adverse effect as per 36 CFR Part 800.5(b). Site 16PL16 is on the northern edge of the APE and has little chance of being impacted beyond what is normally caused by rise in water levels due to tidal and wind actions. Sites, 16PL194, is located along Bayou La Croix at the proposed location of one of five flow constrictors. CEMVN will move the location of the flow constrictor down the bayou away from this site and therefore will have no impact on 16PL194. Site 16PL193 is not eligible to the National Register and therefore is not

a historic property. Finally Fort De La Boulaye is not located at its recorded location and cannot be impacted by the proposed project.

Thank you for your help with this project. If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact Gary DeMarcay at (504) 862-2039 or by e-mail at [gary.b.demarcay@usace.army.mil](mailto:gary.b.demarcay@usace.army.mil).

Sincerely,



Joan M. Exnicios  
Chief, New Orleans Environmental Branch

Enclosure  
Copy Furnished  
Earl Barbry, Jr. Cultural Director

#### REFERENCES CITED

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