[redacted]
E-Mail: [redacted]
[redacted] Subdivision Homeowner

September 6, 2023

Army Corp of Engineers – New Orleans District
CEMVN-PMR-C
7400 Leake Ave
New Orleans, LA 70118

Subject: St Tammany Levee Project Concerns

Dear Ms. Dixon,

I hope you and your family are doing well. Unfortunately, we live in a hectic world. I know your work at the Corp of Engineers can be challenging. Therefore, I hope that this note can help you and your organization to make the best decision possible as you develop the levee project plans for our area. As I understand it, your levee project plans will impact all of the residents and property owners of east St. Tammany Parish and not just properties located in the city limits of Slidell. I am asking for your organization to re-evaluate your levee plans by considering the needs of all the residents living in east St Tammany Parish.

I am a resident in a Slidell subdivision located off military road. We have lived in this area since 1998 and love living here. My home is located in a beautiful subdivision next to two outstanding elementary schools and not far from two outstanding high schools. However, I have been made aware that a proposed levee project will not meet our needs and may even create harm to all of us living and working in this part of the parish. Many of us have not had any flooding in our neighborhoods in the past. We, including my family as my daughter also lives in my same neighborhood, want the Corp of Engineers to improve our hurricane protection defenses and not make them worst. We want a peace of mind. As I understand it, the properties along both sides of military road, homes, schools, businesses, etc. are located outside the current proposed levee protection plans. I hope that is not the case, but if it is, those plans need to be changed to include our properties.

The levee project, as it stands, could potentially create a greater risk of flooding and property damage from storms that occasionally hit our area than exists today. Is that fair to the people living here? Is it fair to adversely impact our property values? Is it fair to treat our taxpayers differently than those families whose properties are being protected?

In closing, I hope you and your organization will consider our needs. I believe that in dealing with the public, if there is a will, there is a way!

May GOD bless you and our country,

Ed and Rhonda Hetherington

CC: The Honorable Senator John Kennedy
21490 Koop Dr. Building A
Mandeville, LA 70471

The Honorable Representative Steve Scalise
21454 Koop Drive Suite 2C
Mandeville, LA 70471