Army Corp of Engineers-New Orleans District
C/O Amy Dixon
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Subject: Concerns and Recommendations Regarding the St. Tammany Parish Levee Project

Dear Ms. Amy Dixon,

I appreciate your time in considering my thoughts in this letter. I am writing to express my deep concerns regarding the St. Tammany Parish Levee Project, specifically concerning the exclusion of my property from its protection. I have been a resident of Slidell for over 30 years. We raised our children here and most of them are now also tax paying, involved citizens in our community. As a concerned resident, I believe it is vital to address various issues related to this project to ensure the safety, well-being, and fairness for all members of our community.

I bought my house because of the flood plain it was in, the businesses nearby, doctors offices, large hospital etc. We bought into a community. Now, without me knowing, this plan has been put into place to hurt those of us outside of the levee. This decision was supposed to make sure it would not hurt the environment or the people outside of this proposed levee. But instead, I have not seen anything yet that can assure us on the outside of the planned levee that we will not be hurt by this levee instead.

I have many questions and concerns that cannot possibly be addressed based on the studies done as the true impact of these studies will not be realized for many years.

Whole neighborhood houses will have to be raised at our expense first to bring anything to code before being raised and after to actually get it raised. This will in turn call for lots of changes in pipes and sewer, electrical wiring, gas lines etc etc etc. Our neighborhood would completely change as far as esthetics. I bought my house in my neighborhood because I liked the neighborhood feel. I didn't want a raised house area.

Who is going to pay for my raised flood insurance or the fact that I might eventually not even be able to get any at all? Who is going to pay to compensate me for my now much lowered property value as my whole neighborhood is being forced into a situation for which we didn't ask for? My home value is dropping now with the knowledge of this levee. It is too late for us to sell at full value.

What studies have been done on water flow around this proposed levee on damages now caused to the "outside " areas? What changes will be caused to the environment, marshes, bayous, waterways, and the birds and animals who live there? Will there be damage to native trees, plants etc as a result of this levee? How will it affect how the wild animals move from one area to

another? Will they be shut off from food and water? Will the levee system affect fishing, crabbing or shrimping in the area?

What studies have been done to consider the schools and churches outside the levee? What is the impact on the community as they close or struggle to find the means to rebuild within the levee system? What will be the compensation to those religious organizations that are typically the ones who have cared for the communities in times of devastation if they too are under water?

Why are new subdivisions and houses being allowed to continue to build outside of this proposed levee system? Streets are being paved as we speak 3 blocks from my home which is far outside of this levee. A moratorium on building should be implemented now to protect existing residents from the losses we are about sure incur.

I appreciate you time in reading my letter and I am hopeful the Corp will reconsider this plan.

Pamela C. Flucke, CPA