

# PREFACE

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## How To Read This Document

This Final Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) of the proposed Mid-Barataria Sediment Diversion Project contains 10 chapters and 22 appendices. The Table of Contents provides a list of the subject headings and information in each chapter; the Index (Chapter 9) includes specific page references to key terms/topics that may be of interest; and the Appendices contain technical documents, modeling, associated plans (Operations and Maintenance, Monitoring and Adaptive Management, and Mitigation and Stewardship Plan), and other documents used to prepare the EIS. The reader should refer to all parts of this document in order to get a full understanding of the analyses that will be used to inform decisions regarding the Project. Lines shown in margins on various pages denote text revised for the Final EIS based on public comments received on the Draft EIS.

## Chapter Overview

Executive Summary – describes the proposed Project, lists the purpose and need and alternatives, and summarizes the potential environmental impacts

Chapter 1: Introduction and Purpose and Need – provides an introduction and overview of the Project, states its purpose and need, Project background and history, scope of the EIS, and agency roles and responsibilities

Chapter 2: Alternatives – establishes the steps to evaluate the Project alternatives, presents the alternatives carried forward for analysis, and provides a comparative summary of potential impacts for each alternative

Chapter 3: Affected Environment – describes the 22 specific resource areas that may be affected by each alternative, including (but not limited to) Water Quality, Wetland Resources, Aquatic Resources, Marine Mammals, Socioeconomics, Environmental Justice, Public Health and Safety, Navigation, and Cultural Resources

Chapter 4: Environmental Consequences – provides technical analyses of the potential environmental impacts (beneficial and adverse) that may result from construction, operation, and maintenance of the proposed Project and alternatives

Chapter 5: Consultation and Coordination – presents the status of compliance with laws, regulations, and executive orders including (but not limited to) the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act Report

Chapter 6: List of Preparers and Contributors – lists the preparers and contributors that developed the EIS

Chapter 7: Public Involvement – describes the formal opportunities for public involvement

Chapter 8: Acronym List – lists acronyms used in the document

Chapter 9: Index – includes specific page references to key terms/topics that are found in the EIS

Chapter 10: References – contains a list of science and literature used in the analyses and cited throughout the EIS.

Appendices – contains more than 20 technical documents applicable to various topics discussed in the EIS, including (but not limited to) modeling information, the monitoring and adaptive management plan, the mitigation and stewardship plan, and the operations plan.