JOINT PUBLIC NOTICE

March 18, 2019

United States Army Corps of Engineers
New Orleans District
Regulatory Branch, ODR-E
7400 Leake Avenue
New Orleans, Louisiana 70118

State of Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality
Water Permits Division
Post Office Box 4313
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70821-4313

Project Manager Project Manager
Brad LaBorde Elizabeth Hill
(504) 862-2225 (225) 219-3225
Brad.LaBorde@usace.army.mil
Permit Application Number WQC Application Number
MVN 2018-1120 EOO WQC 190227-01

Interested parties are hereby notified that a permit application has been received by the New Orleans District of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers pursuant to: [X] Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of March 3, 1899 (30 Stat. 1151; 33 USC 403); and/or [X] Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (86 Stat. 816; 33 USC 1344).

Application has also been made to the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality, Water Quality Certifications, for a Water Quality Certification (WQC) in accordance with statutory authority contained in LRS30:2047 A(3), and provisions of Section 401 of the Clean Water Act (P.L.95-17).

Mid-Breton Sediment Diversion (Mid-Breton SD) Project, Mississippi River, in Plaquemines Parish, Louisiana

Name of Applicant: Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority of Louisiana (CPRA), 150 Terrace Avenue, Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70802.

Location of Work: On the left descending bank of the Mississippi River, near River Mile 68 (Wills Point) and extending into the Mid-Breton Sound Basin, in Plaquemines Parish, Louisiana, as shown on the enclosed drawings.

Latitude: 29.751531, Longitude: -90.011947
Hydrologic Unit Code: 08090100 – Lower Mississippi – New Orleans
08090203 – Eastern Louisiana Coastal

Character of Work: CPRA is proposing to construct, operate, and maintain a multi-component river diversion system intended to convey sediment, fresh water, and nutrients from the Mississippi River into the mid-Breton Basin in an attempt to reduce coastal land loss and sustain surrounding wetlands.

Operation: The proposed Mid-Breton SD is considered to be a large scale, complex ecosystem restoration project that would operate at a base flow of 5,000 cubic feet per second (CFS); when the Mississippi River gage at Belle Chasse exceeds 450,000 cfs the diversion structure would “open” and
operate at varying cfs volumes based on water levels in the Mississippi River channel. Maximum discharge would be 75,000 cfs when the Belle Chasse gage is at 1,000,000 cfs. The proposed Mid-Breton SD would be designed in a manner that would allow the peak discharge to be 75,000 cfs for the 50-year project life.

Direct Impacts: Construction of the proposed Mid-Breton SD would result in direct impacts to jurisdictional wetlands and waters located within the Mississippi River batture, areas protected by levee (Mississippi River Levee and non-federal “back” levee), and the Breton Basin (or outfall area). The preliminary construction schedule is approx. 6.5 years. Over the span of the proposed construction, approximately 6.7 million cubic yards (CY) of material is estimated to be excavated within approximately 122 acres of the project footprint; of which, approx. 111,000 CY would be placed on-site for other uses and approx. 6.6 million CY would be temporarily stockpiled on-site and hauled-off to other approved areas or upland sites. The construction laydown, staging, and temporary stockpile area would be approximately 25 acres. Excavated material stored within this location would not exceed and elevation of 12.5 feet. Mid-Breton SD project components would require concrete, crushed stone or gravel, rock, sand, and hauled-in dirt to be placed within 96 acres of the project footprint, totaling 5.1 million CY.

Outfall Area: If constructed and operated, the Mid-Breton SD structure would convey Mississippi River sediment, water, and nutrients into the Mid-Breton Basin resulting in both positive and negative impacts (impacts are expected to vary by species resource) to an estimated 5,300 acres of jurisdictional wetlands and 2,300 acres of jurisdictional waters of the U.S. The Mid-Breton SD outfall feature terminates in jurisdictional wetlands, thus it is expected that channeling and dredging would be required to stimulate distributary development and delta formation in the Breton Sound Basin.

Highway Detour: A portion of Louisiana Highway 39 (LA39) intersects with the proposed Mid-Breton SD. If constructed, LA39 would need to be detoured around the proposed Mid-Breton SD intake structure. LA39 would remain operational during construction and operation of the proposed project.

Figures:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Impacts Chart</th>
<th>Jurisdictional Wetlands (acres)*</th>
<th>Jurisdictional Waters (acres)*</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mississippi River Batture</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Areas Protected by Levee</td>
<td>63</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Breton Basin/Outfall Area</td>
<td>79</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Direct Impacts Total</td>
<td>160</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Breton Basin/Outfall Area of Transition | 5300 | 2230 |

*overall project impact totals are not expected to be equal to wetland totals

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fill Materials Chart</th>
<th>Cubic Yards</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Concrete</td>
<td>67,800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rock</td>
<td>409,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Crushed Stone/Gravel</td>
<td>13,600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sand</td>
<td>1,900</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hauled in dirt</td>
<td>80,700</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>573,500</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*cubic yardages are estimates based off <5% design

The comment period for the Department of the Army Permit and the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality WQC will close 30 days from the date of this joint public notice. Written
comments, including suggestions for modifications or objections to the proposed work, stating reasons thereof, are being solicited from anyone having interest in this permit and/or this WQC request and must be mailed so as to be received before or by the last day of the comment period. Letters concerning the Corps of Engineers permit application must reference the applicant's name and the Permit Application Number, and be mailed to the Corps of Engineers at the address above, ATTENTION: REGULATORY BRANCH. Similar letters concerning the Water Quality Certification must reference the applicant's name and the WQC Application number and be mailed to the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality at the address above.

The application for this proposed project is on file with the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality and may be examined during weekdays between 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. Copies may be obtained upon payment of costs of reproduction.

This project is subject to Fixing America’s Surface Transportation Act (FAST-41) and Executive Order 13807 which allows added transparency to the permit decision timetable. Interested parties can monitor the Mid-Breton SD project status on the FAST-41 “Permitting Dashboard” found here: https://www.permits.performance.gov/permitting-projects/mid-breton-sediment-diversion

**Corps of Engineers Permit Criteria**

The decision whether to issue a permit will be based on an evaluation of the probable impacts, including cumulative impacts of the proposed activity on the public interest. That decision will reflect the national concern for both protection and utilization of important resources. The benefit which reasonably may be expected to accrue from the proposal must be balanced against its reasonably foreseeable detriments. All factors which may be relevant to the proposal will be considered including the cumulative effects thereof; among those are conservation, economics, aesthetics, general environmental concerns, wetlands, historic properties, fish and wildlife values, flood hazards, floodplain values, land use, navigation, shoreline erosion and accretion, recreation, water supply and conservation, water quality, energy needs, safety, food and fiber production, mineral needs, considerations of property ownership and, in general, the needs and welfare of the people.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is soliciting comments from the public, federal, state, and local agencies and officials, Indian Tribes, and other interested parties in order to consider and evaluate the impacts of this proposed activity. Any comments received will be considered by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to determine whether to make, modify, condition, or deny a permit for this proposal. To make this decision, comments are used to assess impacts on endangered species, historic properties, water quality, general environmental effects, and other public interest factors listed above. Comments are used in the preparation of an Environmental Assessment and/or an Environmental Impact Statement pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act. Comments are also used to determine the need for a public hearing and to determine the overall public interest of the proposed activity.

The New Orleans District (MVN) is unaware of properties listed on the National Register of Historic Places near the proposed work. MVN anticipates that, at minimum, a Phase I survey would be conducted for the Mid-Breton SD project footprint and portions of the outfall area. MVN intends to meet the Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) and 33 CFR Part 325, Appendix C. Issuance of this public notice solicits input from the State Archeologist and State Historic Preservation Officer regarding potential impacts to cultural resources.
MVN has determined that the proposed project is located within waters known to be utilized by the West Indian manatee (Trichechus manatus) and pallid sturgeon (Scaphirhynchus albus). Based on the Standard Local Operating Procedure for Endangered Species of Louisiana (SLOPES), dated October 22, 2014, between the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New Orleans and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Ecological Services Office (USFWS), it’s been determined that the proposed activity “is not likely to adversely affect” the West Indian manatee. Further coordination with USFWS is required for an effects determination concerning the pallid sturgeon.

Our initial finding is that the proposed project could impact the following Federally listed threatened and endangered species: Gulf sturgeon (Acipenser oxyrinchus desotoi) and five species of sea turtles, the green (Chelonia mydas), hawksbill (Eretmochelys imbricata), Kemp’s ridley (Lepidochelys kempii), leatherback (Dermochelys coriacea), and loggerhead (Caretta caretta). Each of the listed species is susceptible to the dredging, changes in water quality, and water quantity expected if this project is constructed and operated as proposed. Consultation with NOAA’s National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) is required for this action.

This notice initiates the Essential Fish Habitat (EFH) consultation requirements of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act. The applicant's proposal would result in the destruction or alteration of 7,530 acres of EFH utilized by various life stages of red drum and penaeid shrimp. Our initial determination is that the proposed action would not have a substantial adverse impact on EFH or federally managed fisheries in the Gulf of Mexico. Our final determination relative to project impacts and the need for mitigation measures is subject to review by and coordination with the National Marine Fisheries Service.

If the proposed work involves deposits of dredged or fill material into navigable waters, the evaluation of the probable impacts will include the application of guidelines established by the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency. Also, a certification that the proposed activity will not violate applicable water quality standards will be required from the Department of Environmental Quality, Water Quality Certifications, before a permit is issued.

Any person may request, in writing, within the comment period specified in this notice, that a public hearing be held to consider this application. Requests for public hearings shall state, with particularity, the reasons for holding a public hearing.

The applicant has certified that the proposed activity described in the application complies with and will be conducted in a manner that is consistent with the Louisiana Coastal Resources Program. The Department of the Army permit will not be issued unless the applicant received approval or a waiver of the Coastal Use Permit by the Department of Natural Resources.

You are requested to communicate the information contained in this notice to any other parties whom you deem likely to have interest in the matter.

Michael V. Farabee
Chief, Eastern Evaluation Section

Enclosure
LIMITS OF DIVERSION CHANNEL CONSTRUCTION

DIVERSION CHANNEL AT MISSISSIPPI RIVER LEVEE
SECT 5 / TS-15 / RE-12
X: 3700126.49, Y: 457552.61
29°45'05.51"N, 90°00'43.01"W
LOUISIANA SOUTH NAD83

CONCEPTUAL DESIGN; SUBJECT TO REVISION - NOT FOR CONSTRUCTION

MID-BRETON SEDIMENT DIVERSION PROJECT
5% PERMIT SET

VICTINY MAP
USGS QUAD MAPS

APPLICATION BY:
CPRA
150 TERRACE AVENUE
BATON ROUGE, LA 70802

COASTAL PROTECTION AND RESTORATION AUTHORITY
COASTAL ENGINEERING DIVISION
150 TERRACE AVENUE
BATON ROUGE, LA 70802

APPROVED BY: S. PEYTON
FEDERAL PROJECT NUMBER:

DESIGNED BY: D. GRANDAL

DRAWN BY: A. SPRAGUE

STATE PROJECT NUMBER: BS-0030
DATE: 02/20/2019

SHEET 2 OF 13
REV. 3
MISSISSIPPI RIVER LEVEE (MRL)

NON-FEDERAL BACK LEVEE (NFL)

GATED DIVERSION STRUCTURE

LIMITS OF DIVERSION CHANNEL CONSTRUCTION

EXISTING NAVIGATION LIGHT (TO BE RELOCATED)

EXISTING DAY BEACON (TO BE RELOCATED)

PROPOSED BRIDGE AND DETOUR

WILLS POINT ANCHORAGE

CONSTRUCTION LAYDOWN, STAGING, AND STOCKPILE AREAS. STOCKPILE SEQUENCE FOR OFF-SITE DISPOSAL WILL BE DONE IN PHASES

BIAIR PUMPING STATION

MID-BRETON SEDIMENT DIVERSION PROJECT

5% PERMIT SET

STATE PROJECT NUMBER: BS-0030

DATE: 02/20/2019

FEDERAL PROJECT NUMBER:

SHEET 4 OF 13 REV. 3
TYPICAL SECTION - INLET CHANNEL

TYPICAL SECTION - BEGINNING OF INLET CHANNEL

CONCEPTUAL DESIGN; SUBJECT TO REVISION - NOT FOR CONSTRUCTION
LIMITS OF DIVERSION CHANNEL CONSTRUCTION

TRANSITION ZONE TO AREA OF DELTA FORMATION (SEE NOTE 2)

ANTICIPATED AREA OF DELTA FORMATION - SUBJECT TO CHANGE (SEE NOTE 1)

BRETON SOUND BASIN

NOTES:
1. POTENTIAL AREA OF DELTA FORMATION EXTENTS ARE APPROXIMATE AND SUBJECT TO CHANGE BASED ON FURTHER ENGINEERING ANALYSIS. THE AREA OF DELTA FORMATION IS APPROXIMATELY 28,200 ACRES.
2. TRANSITION ZONE TO AREA OF DELTA FORMATION IS SUBJECT TO DIS-TRIBUTARY DEVELOPMENT AND DELTA FORMATION. POTENTIAL SCOUR AND NATURAL CHANNEL DEVELOPMENT SHOULD BE ANTICIPATED IN THIS AREA. MAINTENANCE DREDGING OR ADDITIONAL CHANNELS IN THE IMMEDIATE OUTFALL AREA MAY BE DETERMINED TO BE NECESSARY DURING THE DESIGN PHASE. TOTAL AREA OF TRANSITION ZONE IS APPROXIMATELY 7,665 ACRES.

CONCEPTUAL DESIGN; SUBJECT TO REVISION - NOT FOR CONSTRUCTION
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CPRA
150 TERRACE AVENUE
BATON ROUGE, LA 70802

COASTAL PROTECTION AND RESTORATION AUTHORITY
COASTAL ENGINEERING DIVISION
150 TERRACE AVENUE
BATON ROUGE, LA 70802

DEIGNED BY:
D. PASSMAN

APPROVED BY:
S. PEYTON

MID-BRETON SEDIMENT
DIVERSION PROJECT
5% PERMIT SET

STATE PROJECT NUMBER: BS-0030
DATE: 02/20/2019

FEDERAL PROJECT NUMBER: SHEET 10 OF 13
REV. 3

ROADWAY PLAN
LA 39 BRIDGE
TYPICAL FINISHED SECTION

STA. 616+30.42 TO STA. 629+62.66

~ FINISH GRADE
ELEV. 44'

GRADES VARY BELOW
BRIDGE DECK

CONCEPTUAL DESIGN; SUBJECT TO REVISION - NOT FOR CONSTRUCTION
NOTE:
The construction laydown and staging areas are anticipated to use some form of ground stabilization method such as gravel placement, timber matting, or other. Specific methods have yet to be determined. Stockpile sequence for off-site disposal will be done in phases.

CONCEPTUAL DESIGN; SUBJECT TO REVISION - NOT FOR CONSTRUCTION