



REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

CEMVN-OD-S

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

July 28, 2014

SPECIAL PUBLIC NOTICE

This Special Public Notice is to inform the general public that the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), New Orleans District (MVN), has decided to accept and expend funds contributed by the Louisiana Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority (CPRA) to expedite review of the proposed Mid-Barataria Sediment Diversion (MBSD) permit application.

On July 1, 2014, the MVN District Commander determined that acceptance and expenditure of such funds would be in accordance with Section 214 of the *Water Resources Development Act of 2000* (WRDA 2000, Public Law No. 106-541).

On February 24, 2014, MVN posted the initial Special Public Notice announcing our preliminary intent to accept and expend such funds and stated that a cooperative agreement would be developed with CPRA. The February 2014 Special Public Notice also discussed the kind of activities for which funds would be expended, and the safeguarding procedures which would be used to ensure that the funds will not impact impartial decision-making. Those procedures include the following:

- a. All final permit decisions, for cases where these funds are used, must be reviewed at least one level above the decision-maker, unless the decision-maker is the District Commander, and/or the Director of Civil Works, Headquarters, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.
- b. All final permit decisions, for cases where these funds are used, will be made available on MVN's web page.
- c. MVN will not eliminate any procedures or decisions that would otherwise be required for the type of project under consideration.

- d. MVN will comply with all applicable laws and regulations.
- e. Funds will only be expended to provide expedited review of CPRA's MBSD Department of the Army permit application, Section 408 request and programmatic issues.

Martin S. Mayer
Chief, Regulatory Branch
New Orleans District