

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY

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

November 3, 2014

Operations Division Regulatory Branch

SPECIAL PUBLIC NOTICE

Issuance in the Federal Register of a Notice of Intent to Prepare an EIS for the Proposed Mississippi River Reintroduction into the Maurepas Swamp Diversion Project, in Saint John the Baptist, Saint James, and Ascension Parishes, Louisiana.

APPLICATION NUMBER: MVN-2013-1561-CQ

APPLICANT: Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority of Louisiana

SUMMARY: The U.S. Corps of Engineers (COE), New Orleans District, Regulatory Branch has issued a Notice of Intent (NOI) in the Federal Register to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) to inform a decision on a Department of the Army permit application pursuant to Section 404 of the Clean Water Act and Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act, and permissions request under 33 U.S.C. 408, submitted by the Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority of Louisiana (CPRA) for the Mississippi River Reintroduction into the Maurepas Swamp (MRRMS) freshwater diversion project. The COE has determined that the proposed project will result in significant impacts to the human environment, therefore an EIS will be used to ensure compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and as a basis for both the permit decision and the Section 408 permissions.

INFORMATION FOR REVIEW: The Notice of Intent to Prepare a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) was issued in the Federal Register, Vol. 79, No. 211, on Friday, October 31, 2014. This document briefly describes the proposed action, reasonable alternatives, and the COE scoping process. The NOI may be viewed at the following website: https://www.federalregister.gov/articles/2014/10/31/2014-25869/notice-of-intent-to-prepare-an-environment-impact-statement-for-the-proposed-mississippi-river.

For further information about the DA permit and EIS, please contact: Mr. Kenny Blanke at (504) 862-1217 or by email at CEMVN-Maurepas@usace.army.mil. Questions on the 408 permissions should be directed to Mr. Nathan Dayan at (504) 862-2530. Address: New Orleans District, US Army Corps of Engineers, CEMVN OD-SC, PO Box 60267, New Orleans, LA 70160.