



REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

CEMVN-PA

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

Nov. 3, 2006

Mr. Jim Amoss
Editor
The Times-Picayune
3800 Howard Avenue
New Orleans, La. 70140

Re: "Corps leaves citizen no choice," Your Opinions, page 6, Oct 31.
Citizen Jo Ann Francois said the Army Corps of Engineers gave her no opportunity to voice opinions on the Mississippi River Gulf Outlet at an Oct. 28 meeting. We take issue with this assertion. The Corps made every effort to assure that everyone, regardless of position or elective office, had an opportunity to comment on deauthorizing deep draft navigation on the MRGO. For this purpose, we scheduled the public meeting on Saturday, when most people are free to attend. Our records show that 29 people spoke, seven of whom were elected officials, over a little more than two hours. In fact, Ms. Francois filled out a card to speak, and also a written-comment card.

Records of the Oct. 28 meeting, including all oral and written comments, will be included in the Interim Report to Congress on MRGO Deep Draft Deauthorization. All public comments that are submitted by Nov. 11 will also be included. In addition, comments are welcome throughout the project life. Comments may be made on this interactive Web site, www.lacpr.usace.army.mil. Finally, anyone wishing to discuss the MRGO Deep Draft Deauthorization Report may call the project manager, Gregory Miller, at 504-862-2310, or me at 504-862-2587.

Respectfully,

Julie Morgan
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
New Orleans District
Outreach Program Specialist