



**US Army Corps
of Engineers**
New Orleans District

News Release

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Contact: René Poché, 504-862-1767

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Corps awards West Bank levee enlargement contract

NEW ORLEANS – The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New Orleans District awarded an \$8.97 million contract Friday, March 14th to construct a 3.5 mile levee enlargement stretching from New Westwego Pumping Station to Orleans Village.

“This is a significant levee lift,” says Mike Stack, Project Manager. “We are raising this levee section as far as we can now and will come back within the next few years with additional material to account for settlement.”

The contract was awarded to Clark Construction Enterprises, LLC, a small business, to raise this stretch of levee from 7-9 feet to 11-12 feet. This project will provide further protection for residents and businesses in the Westwego area from storm surge coming up the Barataria Basin.

Under post-Katrina legislation, the project cost will be 100% federally-funded. The Corps is working in coordination with its non-federal partners, the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development, the Southeast Louisiana Flood Protection Authority-West, and the West Jefferson Levee District.

The levee will be raised using approximately 500,000 cubic yards of borrow, which is the clay material required to construct levees. The project is expected to take 9 months, and should be completed by the end of 2008.