

**NEWS RELEASE
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CONTACT: USACE Public Affairs, New Orleans District

JUNE 1, 2007

**UNITED STATES ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS
PUBLIC MEETINGS**

**ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRESS
100-YEAR HURRICANE AND STORM DAMAGE
REDUCTION ACTIONS**

NEW ORLEANS – The New Orleans District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, will be conducting another series of four public meetings in the New Orleans area to present current status of the environmental compliance effort, provide updates on construction projects and answer questions on the proposed 100-year hurricane protection for the West Bank and the Lake Pontchartrain hurricane protection areas. The purpose of these meetings is to keep the public informed of the progress being made by the Corps. The next four public meetings will begin at 7 p.m. at the following locations:

June 5, 2007	Gretna / Algiers Projects	Holy Cross College, Moreau Center 4123 Woodland Drive New Orleans, LA
June 7, 2007	Jefferson Parish East Bank Projects	Jefferson Parish Public Library 4747 W. Napoleon Ave. Metairie, LA
June 12, 2007	Orleans East Bank Projects	University of New Orleans Lindy Boggs Conference Center Lakeshore Drive at Elysian Fields New Orleans, LA
June 13, 2007	Harvey / Westwego Projects	Westwego City Council Chambers 419 Avenue A Westwego, LA

Congress and the Administration have authorized the Corps to research, design and construct a 100-year hurricane protection system in the New Orleans area. Over the next 12 months the Corps will be completing a series of environmental compliance documents as mandated in the alternative National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) arrangements implemented in March 2007 by the Corps.

Each report will identify the proposed actions and will research alternatives; direct, indirect and cumulative impacts; and mitigation for impacts to the human environment. Exact alignments and work to be completed will be determined as part of the NEPA process. Individual Environmental Reports will also be prepared for proposed borrow sites and mitigation areas.

The public meetings will begin with a description of the Corps status of the environmental work followed by an update on the projects with an emphasis on the work in the sub-basin where the meeting is being held. A question and answer period will follow the presentation.

In addition to the monthly meetings the Corps will also accept written comments by mail, provided that the letters are postmarked no later than 30 days from the date of the last meeting.

Questions concerning the proposed hurricane and storm damage reduction actions should be addressed to Gib Owen, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, PM-RS, P.O. Box 60267, New Orleans, LA 70160-0267; phone: 504-862-1337; fax: 504-862-2088; e-mail: mvnenvironmental@mvn02.usace.army.mil.

For more information visit the following Web site:
www.nolaenvironmental.gov