



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

# News Release

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## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Contact: Randy Cephus, (504) 862-1708  
March 19, 2009

### **District Commander signs Decision Record confirming action on Lakefront projects**

NEW ORLEANS – The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New Orleans District Commander, Col. Alvin Lee, has signed the Decision Record for Individual Environmental Report (IER) 4 titled “New Orleans Lakefront Levee, West of Inner Harbor Navigation Canal, Orleans Parish”, following a 30-day public comment period.

Projects for IER 4 are located in the New Orleans Lakefront area from the 17th Street Canal to the western portion of the Inner Harbor Navigation Canal. This work will include the implementation of floodgates/ramps along Lakeshore Drive and replacing I-walls with robust T-walls throughout the Lakefront area. In addition, the existing Bayou St. John sector gate will be retrofitted with the addition of 6 inches of new steel and concrete to raise it to an elevation of 16 feet.

“The bayou has a historical presence here in New Orleans and provides unique opportunities to enjoy the natural environment while recreating in an urban surrounding,” said Gib Owen, Environmental Section Chief.

The projects within IER 4 will reduce impacts from a storm event that has a one percent chance of occurring in any given year. This will reduce risk to communities in Orleans Parish such as Lakeview, Lakeshore, Lake Vista, Mid City and Gentilly.

The next steps towards building the projects captured within IER 4 are: the completion of the project designs in the spring, obtaining Right of Entry in the spring/summer, and awarding five (5) contracts to begin construction in the fall '09.

Alternative arrangements allow the Corps to expedite the environmental process required of all federally-funded projects while fully complying with the intent of the National Environmental Policy Act. IER documents are available on [www.nolaenvironmental.gov](http://www.nolaenvironmental.gov).

Questions or comments concerning Individual Environmental Reports or the Corps' environmental process may be addressed to:

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For more information or to sign up to be on a meeting notification list please visit the following web site: [www.nolaenvironmental.gov](http://www.nolaenvironmental.gov).

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