



US Army Corps
of Engineers
New Orleans District

Public Meeting Summary

Request for Proposal (RFP) for Permanent Canal Closures and Pumps at the 17th St., London Ave., and Orleans Ave. Outfall Canals / Individual Environmental Report 5 Request for Proposal Thursday, Nov. 19, 2009

Location	St. Louis King of France School 1600 Lake Ave. Metairie, LA 70005
Time	Open House 6 to 6:30 p.m. Presentation 6:30 p.m.
Attendees	Approx 200
Format	Open House Presentation
Handouts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2009 Status map • Corps Approval Process • Causeway Fact Sheet • Steps in the Design-Build Process • RFP Table of Contents • List of Acronyms • Opportunities for Pubic Input
Facilitator	Nancy Allen

Permanent Canal Closures & Pumps

Public Meeting –
Project Overview
December 14, 2009



BUILDING STRONG



Nancy Allen: My name is Nancy Allen. I'm the Public Affairs Officer for the Hurricane Protection Office, and I'm going to be facilitating this evening's meeting. To start, I'm going to ask our commander, Colonel Robert Sinkler to give some opening remarks.

Col. Robert Sinkler: I'm Colonel Bob Sinkler, I command the Hurricane Protection Office here in New Orleans. What I'd like to do is get a sense of who we've got here in the audience. We just want to make sure we try do everything we can to answer everyone's questions or at least address their issues. So, how many contractors do we have here that are interested in this particular project, how many actual permanent pump stations on the river front? So, we've got probably 20% of the audience. Okay. How many folks do we have here today that are interested in some specific design feature of the pump stations on the lakefront? Okay. About 20%. Any other groups out there, or any other interests that don't fit into those two categories? Yes?

Male speaker: There are a number of us here from the Pump to the River Board that are interested in that particular option.

Col. Sinkler: Okay.

Female speaker: Coconut Beach.

Col. Sinkler: Okay.

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Male speaker: [Inaudible]

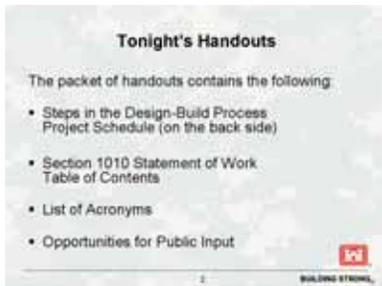
Male engineer: I live down the 17th Street Canal in New Orleans [Inaudible].

Col. Sinkler: Okay. All right. I'm just going to go ahead and get started on the agenda. We'll start off and address some of the issues associated with the Request for Proposal. The purpose of the meeting tonight is to take input for the Request for Proposal before this contract gets out the door and things get further down the road. They'll be more meetings, you'll see the schedule here in a little bit, so this is not the only opportunity you will have or groups will have to provide input. With that, I'm going to turn it back over to Nancy and we'll just go ahead and get started with the meeting.

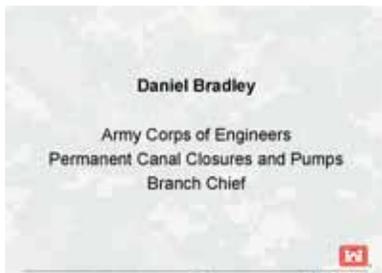
Nancy Allen: Okay. We do have a number of our partners here. I'm going to recognize some folks and please forgive me if I either overlook you or mispronounce your name. We have Marcia St. Martin from the Sewerage and Water Board, Rickey Brouillette from Coastal Protection Restoration Association (CPRA), we have Jerome Zeringue from CPRA, Kazem Alikhani from Jefferson Parish and also President Aaron Broussard from Jefferson Parish, Gerard Gillen from Orleans Levee District. I think that covers everybody. Thank you for being here.

The purpose of this evening's meeting is to start a series of three meetings that will allow us to hear your input, hear the communities input about portions of the Request for Proposal (RFP). Really what we'll be discussing is the technical specs. We've heard your concerns about what the station will look like, what kind of pumps we'll use, what the environmental impacts will be, and we want to allow you to have some input into the technical portions of this project.

When you came in, you got a number of handouts and I want to walk you through them and explain to you what we're going to do tonight. So, in your handouts you have a sheet about the design-build process and it has the project schedule on the back. We are building this in a design-build fashion which is unusual for civil works projects. It allows us to accomplish the work in a more innovative way. You have what's called a Statement of Work from Section 1010 and a table of contents, those are portions of the Request for Proposal and we'll explain a bit more about those in a minute. You also have a very lengthy list of acronyms, I know we use a lot of acronyms so we wrote down every one we could think of and have provided you a copy. And, then lastly you have a sheet that explains the ways you will be able to make public input.



Tonight we're going to briefly recap what the project is. We will focus on walking you through those technical specs. I suggest that you take it home, look at it, look at the acronyms, and review it, formulate your thoughts, and you can either submit written comments, or you can come back to our second meeting which will be on January 21st. At that time you will be able to give input in small group sessions, and we will give you points of contact to submit written comments.



Let's go over a couple ground rules, I'm just going to ask that you let us get through the presentation and then we'll open it up to questions and comments. You were given a comment card when you walked in. We're going to be reading questions and comments from those cards. When I call your name and read your comment, come stand at the

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microphone and then we will answer your question and you will have a chance to ask any follow-up questions after our response.

With that, I'm going to turn it over to Dan Bradley, who is our Permanent Pumps Branch Chief.

Dan Bradley:

Good evening. Thank you for coming. We have a good group here, we have a lot of our partners and stakeholders here supporting us, and I think together we can move forward and have a very quality product.



Tonight, the first thing I'd like to do is go over the area that we're working in, the three canals. We're working on 17th Street Canal to the west, Orleans Avenue Canal, and London Avenue Canal. And, in this particular shot right here, this is Drainage Pump Station 6, number 7, and number 3. Also, I'm showing Drainage Pump Station number 1 and stations will be located in place of those temporary structures at the mouths of each of these canals.



This is 17th Street Canal; this is the interim closure structure. The Coast Guard station is to the west, and this is a row of condominiums that have recently been demolished to the east.

This is the Individual Environmental Report footprint. This is a maximum footprint that the design builders would be allowed to promote their design and their proposed locations. This will be minimized during the proposal process.



At the London Avenue Canal, we have University of New Orleans to the east and we have residential areas to the west. This is bounded by the current temporary structure at London Avenue Canal and Lake Shore Avenue Bridge. So we're looking in this area and you'll see in the next shot, the Individual

Environmental Report footprint will allow the design builder, and the blue area will be the permanent locations. Again, this will be minimized. The orange is temporary.



Orleans, which is the smallest pump station of the three (only 2900 CFS) will be located between Lakeshore Drive and the current Interim Control Structure. The blue area is the maximum footprint of the permanent area, where the orange is the temporary area.

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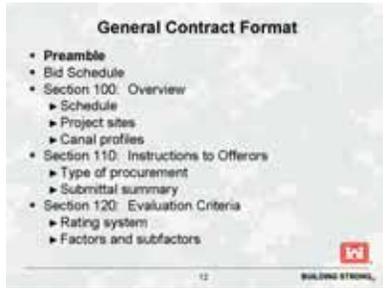
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Next, we'll get into some of the elements of the Request for Proposal. Not all of them are going to be



discussed here tonight, just the ones that have to do with performance specifications. This includes things that talk about how high the pump station's going to be, how much capacity it will have, what it will look like, what kind of noises you'll see during construction, what that will be limited to, operational noise, and operational considerations. So, Steve is going to go through some of the other elements briefly to show you that the entire Request for Proposal is more than the Statement of Work. He will show you that it's more routine in ordinary language that won't be changed from project to project. Steve.

Steve Roth:



All right. Thanks, Dan. Good evening everybody. Again, the purpose of this is just to give you a broad outline of what a government procurement and a government contract normally looks like. We're only going to be discussing the Statement of Work here tonight. We wanted to let you guys know where this fits into a normal government contract. Just a brief background, government contracting is governed by the Federal Acquisition Regulation. It's a pretty thick book. In addition to this book we have three supplements, the Department of Defense Supplement, the Army Supplement, and the Corps of Engineers Supplement, so we have lots of guidance on how to do government

procurement.

Most of what we do comes right out of this book somehow or someway. Most of what goes into a solicitation or a contract comes right out of this book. So a lot of it is very standard. We just pick and choose what's applicable depending on the type of procurement, whether its construction or supplies or services, then we pick different aspects from the Federal Acquisition Regulation. Specifically, this contract, or this solicitation, or Request for Proposal, there are different terms, it's going to have a preamble. A preamble is generally not required in most contracts but because this one is very large and very significant and very complex we're putting a preamble in this one. It's essentially a two or three page, very broad overview of the project. It really has no binding impact on the government or the contractor. It's just a very broad overview, and I think the preamble for this procurement is about three pages long. After that we get into the solicitation part. All solicitations have a bid schedule, it's usually one or two pages and it's where the contractors that bid on this put their bottom line prices information. This is a very complex project so the bidders will probably submit two or three notebook volumes full of their project information, and what we ask them to do is take the bottom line figure and put it on the bid schedule, so it's just a snapshot, at the very best, of the price because most of it will be in the cost proposals that will be very complex. From there the solicitation goes to an overview and we talk about schedule. We want to schedule the project and milestones that we expect the contractor to meet. There will be pictures of the sites much like you see in the back of the room. Again, it will inform the contractors, the general geographic, and the specific geographic location. And other general information about the project goes in Section 100. The next is Section 110, which is the instructions to the bidders, the potential contractors that are going to bid on the project. We tell them the type of procurement, the things they need to submit, how they need to submit those items. We generally require technical information in one notebook or in a series of notebooks, cost information in separate volumes so we can identify those very quickly and very easily, and in all those, instructions are in there, we tell the bidders how to put it together and where to include it. Then there is Section 120, again, that's information primarily for the bidders telling them how we're going to evaluate their proposals, our rating system, the factors and sub-factors that their proposal needs to address. A lot of these are very standard for construction projects, there are slight variations on the factors and sub-factors, but you'll find a lot of them are used repeatedly in construction-type contracts.

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The next three sections, 600, 700, and 800, are where our contract clauses go. Ninety percent of these are right out of this book. Again, for a construction contract, our contracting branch has a computerized program where they can pull these contract clauses and put them into the contract very quickly based on the type of procurement. So, these are standardized, you'll see them in virtually any construction project that we'll do, you'll see the same type of clauses. Section 800, there you see is entitled Special Contract Clauses, special in the sense that these clauses don't necessarily apply to every single procurement. For example, this is a design-build project, as Nancy and Dan have mentioned, design-build is not the norm for the Corps of Engineers, we certainly have

experience doing it but it's not the norm. So, those clauses that are applicable to the design-build process will go in Section 800 but, again, they're very standardized clauses that we just have to pull them and put them into this section because we're doing a design-build project. Section 1010, of course, is a Statement of Work, that's the main reason we're here tonight to go over that with you and allow you guys to have input into that so I won't go into detail of that, but it's project specific as you can imagine. The next section we get into, again, more generalized clauses, Section 1100, things that apply to every construction contract. For example, there's things in there we tell the contractor how you deal with time extensions for weather; we tell them how to handle safety issues and things like that. And, then after Section 1100 is just a series of other more standard clauses that appear in all construction contracts, and I've listed some examples; submittal procedures, those are post-award submittal procedures, closeout, what are we going to do when we get to the end of the project. And, that's basically it.

Permanent Canal Closures & Pumps

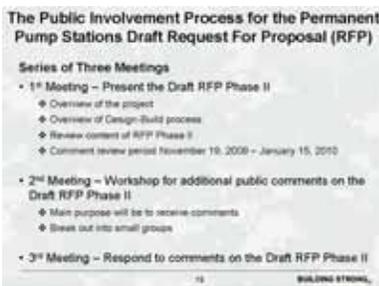


Most of this solicitation or Request for Proposal, however you want to refer to it, is going to have standard language that not even we can change without putting in a request for a deviation that has to go all the way through headquarters level, so most of its very standard. The part that we do have the most impact on is the Statement of Work and that's what we need you guys to comment on over the next series of monthly meetings. That's all I have.



Dan Bradley: Thanks, Steve. Moving on to the next series of slides, we'll walk you into the design-build process. First, we'll talk about the series of meetings and what the significance of those meetings are, then we'll get into the design-build process, and then give you a framework or a guide path to know how to negotiate to the areas of interest that you may have in the Request for Proposal. The first is, I think Nancy alluded to earlier, this meeting that we're in tonight is to give you an overview of the project, an overview of the design-build process, a review of the content of the Request for Proposal Phase II, and comment review period which will extend from tomorrow through January 15th. The second meeting is a workshop for additional public comments on the Draft Request for Proposal, and the main purpose will be to receive more comments that you bring in personally, and we'll break out into small interest groups that you may have, and we'll work through the priorities that you see in terms of what needs to go into the Request for Proposal. And, the third meeting is where we'll come back to you with the Request for Proposal showing those comments that we've incorporated and explain to you if they haven't been incorporated

why they were not incorporated.



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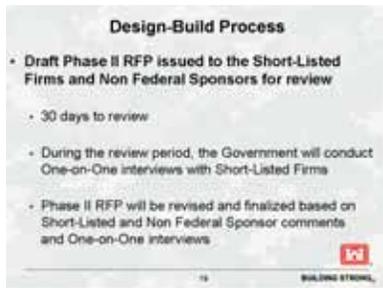
Procurement Process Overview

- **Two Phase Process**
 - RFP Phase I will select a short list of 3 to 5 bidders based on factors under consideration, such as past performance, technical qualifications and technical approach.
 - RFP Phase II select contractor to design and build project based on factors under consideration, such as technical approach, management capability, past performance, socio-economic and price.



Design-Build Process

- **Phase I Request for Proposal (RFP)**
 - Solicits qualifications from those design-build contractor teams interested in designing and constructing the Permanent Canal Closures and Pumps
 - Evaluation Factors under consideration:
 - Past Performance
 - Technical Qualifications/Specialized Experience
 - Technical Approach
- **Form the Short-List**
 - Based on the evaluations of Phase I proposals
 - 3 to 5 teams are selected to submit Phase II proposals



Design-Build Process

- **Draft Phase II RFP issued to the Short-Listed Firms and Non Federal Sponsors for review**
 - 30 days to review
 - During the review period, the Government will conduct One-on-One interviews with Short-Listed Firms
 - Phase II RFP will be revised and finalized based on Short-Listed and Non Federal Sponsor comments and One-on-One interviews



Design-Build Process

- **Issue Phase II RFP to Short-Listed Firms for 120 days**
 - 25-30% design submittal
 - 90 days for review and evaluation of Phase II RFP proposals
 - Evaluation Factors under consideration:
 - Technical Approach
 - Management Capability
 - Past Performance
 - Socio-Economic
 - Price
 - Oral Presentations will be required during the review/evaluation process
 - Contract Award

The next slide we've already covered so I'll jump right through to the next slide which is Two Phase Process. In the first phase the Request for Proposal will select a short list of three to five bidders. We've had some industry days and some local general discussion days recently and we've got a

tremendous interest in the contractor world out there, large companies that are very interested in this very important project. So, emerging from Request for Proposal Phase I, the evaluation process, will be a list of three to five bidders and the factors that we're considering right now and using to evaluate those would be past performance,

technical qualifications, and technical approach. In Phase II, after we've got that short list, we'll select a contractor to design-build the project based on factors under consideration such as technical approach, management capability, past performance, socio-economic, and price.

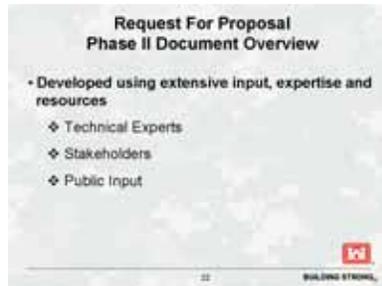
The next slide will talk about the Phase I Request for Proposal itself, and what that is, it solicits qualifications from those design-builders that are interested in designing and constructing these pump stations. The evaluation factors under consideration, again, are past performance, technical qualification, specialized experience in this type large scale projects, and technical approach. Technical approach is going to be very important. We form that short list and then we move to the Phase II.

Before we get to the Phase II, the issuance, there's going to be 30 days of review of the short list, of that



Technical Requirements

- Technical requirements for the project are released in RFP Phase II.
 - RFP Phase II Performance Requirements – Section 3.1 (page 10)
 - Height of barrier wall (specified)
 - Design life of project (specified)
 - Pump Station capacity (specified)
 - RFP Phase II documents allow for multiple options regarding – Section 3.3 (page 21)
 - Type of pumps (open for design-build innovation)
 - Type of drivers (open for design-build innovation)
 - Configuration of pump station (open for design-build innovation)
 - Design-Build is required to provide design details with their price proposal, then the best design is chosen



Request For Proposal Phase II Document Overview

- **Developed using extensive input, expertise and resources**
 - Technical Experts
 - Stakeholders
 - Public Input

three to five group, the most qualified group, we're going to go out with that Request for Proposal again, and we're going to ask them, "Does everything in this look right? Do you have any comments?" At the same time we're going out with our team, the state, Coastal Protection and Restoration

Authority of Louisiana Sewerage and Water Board, Jefferson Parish, and they're continuing to help us develop this Request for Proposal as you will up to this point. The government will conduct one-on-one interviews towards the end of that 30-day period so if they do have comments and we're not quite clear on those, we'll bring those in and have them discuss those comments with us face-to-face so we can understand what they're trying to get across and we can explain to them our reasons for either doing it or not including it. In Phase II the Request for Proposal will be revised and finalized based on the non-federal sponsor comments, short-listed, and one-on-one.

After that, we issue the Request for Proposal Phase II to the short-listed firms for 120 days, approximately four months. At the end of four months they're going to come back with a pretty well advanced design, a 25% to 30% design, which is a significant design on the project size. We'll have a team, a large number

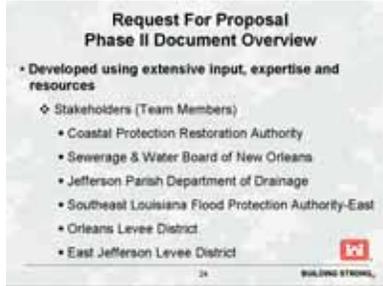
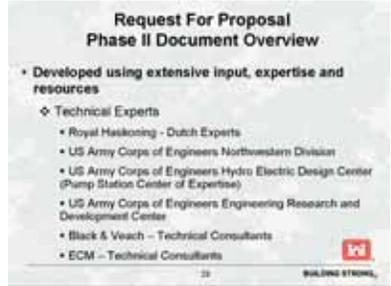
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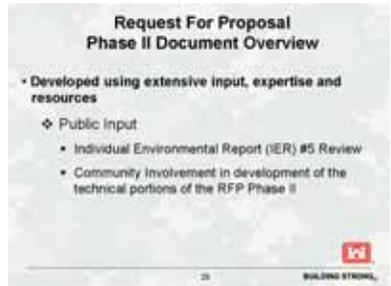
of engineers from across the country that will form the evaluation teams for those factors that I spoke earlier about, and they'll take up to 90 days to review and evaluate these proposals. These proposals



coming in from this three to five member group are going to be huge proposals so it will take some time to do it. And, again, those evaluations factors are technical approach, management capability, past performance, socio-economic, and price. Oral presentations will be required during the

review/evaluation process so if there's something they want to get across there's an opportunity, again, to fully understand what the proposals are and make sure we get it right, and then we award the contract.

Getting a little bit deeper into the Request for Proposal and to give you a guide post of where things are, these are the technical requirements. The Request for Proposal Phase II performance requirements is located in Section 3.1. This slide presentation I am providing to you tonight will be available on the web so you can download, and you can use this as a guide to go through the Request for Proposal so you don't



have to read these 84 pages, you're welcome to, of course. The height of the barrier wall will be specified, that's something we have to do to ensure the 100-year level of protection, and in fact, the barrier wall will exceed that by two feet. The design life of the project, which will be specified, the machinery, the

structure, the elements of that, is also located in Section 3.1 on page 10. The pump station capacities will match the Sewerage and Water Board's current capacity plus the increased capacity they expect to have over the next five to seven years, so at 17th, it's 12,500, at London it's 9,000, and at the Orleans, 2700.



The Request for Proposal Phase II documents allow for multiple options regarding Section 3.3 which is on page 21, and these are some of the interests we've heard over the previous meetings. The types of pumps, that's going to be open for design-build innovation, we're going to encourage the best pumping mechanism whether it's concrete volute, horizontal pumps, or vertical pumps. The types of drivers, this is going to be open for design-build innovation as well, it could be electric motors, it could be diesel driven, some of our partners have specific inclinations as to what types of drivers they'd like to have and

we're going to listen to them very carefully. The configuration of the pump station, again, that's open for design-build, at the height, we're going to minimize that height as much as possible while preserving certain features that we have to have such as an overhead crane. The design-builder is required to provide design details with their price proposal, and then the best design is chosen. It's the best design that's chosen.

So, how did we develop this Request for Proposal up to this point, the framework that we're giving out tonight, that some of you have hard copies and others will download from the web? Well, we have a group of technical experts, we have our stakeholders, our team members, Sewerage and Water Board, Jefferson Parish, the state, the local levee districts, and Flood Protection East, then we have your public input, and in the next slide we'll talk about those technical experts. Early on in the process we've heard a lot about what the Dutch have been doing in Europe, we got a group of Dutch engineers over from Royal

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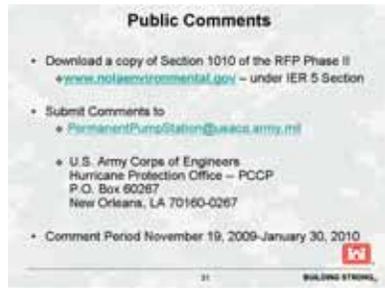
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Haskoning and they're helping us with this design and the Request for Proposal and a lot of the modeling aspects that go in the selection of pumps. We also have the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Northwest



Division located in Portland, they're a group specialized out there, they do a lot of hydroelectric work. And, also, in that area there's a hydroelectric design center or the Pump Station Center of Expertise for the Corps of Engineers that is also on the team. We have what we call (ERDC) the Engineering

Research and Development Center near Vicksburg that has a lot of our design diametrical and physical modeling group, those doctors out there are helping us with modeling efforts and coming up with



information in the Request for Proposal that will direct the design-builders to not only model for the current situation but for conditions that may be seen in the future if an Option 2-type of arrangement is ever funded and authorized. That would lead us to adaptability and why this pump station is adaptable

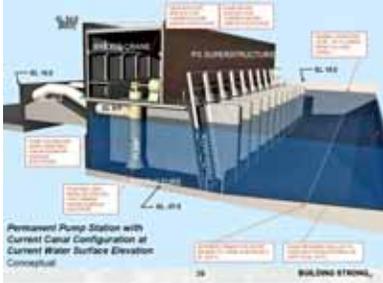
for future conditions, and I'll get a little more into that a little later. Also, we have our technical consultants, Black & Veatch, and our local engineering group (ECM) has been extremely helpful.

Moving into the stakeholders which are team members, we have the Costal Protection and Restoration Authority of Louisiana, the state, the Sewerage and Water Board which has been operating pump stations for 100 years, Jefferson Parish has an excellent drainage system, the Southeast Louisiana Flood Protection Authority-East have been very helpful, we've presented some of these graphics to you, all of these groups, talking about the current situation and future conditions relative to adaptability, Orleans Levee District is always on board and so is East Jefferson Levee District.

From the public input we've had the series of Individual Environmental Report review meetings and we've gone through and walked you through the Individual Environmental Report process, and now, in the second bullet, we're talking about the beginning of the community involvement in the development of the technical portions of the Request for Proposal Phase II. And, this is something we have promised at those meetings, people want to know, is the Corps listening, well, this is the way, not only are we listening, we're going to use your input in development of these specifications.

The next slide talks about areas of public interest within the Draft Request for Proposal. A lot of people are interested in the storm surge barrier requirements because, first and foremost, public safety is what we're after here and stopping that surge from getting into the canals is a primary safety requirement. Then we go to the Outfall Canal pumping requirements, we want to make sure that we can drain the city of rainwater and whatever the Sewerage and Water Board is pumping, we can pass unimpeded or pump if the gates are closed. We want a reliable, integrated operation. We want adaptability requirements in this Request for Proposal. Now, adaptability is something that, it's hard for me to visualize without some graphics, so I was going to ask Stacy to put some graphics up and maybe illustrate that. So, I'm going to break from this presentation just briefly.

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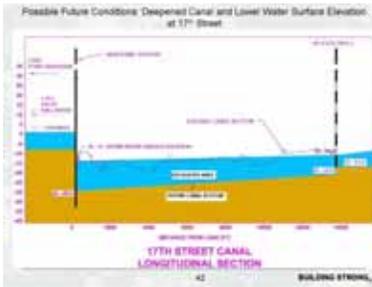
Summary

What this graphic is showing is that we're going to develop a deepened sill of approximately -37, this is all in a vertical datum, this is not necessarily the depth, but this is in the -37 North American Vertical Datum 88. So it's going to be deep enough for that if the canal bottoms, in the future, were ever deepened, say for a condition similar to an Option 2, you would not have to remove the pump station, you would use the same pump station. You'd probably change this out to what's called a foreign substance inlet, but that would pretty much stay the same; elevation 18 is your storm surge barrier and that would remain the same. And, what we call the super structure, the pump station building, we have it set at a maximum elevation 54, that doesn't mean its 54 feet tall, it just means its elevation 54. For example, if the floor elevation is 9, which we have shown here, then it'd be 54 minus 9 for about 45 feet tall and that'd be the maximum elevation, we would ask the design-builders to minimize that height. We have the trash racks and, of course, the elevation in the canals for this current situation is about zero, it fluctuates with the lake, the tidal



flow of the lake. The major difference between Option 1 and Option 2 is that water surface elevation. In the current situation you have that lake level, in an Option 2 situation, or a possible future situation, the canals will be deepened and that water surface elevation would drop about 16 feet lower, so now your lift for those pumps would be much greater. Then, what I'll do is walk you through the next slide.

This next graphic is just going to be another indication of what I just told you, the transition up to the current canal elevation which is about -9, you have your barriers, operating floor, and discharge into the lake.



The next graphic will show exactly what that means. I'm using 17th Street as an illustration here, this would be Pump Station 6, and this is normal lake level. What would happen in a possible future situation is this is the current bottom of the canal which is approximately -9, -10, and it fluctuates, all this area could possibly excavated then the canal bottom now would drop from -29 to -24 at the pump station and all of this would be gravity flow. So, the difference is the current situation is the elevation the canal is up here and in the future it would be way down here, so now the pumps would have to lift that water much higher.



The next graphic shows you what that adapted pump station would look like. So, as you see, the super structure is the same, the inverts for the pipes are the same, the barrier's the same, the sill elevation is, again -37, that hasn't changed. What's changed is you'd probably want to use a foreign substance inlet because your water surface elevation now has dropped 16 feet, so what the pump's manufacturers will tell you is that you would go to what they call an (FSI), foreign



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substance inlet, to avoid things like vortices and cavitations. Other than that, you would have to have larger motors and a larger gear reduction

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because now your lift would be much higher from down to -16 all the way up to lake level, and that lake level during a storm could rise as high as +12.

This is a graphic that you see, right here, the water has dropped, everything else is the same, the elevation is the same, the transition is -27, and in a future condition that would be the new canal bottom and you would just extend out to the current Drainage Pump Station. So, the pump station, there's changes in the pump station but they're not major changes in the structure. And, of course, one last thing is that it would no longer be a gated structure because now the elevation in the canal would be much lower than the lake so we'd have to seal that off, it would be permanently closed. Right now, under the current configuration, we have gates that are opened 95% of the time and you're only pumping about 5% of the time in a tropical event. So, that is the major difference and that is what the adaptability feature is.

So, going back to where we were and moving down to types of pumps and drivers, we'll be discussing the Request for Proposal, the power supply for the pump station is very important because you want to make sure that the power supply for your pumping capacity is always there in the 100% availability, and we know sometimes energy is not able to guarantee electrical transmission running power and/or natural gas; natural gas can be available readily but sometimes you lose pressure and that becomes a problem. We want aesthetically compatible facility so we're going to try to discuss and capture, with your help, exactly what that means, and we want to make sure that we comply with all environmental requirements.

Now we're getting a little bit deeper into this, I'll just go over it really quick. What I'll do is just highlight this but; again, in here we'll tell you the sections and the page numbers where these are located so you can get to those right away. We talked about barrier heights, still water lake elevation, design wave heights (it gets kind of technical in there) and design life of facilities. Dropping down to operating criteria, canal water level elevation, again, for the current situation and for future situation, these will both be modeled. Gate closure sequence, how this is going to be operated, controls, monitoring, Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition, fiber optics, things that, we'll be discussing here, and potential future conditions, which we term adaptability, is also contained. We talked about surge, what that surge would be, what the effect of the overturning of the structure, wind loading, three second wind gusts, 190 miles per hour. Mechanical, what the gates could consist of, the types of pumps, again, concrete volute pumps are also included as an option for the design-builders proposal. We'll talk about the power generators, electrical systems, and instrumentation. And, that's all in Section 5.

Section 5.4 has to do with the aesthetics, the aesthetics of the building heights, and minimizing the footprint. Environmental is in 5.14. And, construction-related criteria, such as traffic control, noise/vibration during construction, how we're going to monitor and keep that to a minimum, what the work hours will be in your neighborhoods and what the shifts would be, and security during that construction.

The next slide is the project schedule. The green items at the top are things that have already been executed; the Individual Environmental Report decision record was signed in June, the project description document was signed and approved on 24 of August, our first meeting is tonight, and we're hoping that the Project Partnership Agreement with the state will be executed very soon, I'm very optimistic. I have some good indications that we're moving forward very fast recently. By January, if that executed by December 14th or before, we're going to plan an Issue of Synopsis for this project. The second meeting will be held for you to come back and we'll talk about your comments on the 21st. Then we start issuing the Design-Build Phase I Request for Proposal. February, we'll evaluate that Request for Proposal and that's where we develop that short list that I described earlier. In March we have the third meeting where we come back and we talk to you about what's been incorporated in the Request for Proposal and what hasn't and why. Near the end of March we form and approve the short list, we issue a draft Request for

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Proposal for review by the short list in late-March. June we issue a Design-Build Phase II Request for Proposal. Then 20 days later, plus 90 days for the evaluation, January 2011 we award the design-build contract, and based on that milestone we expect to complete construction in May 2014.

Now, the next slide is a way to reach us and to get a copy of the Section 1010 of the Request for Proposal and that's at nolaenvironmental.gov. Nancy, you want to go through that?

Nancy Allen:

Correction on this, in earlier slides that comments ended on January 15th, they actual do end on January 30th. So, we will accept comments through January 30th, including at our next meeting on January 21st. So, we do have a few copies of those technical specs here with us this evening but also they are available on nolaenvironmental.gov under the Individual Environmental Report 5 Section. You can submit comments to PermanentPumpStation@usace.army.mil, or you can send written comments. And, again, the comment period goes through January 30th. You have a copy of all this contact information in the handouts tonight.



You have two websites, as I mentioned, nolaenvironmental.gov is one of them, the other one is mvn.usace.army.mil, that's the district website.



And, we're now also putting out information through Twitter and Facebook and we have photos available on Flickr. So, if you're familiar with those outlets, search New Orleans District and you'll find us.

All right. Now we're going to open up for comments and questions. As I told you earlier, we are going to take comments and questions from the speaker cards. Speaker cards are available in the back, if you have them at your seats now you can hold them up, I already have a stack of them, but Rachel and Kristen in the back will circulate, if you have comments just hold them in the air. When I call your name and read your comment you can come to the microphone, we will answer your question, if there's a question or you need information from us, and then you can certainly ask us any follow-up questions. I'm going to address the comments and questions that are specifically related to the Request for Proposal first because that's the point of tonight's meeting, is to help you all understand the Request for Proposal a little better.



All right. Now we're going to open up for comments and questions. As I told you earlier, we are going to take comments and questions from the speaker cards. Speaker cards are available in the back, if you have them at your seats now you can hold them up, I already have a stack of them, but Rachel and Kristen in the back will circulate, if you have comments just hold them in the air. When I call your name and read your comment you can come to the microphone, we will answer your question, if there's a question or you need information from us, and then you can certainly ask us any follow-up questions. I'm going to address the comments and questions that are specifically related to the Request for Proposal first because that's the point of tonight's meeting, is to help you all understand the Request for Proposal a little better.

Nancy Allen:

So, my first question is from Betsy Richardson, and her question is, "Can you tell me what you have changed from your original plan after having all of these meetings and input from the public?"

Nancy Allen:

Ma'am, I'm going to ask you to go to this microphone in the middle, sorry, that one right there. Dan is going to take this microphone over here. So, Dan, can you tell us what you've changed in your original plan after having all these meetings and input from the public.

Dan Bradley:

Well, this is the first of the community involved meetings that we've had so this is the first serious opportunity for you to affect a difference in the Request for Proposal. So, what we've really heard from you is that you want to have involvement in the process so we've created the series of meetings to provide that opportunity to you.

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Betsy Richardson: But, these meetings have been going on forever and people have been making comments and asking for things, and everything I see, it seems that it's the same it's been from day one. I don't see anything that's changed.

[Applause]

Nancy Allen: [Inaudible] Individual Environmental Report process.

Dan Bradley: Well, the Individual Environmental Report process is a series of meetings that we've had to select a site; we have a proposed site [Inaudible]. So, during that comment process we changed the current footprints that you see on that slide right now. But, up until now you told us that you wanted to minimize the height of the buildings, you want to affect changes in the aesthetics, you want to ensure public safety by building surge barriers out there, and getting this done quickly to remove the temporary pumps that are out there right now. We're moving forward in that process, it's a time consuming process. [Inaudible] So, that is the main difference, now [Inaudible].

Betsy Richardson: A lot of people out there have said the walls aren't safe and I don't see where anything has been done to fix that, and to put concrete in the walls [Inaudible].

Dan Bradley: Option 1 is the only authorized and approved option that we have right now, it's operating in conjunction. It will be in conjunction with the current Drainage Pump Stations pretty much like the Interim Control Structure's are operating right now. And, with the gates open 95% of the time the Sewerage and Water Board continues to pump as they normally would. Now, when the gates are closed then we have to pump [Inaudible] and maintain that water level [Inaudible].

Nancy Allen: Can I get your other question?

Betsy Richardson: The other question is, when the Project Partnering Agreement is done, will everything in the Project Partnering Agreement [Inaudible] be part of the bid request to the contractor?

Dan Bradley: Well, with the parts that belong to the Request for Proposal will be, I haven't seen the current [Inaudible]. Thank you.

Nancy Allen: Mr. Edward Vineman [Phonetic]. He had several topics that I think he would like us to consider in the Request for Proposal, [Inaudible] noise levels, [Inaudible] road impacts, construction right-of-way, and then he also [Inaudible] temporary.

Edward Vineman: [Inaudible]

Nancy Allen: Sir, if you can speak in one of the microphones so we can get this on tape and make this part of the record.

Edward Vineman: My name is Edward Vineman and I really don't have anything to say except I support Pump to the River. However, [Inaudible] mass confusion in the interpretation of what this meeting was about because of 2 and 2A, which deals with concrete lining the canals and removing the pumping stations and all that, which I've been told is not the subject of this hearing, and also Pump to the River is not the subject of this hearing, it's just the three pumping stations, the configuration, etc. Am I correct?

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Dan Bradley: Yes. The purpose of this meeting is to discuss the permanent pump replacement for the ICS's out there now, and the specifications and what goes in those specifications, that's the important part of this meeting tonight.

Edward Vineman: Also, can I ask one quick question? Will the stations be designed of the permanent concrete lining of the canals?

Dan Bradley: Yes, sir, that's the reason why I went through the adaptability part of the slide. In the future, if it were authorized and approved, it would deepen those canals by about 16 feet or more, depends on the canals, and so we deepened the sills in this current configuration to accept those deeper canals so you wouldn't have to remove that pump station, all you would have to do is have larger motors or engines to lift that water higher.

Edward Vineman: Okay, now, what does that add to the cost?

Dan Bradley: The cost is within the program and costs that we have right now.

Edward Vineman: Okay.

Dan Bradley: That's something that had to be approved at a higher level and it was approved.

Edward Vineman: Okay. So, basically we've got to come back and do the fight about the concrete lining of the canals at a later date. Fight that battle, and Pump to the River battle.

Dan Bradley: Yes, but then you would still have adaptable pump stations waiting for you when that would happen.

Edward Vineman: Don't say when it will happen because I don't think it will ever happen because I just think that when people start to realize going down 20 feet, what it will do to Lakeview, you know, will be disastrous, and you even say it in your report. Thank you.

Dan Bradley: You're welcome.

Nancy Allen: Thank you, sir. Mr. Lyle Ferguson with Lake Shore Property Owners gave us a number of inputs that he thinks he would like to see in the Request for Proposal. Sir, do you want me to read the whole thing?

Lyle Ferguson: No. I'm not representing the Lake Shore Property Owners, I'm representing myself but I'm here because at the recent meeting of the Lake Shore Property Owners there was a joined distributed showing a proposed building for the station at the Orleans Outfall Canal, it looked like about three 747 hangars stuck together, it was so large. I think people have the impression that something over 80 feet high is going to be built, and as I say, 747 hangar-sized things is what somebody thinks is going to be built. I did address some specific things in my comments. My background is, I've lived on the lakefront since 1970, I've been working as a mechanical engineer since about, nearly 50 years, so I have a vague idea of the problems you're facing, I think. Some of the concerns that I've heard were addressed by the things I saw in the presentation. I think my prime concern is still with the height, and I addressed some of those in my comments and I think I'll submit those in a letter through some of the websites or as a direct-mail letter. But, just to summarize that, I was disappointed to hear you're still saying that you've got to have an overhead crane. I think there's some design options that could be looked at, for instance, I

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know that somebody said, “Well, if you’ve got to take an engine out, take it out through the roof.” I’m sure you can do skid-mounted subassemblies that could be moved out, which of course, there are floor area footprint issues with that, but there are a lot of possibilities. I was glad to hear that you were looking at a number of different pump options which will affect your height and what you have to do to get the same pieces out to repair them whenever they have to be done. I do think you have a tough job with this whole project, but I do have confidence that the people you’re inviting to bid are going to be capable of doing a great thing for us. But, those of us who live in the neighborhood, we don’t want a 747-sized hangar which will obviously bother us considering the value of our property plus I suspect that many people who may go to the lakefront to have a picnic or whatever won’t be doing that nearly as much if there’s some incredibly large structure. But, I would think that with careful design you could minimize the height and I hope you’ll look at every possible option and alternative. And, I’ll submit my additional comments in writing, so thank you very much.

Nancy Allen: Thank you, sir. Okay. I have a question from Tim Thomason [Phonetic]. Public stakeholders that will be affected by this Request for Proposal should be included in the short-list interview and in the final evaluation process as you select the final contractors. This is the best way to ensure these stakeholders concerns have been fully considered and will help with community buy-in.

Tim Thomason: I would say, I think everybody appreciates all the work that the folks up here have been doing on these projects, but we’re the stakeholders, all these folks are partners in helping you get to this point. So, if you’re really going to put the proof to the pudding and get us involved in selecting your short-list, get us involved in helping you evaluate at least the stakeholder portion of the Request for Proposal.

Dan Bradley: Yes. We want to get your help in developing the Request for Proposal, we will have technical advisors from our partners, such as the state, the Sewerage and Water Board, the Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority of Louisiana, the Flood Authority East, those will be our technical advisors and you working through them will have your voice heard in the selection process.

Tim Thomason: Thank you.

Nancy Allen: Thank you. This deals with real estate impacts, “What recourse do we have if your pump station reduces the value of our property?”

Dan Bradley: I’m going to have to defer to Mr. Kopec on that. He’s our real estate specialist.

Mr. Kopec: Basically, the real estate is located property owned by many forms of non-governmental entities. We have no authority from the Congress will pay for any possible impacts on value either before, during, or after the construction of the project. We are limited by what Congress says we can do, what the Justice Department says we can do and the Federal Court System. Basically, the only recourse would be to seek private counsel and possibly some sort of lawsuit, but as far as our compensation we don’t have the authority to do anything of that nature.

Nancy Allen: Thanks, Joe. Rachel, do we have any more questions regarding the Request for Proposal? All right. This is from Norris Williams, “When the speaker discussed the height of the pumping station he refers to accommodating a vertical crane. Is this a given, and has any consideration being given to having Sewerage and Water Board bring a crane once or twice a year to move the pumps for maintenance? In other words, is a permanent tall, vertical crane necessary, if so, why?” That’s the first part of the question, we’ll go ahead and answer that question.



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Dan Bradley: We are working with the Sewerage and Water Board to develop the structure requirements with the Request for Proposal, and we're listening to their comments on the need for an overhead crane. There may be ways, as I stated before, it's not going to be an aircraft hangar, it's not going to be 90 feet in the air, we're looking to go from 45, as a maximum, down low, and we're going to ask the bidders, be innovative in that approach. The need for the overhead crane will be worked closely with our team members and their requirements, and they will explain the need for the crane. If we keep it in there I'm sure they will be able to explain the need for that crane.



Nancy Allen: The second question is, "What is the effect of excavating the Outfall Canals, are the floodwalls going to be replaced, if so, will the floodwalls at all three Outfall Canals have foundations, for example, T-walls?"

Dan Bradley: I believe you're talking about an Option 2 scenario that's not authorized and that's not part of this project. So, in the future that will be looked at but the canal deepening will be a major engineering effort, and an extensive feasibility study will have to be performed to ensure everything is addressed in that future condition.



Female speaker: Because right now we have a canal that's properly constructed and properly designed at the Orleans Avenue Outfall, and I would hate to see excavation and then put new foundationless walls at that one when it works.

Dan Bradley: Yes, ma'am. And, that won't happen in this current condition, we're not deepening the canals in this current configuration.

Female speaker: Okay. Thank you.

Dan Bradley: You're welcome.

Nancy Allen: Thank you. Miss Marcia St. Martin I think has questions about the Request for Proposal specifications? You can take the microphone.

Marcia St. Martin: And, this is more of a statement and my partner from Jefferson Parish will make a similar statement. The Sewerage and Water Board of New Orleans has been charged with the task of draining the city of New Orleans and we have successfully executed the task for over 100 years with the single exception in the aftermath of the failure of the federal levee system following Katrina. Even then the board was able to drain the city in 11 days when everyone estimated it was going to take months. Simply put, we know how to do drainage. And, as we continue our mission well after the Corps of Engineers completes this program, it is important that technical specifications be responsive to the needs of the communities of Jefferson and Orleans Parish. We're not comfortable with the drainage pump is stationed, that does not have separate backup power sources. We're not comfortable with a power supply that is different from the other drainage systems that we maintain



within the city and within Jefferson Parish. The Option 1 scenario required the Sewerage and Water Board maintaining an additional 22,000 cubic feet per second over what we're currently doing at a cost

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and a success of about \$10 million annually, as we estimated today. Requiring the board to maintain two separate pumping systems, Option 1 does not currently address the Federal Parallel Protection System and levee system that failed at Katrina. Orleans and Jefferson Parish residents continue to rely on these floodwalls that we believe and they have been ill designed and not properly addressed. The option for neutral construction should include the work that needs to be done, that should not have to be redone or undone or left unfinished, and we thank you for including our comments and having an option neutral approach. We truly believe that we shouldn't develop a station that has 14 hatches in a room, that's one of the reasons we think it's imperative to have cranes inside of the stations. The entire station must be developed as a safe house similar to the stations we have operated for the last 120 and years. In order for the men and women of the Sewerage and Water Board, as we always have for the last 120 years, to remain onsite and serve the community. We look forward to continued cooperation of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, and more important we see our responsibilities to the citizens of this region to be a responsibility that does not put us at risk for additional failure. Thank you.

Dan Bradley: Thank you.

Nancy Allen: I'm going to go ahead and ask our partner from Jefferson Parish to please read their statement as well and then we can take both notes, if you please.

Kazem Alikhani: I'm Kazem Alikhani, Director of Jefferson Parish Drainage Department. Marica very eloquently described the position of Jefferson Parish and the Sewerage and Water Board. I just want to say that I'm representing the Parish President, Aaron Broussard, who was here earlier, and the council in Jefferson Parish, and on many occasion we have expressed Jefferson Parish's position to Corps of Engineers and also to our congressional representation. We believe Option 2 and 2A is the superior option, and it's futuristic option for this region. Option 2 basically provides what we have existing in Jefferson Parish, gives you one pump station at the lake by the levee and gives you the gravity canal. That also takes the limitation of safe water elevation so you don't have to worry, the safe water elevation basically takes all the risk away from the exiting floodwalls. Our interest, of course, is mainly the 17th Street Canal, we have worked with the Sewerage and Water Board, we are on the same page. Option 2A is to drain portions of Jefferson Parish as known as Hoey's Basin, and by doing that we're going to tremendously improve drain issue in that basin and also help Orleans Parish to relieve that excess capacity that is needed for their future expansion of drainage, and also for future capacity. As we see in this region, we're going to need more pumping capacity. So, I just want to let you know that we have worked with the Costal Protection and Restoration Authority of Louisiana, the Sewerage and Water Boards, and we have, at minimum, we're going to submit list of option, usual, it's about 27 options that we believe at minimum if Option 2 and 2A are not constructed at present time, that Option 1 has to allow for future Option 2 and 2A. Thank you.

Nancy Allen: Thank you.

Dan Bradley: Thank you.

Nancy Allen: "Are these three projects, or one project, is the timeline the same for all three?"

Project Schedule	
20 Jun 2009	NEC Decision Record Signed
24 Aug 2009	PDD Approved
18 Nov 2009	Meeting # 1 Community Involvement
14 Dec 2009	Project Partnership Agreement
Jan 2010	Issue Synopsis
21 Jan 2010	Meeting # 2 Community Involvement
Jan 2010	Issue Design-Build Phase I Request for Proposal
Feb 2010	Evaluate Phase I Request for Proposal
Mar 2010	Meeting # 3 Community Involvement
Mar 2010	Form and approve Short List
Mar 2010	Issue Draft Phase II RFP for Review by Short List
Jun 2010	Issue Design-Build Phase II Request for Proposal
Jan 2011	Award Design-Build Contract
May 2014	Final Construction Completion

Dan Bradley: The timeline for completion that we showed on our schedule is for all three, but it is one project on three canals.

Nancy Allen: Are there any other Request for Proposal related questions? Okay. Mark Trustee [Phonetic] would like to know, "Do we plan to address interior walls under Option 1's Request

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for Proposal, and is that going to be an additional Operations & Maintenance cost?"

Mark Trustee: The Operations & Maintenance cost is just for the pump station themselves, not for...

Nancy Allen: Oh, sorry.

Dan Bradley: Okay. Operations & Maintenance will be a consideration in the Request for Proposal, that's correct. The approach to Operations & Maintenance is part of the technical approach.

Mark Trustee: Okay. Let me do them one at a time. The first question is, the interior walls, are there any plans to address the interior walls in areas that were not fixed after Katrina along the three canals as part of these Request for Proposal's?

Dan Bradley: No. That is a separate project, and they're working on reports right now to address that safe water elevation.



Mark Trustee: And, what's the project number for that?

Dan Bradley: I'd have to get back with you on that for the specific number but that would be a separate project. We have currently three reports being developed to address the canal walls in all three canals.

Mark Trustee: And there's money available for that under the existing dollars that are available for all the projects for 100-year?

Dan Bradley: Yes. Rick, are you back there somewhere? I don't need you up here, just tell me if I'm saying something incorrectly. Right now we've got about \$90 million set aside for that, it's in the budget and program for that particular effort. And, what we're going to do is wait until the reports that we're doing are complete, then from that we're going to determine what the requirements are, and then we'll use that money that's already appropriated and funded to complete that work. But, we really won't have a good assessment until we complete those studies. Those studies are ongoing, it's going to be a large independent, a larger scale engineering team that will be taking a look at that and determine what the requirements are. We'll do that in coordination with the Sewerage and Water Board to figure out the way ahead in coordination with the Sewerage and Water Board and the Levee Authority-East. Anything you want to add to that?

Male speaker: [Inaudible]

Dan Bradley: We will not know until we figure what work needs to be done.

Male speaker: [Inaudible]

Dan Bradley: That will not be by 2011. I think everyone's aware of what we did do and that is, we did construct temporary pump stations at the end of the Outfall Canals which took the Outfall Canals themselves out of the Hurricane Protection System, which greatly reduced the risk of flooding from those drainage canals. Since those canals were originally constructed about 15 years ago there's not been an issue with, those canals right now are only used to move rainwater and interior drainage. They were

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taking out of the storm surge protection system. So, in the 15 years since they've been constructed they really had not had an issue with rainwater, I think that's probably a pretty fair statement. So, anyway, that's where we're going with that. We should have the reports completed early spring and we'll have a pretty good answer on the way ahead.

Mark Trustee: And, in terms of the Operations & Maintenance cost, is the idea behind putting that in the Request for Proposal to reduce the cost that would eventually be paid by the local sponsors? Is that the plan? I heard Miss St. Martin talk about a \$10 million cost and that's a significant increase in the cost for a city that can't afford...

Dan Bradley: Yes. We do take lifecycle maintenance costs into consideration when we design our projects. That is a consideration and we work very closely with the Sewerage and Water Board on that. And, I realize that the Operations & Maintenance cost with a \$14+ billion system that has the potential of being maintained by local organizations, or state organizations, that's a large bill that someone's going to have to end up paying. I really don't know, in the future, how much of that share is going to come from the state, how much is going to come from the city, how much of it is going to come from other government organization, but I know that's a concern that a lot of folks have and Marcia, I know that's a concern that she's got. Because, whether it's in St. Bernard Parish or Jefferson Parish or Orleans Parish, there is going to be an increased maintenance bill, likely, as a result of the system that's being constructed.



Nancy Allen: Okay. We have a number of comments regarding the site locations for the pump stations. Those were identified in Individual Environmental Report 5 and were part of the decision record, but I have a couple that specifically relates to Request for Proposal. So, "Since the Individual Environmental Report has recognized the proposed permanent pump station will significantly impact the Coconut Beach Recreational Complex, will requirements be placed on proposals to minimize these impacts?"

Dan Bradley: We're going to ask the proposers to minimize the impacts of the entire footprint. As the proposals come in we're going to look at things as making sure that the facilities are behind the current protection or future protection out there. So, we'll minimize, to the extent possible, the entire footprint, not just Coconut Beach.

Male speaker: If you can't minimize the footprint, the concern is, is the Corps going to do what is required to restore that facility in another location? I'm a realist, drainage comes first, I'm an engineer, a lot of people in this room know that, but from our opinion looking at this that the Corps has the latitude under National Environmental Policy Act to look at this and consider it a significant impact to recreational resource and have the capability to make sure this facility stays whole regardless of the footprint. And, I guess, my follow-up question is, if you can't minimize the footprint via the Request for Proposal, what's the intention to minimize the impact?

Dan Bradley: Well, the intention to minimize the impact is in the Request for Proposal, and you're welcome to have the comments to the Request for Proposal. Now, if for some reason the impact is to the extent that you feel that it's something that's not tolerable, I'm not sure if there's the compensation, maybe Mr. Kopec could speak to that.



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Mr. Kopec: Well, Coconut Beach is a complicated thing, let's say. The Coconut Beach operators don't own the real estate, the real estate is owned by the city of New Orleans. Based on what I know of the Project Partnering Agreement right now, acquisition will be accomplished by our sponsors at the state. They will determine the proper compensation based on the laws they operate under. My understanding is they will follow the federal rules for compensation. Right now the compensation would be payment to land owner for the real estate. If eligible, payment would be made to the business for a relocation of their personal property, moving expenses for the personal property. As we've discussed many times in the past on this issue, we have no authority to physically relocate and provide such to the facility.

Male speaker: Well, I would disagree, that National Environmental Protection Agency puts this additional requirements upon you to ensure that recreational facility stays whole.

[Applause]

Male speaker: I don't want to be an obstacle but I think you need to look a little harder at all the rules and federal regulations you have to take into consideration, and I agree, this is not the major issue on this table and for other people that know me, I don't want to be an obstacle, but expand your horizons, push the boundaries, look at all the federal regs and everybody over in this corner just wants that recreational facility to stay whole and to take your normal procurement requirements and your other set of rules is not going to make that happen.

[Applause]



Male speaker: Thank you.

Nancy Allen: We have several of those questions, so they will all be taken into the record, but I'm not going to read the same question again. "What is the timeline for commandeering the property presented as the potential footprint?"

Dan Bradley: I'm not sure commandeering is the right term. I'll have to defer to real estate with how the acquisition occurs.



Mr. Kopec: Commandeering doesn't exist for this project. Based on the project partnership agreement, which has yet to be signed, all indications are real estate will be acquired by the state of Louisiana Office of Coastal Protection and Restoration. They must bring these types of property, make available to the Corps for construction. They have to provide all non-federal government entities. Most of the properties that are affected fall into this category. So, commandeering is not an option, it will not be used. Commandeering hasn't been used for the last couple years.

Female speaker: Besides the technical definition of the word, in terms of the property being, I don't know...

Male speaker: Acquired.



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Female speaker: ... acquired, what is the proposed timeline in terms of the property being required versus the actual action on that property? I just would prefer that the property isn't acquired and then no actions being taken on for several months and it could be used for businesses or homes or community space.



Mr. Kopec: Right now the Corps has sent what they call a risk letter to our state partners. Our state partners are waiting for the execution for the project partnership agreement before they act on the acquisition. So, no one has been approached to make land available, again, most of the ownership, 99% of it consists of ownership such as the city of New Orleans, Orleans Levee District, West Jefferson Levee District, Sewerage and Water Board. We don't believe there's much private property, if any, affected by the footprints on the maps back

there. The right-of-way should start to be acquired or made available after the Project Partnering Agreement is executed, the state will get another letter from the Corps asking them to start making the right-of-way available, and before construction starts the right-of-way must be available in order for the contractors to start the construction on the project.

Female speaker: So, that space, that are publically owned should still be able to be used for general purposes would still be attestable to...

Mr. Kopec: It can be used until the state will begin their acquisition process which they have not begun at this point.



Female speaker: And there's no estimated timelines on that at this moment?

Mr. Kopec: Well, we expect, if the Project Partnering Agreement is executed sometime in December of this year, the letter will be written shortly thereafter to the state asking them to make this property available. The timeline and the process will then be the state's responsibility. They will be given the schedule shown upon the slide here; it must be completed by 2011.

Female speaker: Okay. Thank you.

Dan Bradley: Jerome, I don't want to put you on the spot, but do you have anything to add to that from Office of Coastal Protection Restoration? I mean, I know you're not the expert in real estate for the state but do you have anything to add to that?

Male engineer: We'll be working through Office of Coastal Protection Restoration on that particular effort.

Male speaker: [Inaudible]

Male engineer: We will begin to acquire the property, as Joe said. We get the letter from the request to acquire that because as the sponsor we are required to provide that to the Corps. That will be acquired as soon as we get some dimensions, designs, and what actually is requested by the Corps, and as soon as we get together the Project Partnering Agreement is signed, of which the state has signed it, and



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we get concurrence with the Corps we will start the process of doing that. Now, whether or not it can be accessed for utilization, I'm sure it wouldn't be a problem until it's needed for construction.

Female speaker: And that would be the maximum proposed space, even if perhaps the actual used space is less, you would acquire the whole potential space. Correct?

Male engineer: We would only acquire what would be necessary for the purposes of the project, nothing in excess because, obviously, we wouldn't get credit for it. We want to make sure we maximize the state dollars for credit. So, we'll only acquire what's necessary for the project.



Female speaker: Okay. Thank you.

Nancy Allen: Okay, for her second question. We actually have had this from a couple people tonight, "This was reviewed in Individual Environmental Report 5 but, Dan, can you remind us the amount of land proposed for the 17th Street Canal is significantly larger than other canals? What are the characteristics of the 17th Street Canal that require a larger pump than Orleans or London?"

Dan Bradley: Well, it's not a larger pump; it's a larger pump station. And, to match the Sewerage and Water Board's projected capacity, 12,500 with 2,000 Cubic Feet per Second more than what it is now, it's going to require a larger pump station and a bypass channel that will bypass that flows 95% of the time when the pump station is not operating.

Female speaker: And, what was the reasoning behind selecting the 17th Street Canal as the bypass channel to have that larger pumping station?

Dan Bradley: All three canals will require a bypass, a gated bypass, so that's going to occur at all three. Matching the Sewerage and Water Board's draining pump station at the other end of the canals dictates the size of the pump stations.

Female speaker: Okay. It currently appears that there's greater land being acquired at that specific canal because there's greater land that is, perhaps, blighted or not being maximized to its full potential at the moment, and as a concerned citizen would like to make sure only what is needed is taken.

Dan Bradley: And that's what we're trying to do, yes.

Female speaker: Okay. That is the case.

Dan Bradley: That is the case. We're going to minimize that footprint.

Female speaker: And just as any other canal would be with a similar situation.

Dan Bradley: That's correct.

Female speaker: Okay. Thank you.

Dan Bradley: You're welcome.

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Nancy Allen: Susan Garcia, another question about locations for regarding the Request for Proposal. “How can we comment about our concerns regarding the design-build contract if we have no idea what the specs are, how tightly they are written, and whether or not the specs will in and of themselves prevent certain aesthetically and functioning designs? Also, why won’t the Army Corps of Engineers consider putting the permanent structure at Orleans Canal south of Robert E. Lee, or at worst, at the current Interim Control Structure position to mitigate aesthetics and function considering the Corps has said in public that all positions are equally safe?”

Dan Bradley: The first question had to do with specifications, and that’s in the Request for Proposal, the performance specifications are what we’re inviting your input into tonight. So, specifications, how tightly they’re written, what’s in the Request for Proposal is open for review tonight, and hopefully we guided you through to those sections which would be of interest to you.

Susan Garcia: Well, prior to my being able to listen to what you had to say, I had to kind of like write a comment ignorant of what you were going to be able to present.

Dan Bradley: I see.

Susan Garcia: So, the further refining of the question would be, and you kind of, sort of slipped this in with the concrete volute, horizontal, vertical pumping, you still maintain the necessity for a height restriction for cranes.

Dan Bradley: Yes, ma’am.

Susan Garcia: And, that I think is probably one of the major considerations is height. If you tell me it’s going to be one-story high, then I’ll say, “Okay, fine, I’ll live with it at the mouth of the canal because it won’t really make that much of an impact.” But, if you’re talking about something that’s going to be 10-stories high, that’s a markedly different animal and creature that, of course, we all want safety but I think we’ve moved beyond we all want safety aspect.



Dan Bradley: Yes, ma’am.

Susan Garcia: And, so that was the primary first question. And, then the second was, Colonel Lee specifically stated that there was no compelling reason why site B was chosen for the Orleans Canal. If you look at the site proposals the 17th Street is pretty much at the mouth which is a fairly commercial district, London Avenue is way further back taking into consideration that University of New Orleans is at that site, and Orleans is smack in the middle between Lake Shore and Lake Vista. I mean, I’m not an engineer, I don’t pretend to be an engineer, I have some science background but it’s not in this area, so I’m flying blind here. I’ve been to a lot of these meetings, as many of the people sitting in this audience have, and what we’re trying to do is impress upon you, and I think you’ve gotten this point, that we want it to be safe but we still are flying blind in terms of what this thing is going to look like and where its going to be placed and why does it need to be plopped down smack in the middle of two very successful residential neighborhoods when there’s other equally safe, according to your department, equally safe positions that can still function the same. So, it’s that height issue that’s starting bother a lot of people and that’s why I asked the question about the specifications. If the specifications are broad

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enough then you can get a lot of out-of-the-box designs. If they're tailored to, and again, I'm not an engineer, but even a lay person can figure out that if the specifications are written in such a manner then the bids you're going to get are going to have to be in that particular box, and you may want to think outside the box, but if the specs are really tight, what are your options?

Dan Bradley: That's correct, and that is the reason why those things I said we leave open to innovation (such as pump type) are left open. There are certain things that we have to specify like the height of the barrier, the surge protection barrier; you'd have to specify that. The matching the capacities of the Sewerage and Water Board, current capacities and future anticipated capacities, that's just something we'd have to require. The height of the building, though, as I said in the slides, we're going to put at 45 feet, not 90 feet, not 10-stories high, 45 feet and they're going to give consideration for lowering that in the innovative process. And, that is in the Request for Proposal and that's why we're trying to direct you, that part of the Request for Proposal, so you can look at the language and suggest, "Well, maybe that's too restrictive. Why don't we open it up to this?" But, there are certain things, just like these heights of the surge barriers, that may be required by the operator of the pump station and their experience dictates that they would have to have certain facilities within that pump station, and that's why we defer to that team member to be able to articulate those requirements to you.

Susan Garcia: Okay. Well, then I'll just simply make a plea for us, if Orleans has the least pumping capacity at approximately 2,000 Cubic Feet per Second then it should be the least intrusive of all the pump stations built and therefore it would seem to me that there's a modicum of possibility that it could be placed in a position where it could have a lesser impact on an area that's widely used by a lot of people not just the people who live there.

Dan Bradley: Right. I understand your concern.

Susan Garcia: People from all over the area use this particular area, and the gentleman from Lake Shore basically beat me to the punch or said the exact same thing is, if you put a huge structure out in the middle of an area that's primarily recreational that New Orleans has very little of, it's going to decrease the usage of that space, and, again, we're beyond the everybody wants the safe stuff. I keep coming to these meetings, I keep saying the same things, and I'm not sure that I'm actually getting anything accomplished.



Dan Bradley: Well, that's why we want you to look at the Request for Proposal and look at the language in the Request for Proposal to see exactly what it states right now. It's a work in progress, it's a draft, and we're trying to get your comments into that to improve that document. So, this is your opportunity, I know it may be difficult for you to read and we're going to try to make that easy for you, but it's going to be open language for within that footprint to optimize that and to blend in aesthetically with the neighborhood.

Susan Garcia: Thank you for your consideration.

Dan Bradley: Thank you.

Nancy Allen: Thank you. Kim Harvey, Kevin Harvey, I don't know whose name this is, also asked about the Orleans Canal footprint and also asked, "Will the Request for Proposal include a requirement that Lakeshore Drive remain open over the Orleans Canal?"



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Dan Bradley: Yes. We're not going to try to impact traffic, we're going to minimize that, that's also traffic control, it's in the Request for Proposal. You can look at that language as currently stated in the Request for Proposal and provide suggestions.

Mr. Harvey: To follow up on Susan's question. My question, which compared to London Avenue Canal and this one, is this position cast in stone where it is now?

Dan Bradley: The selection has been made for the maximum footprint, within that maximum footprint, that is still open. It's between the current interim closure structure and Lake Shore Boulevard, that's where that footprint runs.

Mr. Harvey: Okay. Is it cast in stone that it goes...

Dan Bradley: The Individual Environmental Report has been executed, that's correct.

Nancy Allen: The decision record was signed on the Individual Environmental Report in June.

Dan Bradley: And, that's why we had that long review process that we went through with those series of meetings.

Mr. Harvey: Yes, I was at those, too.

Nancy Allen: John Davis said he wants to comment on a response he got from Colonel Lee regarding why the Orleans pump is on the lakefront and the London Avenue pump is back from the lakefront. I wouldn't feel comfortable speaking for Colonel Lee but you're certainly welcome to ask a question.



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John Davis: Well, I'm not going to speak for Colonel Lee; I'm going to read what he wrote me. I do live in Lake Vista, Lake Vista is bound in the west by the Orleans Canal and as such I am absolutely vitally concerned about what's happening there. My comment has to do with the pump location, nobody's done any work yet, you could still change it. The Individual Environmental Report 5 puts the pump the lakefront 300 feet back from Lakeshore Drive and what's in there, that I read, is a 700-foot long, 15 1/2-foot high breakwater is going to be built also. The London Avenue Canal pump is back from the lakefront, no breakwater is needed. What's going to happen is, the Orleans green space gets eaten up, at London Avenue it does not. We don't know how high its going to be but, again, height is a big deal. I wrote to Colonel Lee a while back to ask specifically why the pump was going to be put on the lakefront at Orleans but not on the lakefront at London Avenue, and I asked that because I think the lakefront is the absolute worst place that you could put a pump. I wrote to Colonel Lee via Senators Vitter and Landrieu because I really wanted to get an answer and I knew I'd get one like that, and to his credit, he did respond. He sent two letters, they were similar but not identical, they contained a lot of what I thought was kind of some bureaucratic stuff. Once of the letters, though, did have an answer to my question and it said, "In response to your email, there is not a single most compelling reason why site B was selected on Orleans Avenue Canal, as the government's proposed action." So, in my opinion, this means that we can destroy the lakefront at Orleans as we know it for no good reason, there's not a compelling reason to do it, and I think that's unacceptable. I went to the two-day planning session in January 2008, there were four sites specified for each of the three canals, each was deemed acceptable, each would meet the 100-year flood protection criteria, each would do the job, they would be safe and, obviously, safeguarding the city is the most important thing there is. But, given that each of the sites at Orleans would do the job, they're all equally safe; a second key requirement is to minimize negative effect on people. I think it's fairly obvious that the site that negatively affect the largest number of people is at the lakefront. The lakefront is a recreation area for everybody, everybody local goes there, and visitors go there, it's also right in between two neighborhoods. If you put the pump site away from the lakefront it would reduce the effect on people, on the number of people. Now, it's true that no matter where it goes somebody's going to get hurt but you can reduce that negative impact. Some have said, and I've heard some poor say it, that the pump has to be at the lakefront to be safe, that most of the Corps managers have said that is not true and the London Avenue pump location being away from the lake, I think, basically says you don't have to put the thing at the lake to be safe. If there was a compelling reason to use the lakefront site such as safety no one would argue but there is not a compelling reason to do it. I think site selection should be revisited, I think that one of the highest priorities, not the highest priority, after safety is to minimize the negative effect on people and that means, I think likely, that the Orleans Canal pump should not be on the lakefront. And, I hope you'll think about it very carefully because what you don't need, especially today, is any more negative publicity. Thank you.



Dan Bradley: Yes, sir. Thank you.

Nancy Allen: Thanks, sir. Two questions from John Hummel. "The life cycle cost of Option 1 for the city of New Orleans includes the cost of operating and maintaining twice the amount of equipment as Option 2. How will the Corps reduce the lifecycle cost of Option 1 in the design-build stage so that tax payers are not asked to increase the funds the city needs for this redundancy? The city already faces a \$68 million deficit in the current budget."

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John Hummel: Specifically, I think that has been partially answered. But, the important aspect of the question is, what weighting factor will the Corps apply to that particular feature of the design that gets submitted? Because, we're going to live with this as a tax for a long period of time. All the focus that I've seen so far has been on the first cost, and rightfully so, but those of us here in the room are going to be here paying taxes for a long time and Miss St. Martin made an excellent point earlier on from her position of authority. I'd just like to hear a little bit more about how you're going to weight that particular aspect of the design as you look at it and compare it with other features.

Dan Bradley: Well, the Operations & Maintenance approach is part of the technical approach so the proposals will give us an idea of how their approach to the Operations & Maintenance factor is better than someone else's. So, that approach will be highlighted in terms of utilization of power, electricity, diesel fuel, that approach will be in their proposal and that will be evaluated. I know that in this current figuration the pumps will only be operated 5% of the time so it's a very minimal cost in terms of operating it full-time. It will require that the Sewerage and Water Board have teams out there to operate and they will be operating maybe more frequently in non-tropical events, but basically, the approach to Operations & Maintenance is what's being evaluated.

John Hummel: Okay. But, the evaluation metric that you're going to use, what will that metric be?

Dan Bradley: I can tell you the evaluation factors but I'm not sure I can go into the factors of the weighting of that point at this time.

Male speaker: [Inaudible]

Dan Bradley: They're not fully defined at this point.

Male speaker: [Inaudible]

Dan Bradley: You can go in there? Okay.

Male speaker: [Inaudible]

Dan Bradley: Okay.

Male speaker: [Inaudible]

John Hummel: I didn't understand...

Dan Bradley: I'm sorry. The weighting factor is what we're talking about, not the evaluation factors, but how the ways we have interest in keeping that.

Rick Kendrick: I don't know the factors but I was going to say, we can't come up with the weighting of the factors at this point in time. One thing that will come out of this is some of your concerns if we develop the proposal. So, those aren't set, we can talk about what those factors are, and Dan's mentioned a lot of them. First of all, the first and biggest factor will always be that it works, safety of the program, it's got to be a high quality product. Then we've talked about the Operations & Maintenance factors, we'll look at some of the Operations & Maintenance issues associated with that, that will be a factor in the process, aesthetics will be a factor in the process, those kinds of things. But, the



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weighting, we're going to look at some of those things, this meeting and other meetings help us to vitalize those pieces.

John Hummel: Okay. You understand the importance of the question. If you're only using dollars then you can use the number of years that you expect the facility to be there. So, you can take the number of dollars that you're going to anticipate spending over and above what you're now spending and create a metric that's dollars. Thank you for listening to me.

Nancy Allen: Thank you, sir. Lee Richardson, question one, "Please explain in detail comments from the New Orleans City Council on 5 November 09 regarding possible physical improvements to the 17th Street Outfall Canal walls. How do such actions relate to the option neutral design criteria for the 17th Street Canal?"

Lee Richardson: Let me interrupt your answer, that's been adequately answered.

Nancy Allen: Okay.

Lee Richardson: I have another comment I'd like to make.

Nancy Allen: Okay.

Lee Richardson: For the record, I'm Lee Richardson, I'm a member of the board of Pump to the River Jefferson/Orleans, proud to be a founding member of that, I'm on the board of the Metairie Club Gardens Association, proud to be part of that, too, and a citizen of New Orleans and the area drained by the 17th Street Canal. I want to state for the record that I have attended nearly all of the hearings, National Environmental Policy Act proceedings, discussions, to do with the 17th Street Canal for the past, really, four years. I was one of the individuals who first pointed out to the Corps and the rest of my community that the Corps had no plans for any pumps for the canal closures when it was first designed. And, I can understand that during the early parts of the panic effort to deal with the canals afterwards but then there



was steadfast resolute effort to make sure we didn't get enough compensatory pumping. First it was 1,000 Cubic Feet per Second, then two, then four, then five, then six, then seven, then 10, that was very hard fought. The statement I'd like to make is how proud I am of the public and private leadership that has closely collaborated to do its level best to prevent the Corps from undertaking such a foolish and short-sided plan for the 17th Street Canal. That includes Orleans Parish leadership, Jefferson Parish, the South Louisianan Flood Protection Authority-East, the Office of Coastal Protection Restoration, Senator Vitter, Senator Landrieu, Representative Scalise, Representative Cao, and various

citizens groups, many of whom are present this evening. I think we all need to remember that what is constantly reminded to us by the Corps is that they are not authorized by Congress to do anything but Option 1. There are a lot of four letter words I could use to describe that in firing language. The Corps provided the initial project description and budget and asked Congress for the authority to do it. Three years later, as a result of citizen advocacy and partnering discussions, the Corps produced a study at the behest of Congress described in Option 2 and 2A, specifically 2A, as the best technical solution and then steadfastly ignored it, rebutted, and resisted citizen efforts to do the right thing by modifying its own recommendations to Congress. In short, as an interested citizen and a participant in this process, I have watched this train leave the station, and I am truly embarrassed at the way the Corps of Engineers has dealt with this. But, let me tell you, I'm very proud of the Corps of Engineers personnel here who have done their level best to work toward 100-year protection standard even though some of them thought it

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was not enough, and I appreciate the sincere and dedicated efforts of all of those personnel. I don't want you to understand that I mean this all personally toward anyone here or anyone in our district. I know that the orders come down from on high and that those decisions are made in Washington and the Corps here has to march to those orders. Please don't respond that the Corps doesn't lobby Congress.

Everybody knows here that's not the truth. The Corps does, they've got other words for it, they inform, they provide guidance and so forth. But, the bottom-line is that the Corps of Engineers made a decision a long time ago that this was the way it was going to be done, and now as Miss St. Martin has pointed out, and Mr. Alikhani has pointed out, you are sticking us with problems that will be ongoing, that we cannot afford, we'll have three new pumping stations and we'll have to maintain six because none of those are replaced. I'm sorry for what you're doing. I'm proud to have been part of the process, it's an American adventure that we've gone through, and I appreciate the amount of work that you are, that this process is laying upon our leadership to go forward and find a way to shoulder the cost, because the Corps of Engineers has decided it will not take its own advice. Thank you.

[Applause]

Nancy Allen: We're going to take questions up until 8:30 PM. I just want to let you all know that. Craig Berthold, who is a Lakeview resident, and says he spent a lot of time going over possible conversions from Option 1 to Option 2, says, "If that does happen will the canal have to be widened as well as deepened?"

Craig Berthold: That's the question.

Dan Bradley: Well, when we get to the Option 2 condition there are numerous possibilities what could happen. In that feasibility study, an extensive feasibility study looking at the NEPA impacts would have to be done, and we think that would take two to three years, and it could have significant impacts to the surrounding areas.

Craig Berthold: Okay. Because, if you're going down 16 feet and those sheet pilings go down 17 feet, you know, I mean, it's a no-brainer there, so that's what I wanted to know.

Dan Bradley: We haven't done the feasibility study on that yet.

Craig Berthold: When would that be done?

Dan Bradley: That would be done if it was funded. The study could be done if it were funded and then, of course, the construction would have to be authorized. But, right now, the Corps is not currently doing that feasibility study.

Craig Berthold: Okay. But, you spent a lot of time going over the conversion process.

Dan Bradley: Yes.

Craig Berthold: So, it's a possibility.

Dan Bradley: We know that there's a future possibility of an appropriation of funding and authorization so that possibility, what we want to do is build this pump station in a smart way that you wouldn't have to tear out the foundation because you went deeper, we're going to build it deeper to begin with.



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Craig Berthold: I see.

Dan Bradley: But, we're not affecting the width of the canal in doing that.

Craig Berthold: But, if you do dredge, I mean, go deeper, then the feasibility study would tell you whether or not you're going to widen the canal.

Dan Bradley: That's right, because when you go deeper you'll have to see what effect it is going to have on the width of the canal.

Craig Berthold: All right. Thank you.

Nancy Allen: Joe Rault asked, "Will the Corps support the Pump to the River as an independent self-sustaining project at the Corps cost estimate of \$205 million?"

Joe Rault: Thank you very much. My name is Joseph Welt, like my other speakers and colleagues here, I'm a Director of the Pump to the River Jefferson/Orleans, representing 100,000 citizens in the Hoey's Basin. We want to commend Miss St. Martin for her comments earlier and we support them very fully. In the last meetings held by the Corps, the Corps publically acknowledged and supported, as stated by Mr. Richardson, that Pump to the River was one of the top technically approved and best options to pursue. It is not being pursued at the moment, we would like it to be, and would like the Corps to be with us in showing that it's an independent self-sustaining project that is not dependent on the width/depth of the canals or the numbers of pumps, but in fact, would support the economy by taking 25% of the water flow that would normally go into the 17th Street Canal away and bring it to the Mississippi River at a small cost of, according to the Corps estimate, \$205 million, more or less, and compared to the billions that are being supported, suggested now for the rest of the alternatives this would be a tremendous economic value. Will the Corps support us in this?

Dan Bradley: Well, currently right now Option 2 and Option 2A, you're speaking primarily the A-part of Option 2...

Joe Rault: Yes, I am, because it's been bundled in.

Dan Bradley: Yes.

Joe Rault: Bundled together and we'd like to unbundle it.

Dan Bradley: To make it stand-alone.

Joe Rault: A stand-alone complement. Yes, a separate project.

Dan Bradley: As it stands right now we're neither funded nor authorized to develop that project.

Joe Rault: I understand that, and I testified before Congress on this subject with the general from your Vicksburg area. At that point the Senate Committee on Environmental and Public Works acknowledged, with Senator Boxer as chairperson, before both our U.S. Senators from Louisiana that this would be a separate project and could go ahead alone. So, we're asking the Corps to join us in that.

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Dan Bradley: Well, if we're directed to do that, we'd certainly join you in doing that.

Joe Rault: Thank you.

Dan Bradley: Thank you.

Nancy Allen: I have a comment from Lena Pantanelli. "Why is our government re-doing work that has already been done? What we need is a wall, a barrier of some sort keeping water out of Lake Pontchartrain in times of hurricanes."

Lena Pantanelli: It seems to me that we haven't had any hurricanes, but if these pumps are good for regular weather then just leave them alone, but just give us a barrier that'll keep the water from coming into Lake Pontchartrain, you know, from the Gulf. Something that can be handled so that we wouldn't have high water in Lake Pontchartrain.

Dan Bradley: Yes, ma'am, and that's why the primary purpose of these stations out there is really a barrier with pump behind them. So, the barrier would be a permanent 100-year level of protection where right now you just have an interim structure. And, that structure was only meant to last five to seven years, maybe a little bit longer with maintenance, so we could get these permanent barriers built. So, once you build those permanent barriers to prevent that surge from getting into the canals, you have to be able to evacuate the rainwater.

Male engineer: Were you talking about like a surge barrier that would prevent high water from...

Nancy Allen: Talking about a surge barrier like at the Rigolets, what's been discussed out there.

Lena Pantanelli: Right. So that we wouldn't have high water into Lake Pontchartrain and we wouldn't have to worry about high pumps or whatever, to be putting more money into the pumps that we already have. I mean, it seems to me that what storms we've had since Katrina haven't been that severe and we don't really know what will truly happen with all that water out there, but we need something that will keep the water coming in from into Lake Pontchartrain. Is there anything you can do about that? Instead of putting a lot of money into these pumps?

Male engineer: There have been some concepts to do that for decades. We'll take your input, that would not preclude us or even prevent us, forbid the need for putting these particular structures in place, but that's an additional hurricane risk reduction capability that we'll take that comment.

Lena Pantanelli: But the government's going to keep giving us money? I mean, why don't they put that into this barrier wall that will keep this water from coming into Lake Pontchartrain? Where we don't have to worry about the pumps, if they're sufficient for regular weather then leave them as they are. I'm not concerned, I mean, I'm concerned about destruction to our homes in the city. I'm not thinking about how beautiful the lakefront will look or how it's going to be with these pumps, I'm not thinking in that way. I'm thinking of what's going to be safe for our homes and our lives. That's what's important to me. And, if we keep this water out of Lake Pontchartrain during a storm, this will help the city a lot.



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Male engineer: And, that will probably be a several billion dollar project to do that.

Lena Pantanelli: Instead of going into the money for these pumps and take care of that, then we probably well as just keep the pumps as they are and they'll take care of regular weather.

Nancy Allen: Thank you, ma'am. I have a comment from Marie-Alice Rousselle.

Ms. Rousselle: I can ask the question better than I could on the card.

Nancy Allen: Okay.

Ms. Rousselle: My concern is the whole budget process. I've heard the Corps say many times, "We're confined to what Congress gives us." Now, I worked for 38 years for a federal civilian agency so



my understanding of the budget process is, we go up to our local management, regional agency, to the departmental level. Part of our responsibility as employees in the field, we had to be able to justify to our local management so he could pass it up, the importance of the work we planned to do, why was this work necessary. We had to be able to provide documentation as to why this was important to the stakeholders. It was incumbent on us, as the employees in the field, to provide sufficient documentation for this. We couldn't just sit back and say, "Well, we'll only do what Congress gives us." And, yes, I know the federal employees individually cannot lobby Congress but if my budget was not what I thought it should be, I would tell myself, "Well, I failed to properly explain to management the importance of this and the need to the stakeholders." So, why can't the Corps take that same approach? Not just sit back and take what you're given but get out there and fight, document the importance to the stakeholders.

Dan Bradley: I don't know how to easily answer that. What happens every year is there's a president and the president submits a budget request to Congress and they approve it. And, during that process Congress adds and Congress takes away from particular projects, and a lot of that work is done in committees, too, where they kind of sort through that. I know that the senators from Louisiana and all the congressmen, at least that I have run into, I mean, they are doing everything they can to try and support the needs and represent the constituents here in the greater New Orleans area and Louisiana. But, Congress, of course, and the Senate, they don't work...

Ms. Rousselle: Our responsibility was to provide the ammunition, you might say, that our departmental people needed in order to present to Congress what we felt the needs were, and if we didn't get the funding we thought we needed it was our fault by not providing sufficient justification or sufficient ammunition for them to pass up the chain of command.

Dan Bradley: It doesn't quite work exactly like that in the Corps. Some federal agencies, the higher level organization, and some federal organizations that I've been part of in the past they get a big pot of money, it's just, you know, \$10 million for this organization, and then...

Ms. Rousselle: Our agency never got that, we had to fight for and justify everything.

Dan Bradley: And, then the subordinate organizations, you know, they then make a case for that pot of money that's available. That's just not quite the way it works in the Corps. We're project funded and specific projects we get authorizations and appropriations for specific projects.

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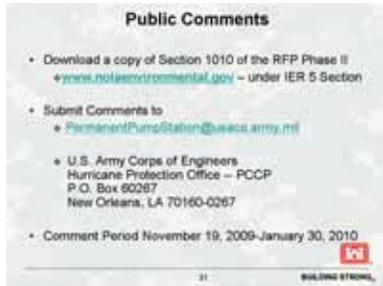
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Ms. Rousselle: I suppose what the citizens would like to ask you guys to do is fight harder. I know dealing with Congress is not easy but, you know, or maybe you should do more to get us as stakeholders involved. I mean, nothing gets a congressman's attention like letters from constituents and maybe the Corps needs to do more to recruit us as citizens, I mean, we can lobby Congress and I think a lot of us would just like to see more effort being put into fighting for what we, the stakeholders, need.

Dan Bradley: I understand and I'll get more than just my hand slapped if I ask anyone to ask Congress for money on our behalf. I just can't do that. And, that's kind of just the restrictions that have been put on this particular federal agency. So, I do think its important and that's the reason we have public meetings like this, we want the legislative process to work and it's important that the public and customers and those citizens that we serve and our projects serve understand where we're going, understand what we're doing and if something needs to be added or something needs to be taken away, if there's something that we're doing that there's an element out there where there's a customer group or stakeholder group that doesn't think it should be funded and done, it gives them an opportunity to go back to the legislative process and get some things redirected. So, that's one of the reasons we have public meetings like this, but this is about as far as we can go in supporting the democratic process and supporting your efforts with your legislators.

Nancy Allen: The Corps of Engineers does have a sort of difficult to understand process. And, we actually have a brochure at the sign-in table called The Process which tells you both the normal way the Corps projects are authorized and funded, and then the special measure that we're taking post-Katrina to authorize and fund the Hurricane and Storm Damage Risk Reduction System. I have one last written comment, I don't have a name on it, I think the bottom part of it is a flyer but it says, "The lower challenges acknowledged by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers that are relevant to residents to Lake Shore and Lake Vista and anyone who enjoys the beauty of the New Orleans lakefront. Pump station



height and the height of the pump station barriers should be minimized as much as possible." And, then there's a comparison to an attachment, reference the Gulf Intracoastal Waterway structure. "Design features that are aesthetically pleasing and blend with the site location, this can easily be done if the Request for Proposal contains the right language. Minimize traffic, dust, street damages, noise, vibration, the overall impact to the community, and minimize operations and maintenance costs."

Stacy, can you go back to the slide with all the points of contact? Again, we do have a few copies of the Request for Proposal in the back, it's also available online in a PDF format. We have PermanentPumpStation@usace.army.mil is the address that you can use to submit comments through January 30th, and again, we hold a meeting on January 21st to take your comments and concerns in a small group study.

If I don't have any other written comment cards then I think we are finished for the evening. And, we will stick around to answer your questions in the back of the room.

Dan Bradley: I'd like to spend some time with the Option 2 and 2A if they just want to talk. I just want to understand you guys a little better and what you're trying to accomplish. So, if you can kind of move up here in this corner if you're interested, I'd be happy to talk to you, and I really just want to find out kind of what's on your mind.