



# NEWS RELEASE

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## **UPDATE: Corps extends review and comment period for environmental document** *Greater New Orleans Hurricane & Storm Damage Risk Reduction Mitigation*

**NEW ORLEANS, LA** – The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New Orleans District, today extended the review comment period for draft Programmatic Individual Environmental Report #36 (PIER #36), titled, “Lake Pontchartrain and Vicinity (LPV) Hurricane Storm Damage Risk Reduction System (HSDRRS) Mitigation, Orleans, Plaquemines, St. Bernard, St. Charles, St. John the Baptist, and St. Tammany Parishes, Louisiana.” The comment period was extended for two weeks due to the complexity of the mitigation project.

The PIER evaluates the alternatives to compensate for unavoidable habitat impacts that resulted from construction of the LPV HSDRRS. As part of the analysis, the PIER identifies the Tentatively Selected Mitigation Plan Alternative (TSMPIA) for mitigating those impacts to a variety of habitats. At this time, only certain features of the TSMPIA are being proposed for implementation, namely the purchase of mitigation bank credits to compensate for impacts to non-refuge bottomland hardwood forests and non-refuge swamp. Other features will be recommended for implementation in subsequent environmental documents, called TIERs. Impacts from construction of the LPV HSDRRS are described in Individual Environmental Reports 1-11, 18, 19, 22, 23, 25-32, 35 and their associated Supplemental IERs (IERS).

The PIER #36 is currently available for review and comment at [www.nolaenvironmental.gov](http://www.nolaenvironmental.gov); hard copies may be requested by sending e-mail to [mvnenvironmental@usace.army.mil](mailto:mvnenvironmental@usace.army.mil). The deadline to submit comments is Wednesday, Sept. 25, 2013. All comments postmarked on or before the expiration of the comment period will be considered.

Questions or comments concerning proposed actions should be addressed to:

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

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