



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY  
NEW ORLEANS DISTRICT, CORPS OF ENGINEERS  
P.O. BOX 60267  
NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA 70160-0267

REPLY TO  
ATTENTION OF

Regional Planning and  
Environment Division South

03 SEP 2015

## PUBLIC NOTICE

### WESTBANK AND VICINITY (WBV) – LEVEE LIFT COMPANY CANAL– WBV 16.2, JEFFERSON PARISH, LOUISIANA

**Introduction.** The Southeast Louisiana Flood Protection Authority – West Bank (SLFPA-W), as endorsed by the Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority Board of Louisiana (CPRAB) (the requester), has requested permission from the United States Army Corps of Engineers to construct alterations to the West Bank and Vicinity, Louisiana Project for hurricane and storm damage risk reduction. Based upon information provided by SLFPA-W the United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), Mississippi Valley Division, New Orleans District (CEMVN) is ensuring compliance with applicable Federal laws, executive orders, regulations, policies and ordinances, and in that capacity is soliciting input regarding the requester's proposed alteration, the requester's preferred alternative. Therefore, USACE is preparing an Environmental Assessment (EA), based upon information provided by the requester, to analyze the impacts of altering/constructing a levee lift to the WBV-16.2 reach, Jefferson Parish, Louisiana. The WBV 16.2 reach is physically located within Bayou Segnette Complex (reach 3) of the Company Canal Floodwall project described in the Individual Environmental Report (IER) #17 titled "Westbank and Vicinity, Company Canal Floodwall, Jefferson Parish, Louisiana". The Decision Record for IER #17 was approved by the CEMVN District Commander on January 21, 2009. The approved action in IER #17 consisted of construction of two 24-foot vehicular swing gates, a 56-foot wide sector gate navigation structure across a new navigation channel, approximately 1,000 to 1,200 feet of earthen levee across the then existing dredge disposal island, and a new pumping station located on the then existing dredge disposal island. The proposed action in this public notice would take place only within the footprint of the earthen levee portion of reach 3. IER #17 can be found at:  
[http://www.nolaenvironmental.gov/nola\\_public\\_data/projects/usace\\_levee/docs/original/FINALIER17.pdf](http://www.nolaenvironmental.gov/nola_public_data/projects/usace_levee/docs/original/FINALIER17.pdf)

**Requested Permission Authority.** Section 14 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899 (33 U.S.C. 408); Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899 (33 U.S.C 403); and, Section 102 of the National Environmental Policy Act (42 U.S.C.4332).

**Location of Work.** The proposed action is located in Jefferson Parish, Louisiana.

**Description of Work.** This requester's proposed alternative alteration would consist of a 6-inch levee and berm lift from toe to toe, staying within the footprint of the existing levee section at the Bayou Segnette Complex (reach 3), referred to as WBV 16.2 in the Hurricane Storm Damage Risk Reduction System (HSDRRS) previously constructed by CEMVN and environmentally assessed in IER #17. The purpose of the levee lift is to assure the appropriate level of risk reduction for the surrounding community by maintaining the 1% (100-yr) elevation in future years. The proposed crown elevation would be 14.5-feet for the levee section. This proposed levee raise would require approximately 18,850 cubic yards of contractor furnished borrow material to be hauled onto the site. The project would also include grouted rip rap scour

protection at each end of the levee to flood wall tie-ins, as well as turf establishment on the approximately 5 acre area, once construction is complete. The existing vegetation and associated organic material would be cleared and grubbed and waste material would either be disposed of in compliance with all applicable federal, state and local laws or temporarily stockpiled for reuse at the Drake Stockyard. No trees or vegetation outside of the currently maintained levee section and staging areas would be disturbed. The existing gravel roads would be removed (approx. 850 cubic yards) and temporarily stockpiled for reuse at the Drake Stockyard. Once the levee and berm have been lifted to the design elevation, the gravel roadways would be put back with a combination of suitable stockpile material and new material (approx. 425 cubic yards) hauled to the site. See Figure 2 for details.

**State Water Quality Permit.** On July 14, 2008 CEMVN received Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality Water Quality Certification JP 080522-02. This proposed action would not impact waters of the U.S. and therefore no further coordination is necessary.

**Cultural Resources.** On May 1, 2008 the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) agreed with CEMVN that there are no National Register of Historic Places properties recorded in the project area. No further coordination is necessary.

**Endangered Species.** On November 26, 2007 CEMVN received concurrence from US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) that no threatened or endangered (T&E) species or their critical habitat would be impacted by the action identified in IER 17, including this reach. CEMVN has re-initiated coordination with USFWS since it has been over one year since last T&E coordination.

**Consistency with Coastal Zone Management (CZM) Program.** CEMVN received a consistency determination (C20080289) on September 11, 2008. On September 1, 2015 SLFPA-W submitted an application for a Coastal Use Permit to Louisiana Department of Natural Resources Office of Coastal Management.

**Hazardous, Toxic and Radioactive Waste (HTRW).** An American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM) E Phase I Environmental Site Assessment (ESA) was completed for the project area. The Phase I ESA documented the Recognized Environmental Conditions (RECs) for the project area. No RECs were identified within the project footprint. CEMVN will conduct the ESA and update the HTRW assessment since it is older than six months. The findings will be included in the EA.

**Status of the Environmental Assessment.** CEMVN is preparing an EA, in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA), the Council on Environmental Quality's Regulations (40 CFR 1500-1508) and the USACE civil works NEPA implementing regulations found in 33 CFR Part 230. The EA will assess the environmental effects of the requester's proposed action on important resources and will include all applicable coordination as required by the various State and Federal environmental laws and regulations, including T&E coordination and HTRW Phase I ESA assessment.

**Evaluation Factors.** Evaluation includes application of the guidelines as set forth in 33 USC 408 (Section 408).

**Public Involvement.** The purpose of this notice is to solicit comments from the public; Federal, State, and local agencies and officials; Indian Tribes; and other interested parties. Comments received within 15-days of this publication will be in the evaluation of potential impacts of the proposed action on important resources. All comments will be considered and used in our Environmental Assessment.

Comments may be submitted via [www.nolaenvironmental.gov](http://www.nolaenvironmental.gov). For further information regarding the proposed action, please contact Ms. Sandra Stiles at (504) 862-1583 or [sandra.e.stiles@usace.army.mil](mailto:sandra.e.stiles@usace.army.mil).

  
for Joan M. Exnicios  
Chief, Environmental Planning Branch

COMMENT PERIOD FOR THIS PUBLIC NOTICE EXPIRES: September 20, 2015

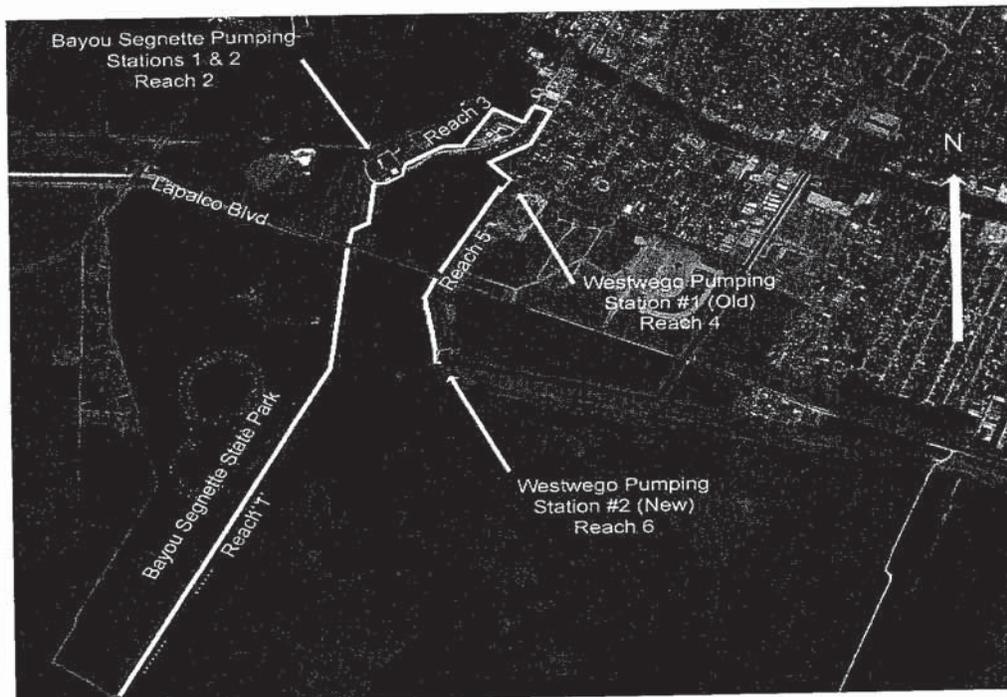


Figure 1. IER #17 Location and Project Reaches

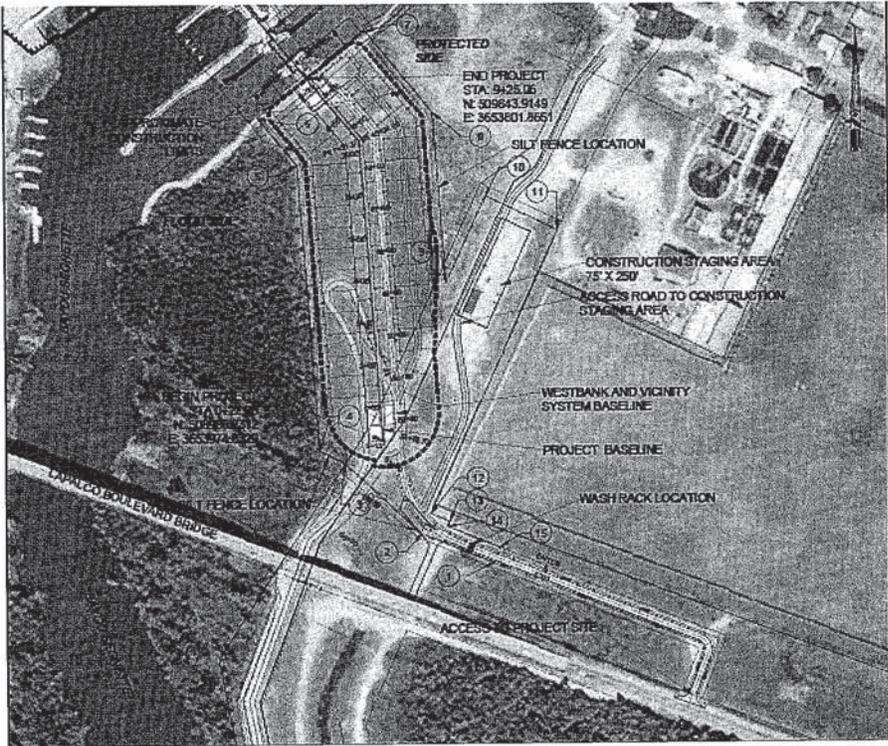


Figure 2. Proposed Project Site and Features (Reach 3 of IER #17)

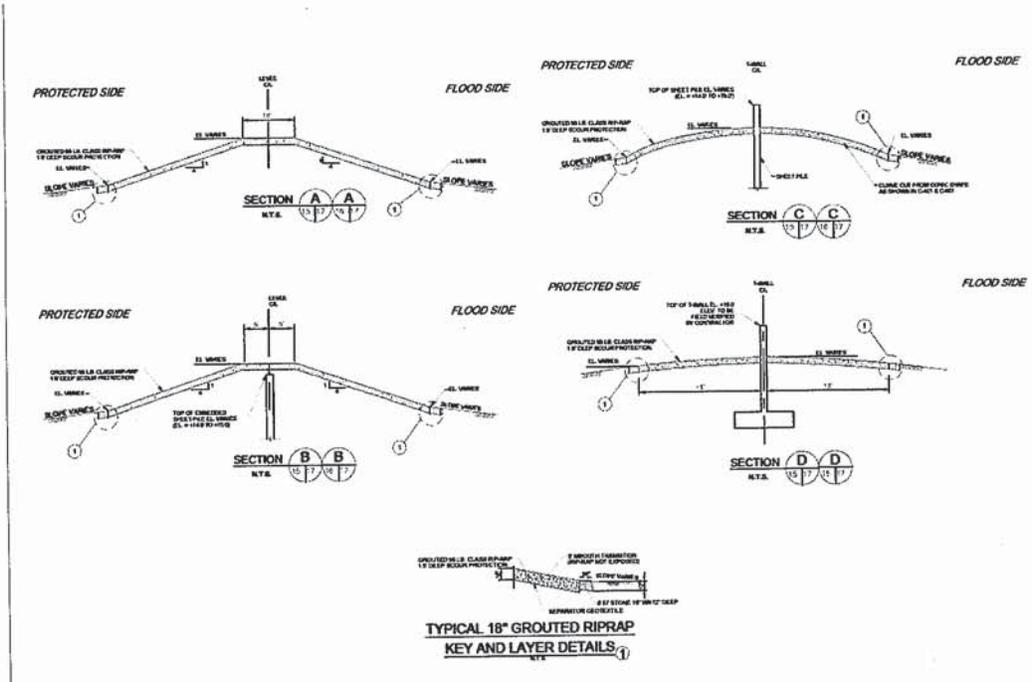


Figure 3. Cross Section of the Proposed Project