



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

May 2, 2014

PUBLIC NOTICE

Individual Environmental Report Supplemental 5.a, Additional Rights of Way for Construction of Permanent Pump Stations at 17th Street, London Avenue, and Orleans Avenue Outfall Canals, Orleans and Jefferson Parish, Louisiana IERS 5.a.

INTRODUCTION: This Public Notice is issued in accordance with provisions of Title 33 CFR Parts 336.1(b)(1) and 337.1, which establish policy, practices, and procedures to be followed on Federal actions involving the disposal of dredged or fill material into waters of the United States (U.S.).

PROJECT AUTHORITY: The amended Flood Control Act of 1965 (P.L. 89-298, Title II, Section 204) authorized a "project for hurricane protection on Lake Pontchartrain, Louisiana...substantially in accordance with the recommendations of the Chief of Engineers in House Document 231, Eighty-ninth Congress". The original statutory authorization for the LPV Project was amended by the Water Resources Development Acts (WRDA) of 1974 (P.L. 93-251, Title I, Section 92); 1986 (P.L. 99-662, Title VIII, Section 805); 1990 (P.L. 101-640, Section 116); 1992 (P.L. 102-580, Section 102); 1996 (P.L. 104-303, Section 325); 1999 (P.L. 106-53, Section 324); and 2000 (P.L. 106-541, Section 432); and the Energy and Water Development Appropriations Acts of 1992 (P.L. 102-104, Title I, Construction, General), 1993 (P.L. 102-377, Title I, Construction, General), and 1994 (P.L. 103-126, Title I, Construction, General).

Congress passed a series of supplemental appropriations acts following Hurricanes Katrina and Rita to repair and upgrade the project systems damaged by the storms. The supplemental appropriations acts gave additional authority to the USACE to construct Hurricane Storm Damage Risk Reduction System (HSDRRS) projects.

The 3rd Supplement (Department of Defense, Emergency Supplemental Appropriations to Address Hurricanes in the Gulf of Mexico, and Pandemic Influenza Act of 2006, P.L. 109-148, Chapter 3, Flood Control and Coastal Emergencies) authorized and appropriated funds for the Corps of Engineers to restore the level of risk reduction for which the flood damage reduction and hurricane and storm damage reduction projects were designed at full federal expense.

Under the 4th Supplement (Emergency Supplemental Appropriations Act for Defense, the Global War on Terror, and Hurricane Recovery Act of 2006, P.L. 109-234, Title II, Chapter 3, Construction, and Flood Control and Coastal Emergencies), "...shall be used to modify the 17th Street, Orleans Avenue, and London Avenue Outfall canals and install pumps and closure structures at or near the lakefront."

Under the 5th Supplement (U.S. Troop Readiness, Veteran's Care, Katrina Recovery, Iraq Accountability Appropriations Act, P.L. 110-28, Title IV, Chapter 3, Flood Control and Coastal Emergencies, General Provisions, Sections 4302 and 4303) Congress directed the Chief of Engineers to investigate the overall technical advantages, disadvantages and operational effectiveness of operating the new pumping stations at the mouths of the 17th Street, Orleans Avenue and London Avenue canals in the New Orleans area directed for construction in Public Law 109-234 concurrently or in series with existing pumping stations serving these canals and

the advantages, disadvantages and technical operational effectiveness of removing the existing pumping stations and configuring the new pumping stations and associated canals to handle all needed discharges to the lakefront or in combination with discharges directly to the Mississippi River in Jefferson Parish; and the advantages, disadvantages and technical operational effectiveness of replacing or improving the floodwalls and levees adjacent to the three outfall canals.

On November 28, 2007 the Assistant Secretary of the Army (ASA) submitted the report to Congress, PL 110-28 Chapter 3 SEC 4303. The 5th Supplement, P.L. 110-28, also authorized the reallocation of funds appropriated in Chapter 3 of the 4th Supplemental (P.L. 109-234) under the heading "Flood Control and Coastal Emergencies" to promote the goal of continuing work at an optimal pace, while maximizing levels of risk reduction to reduce the risk of storm damage to people and property. In February 2008, a portion of the 4th Supplemental funding for the installation of permanent pumps and closure structures was reallocated to the Inner Harbor Navigation Canal Surge Risk Reduction Project.

LOCATION: The 17th Street Canal site is located at approximately 30° 01' 20" N / 90° 07' 16" W. The proposed site is located at the north end of 17th Street canal, north of the Hammond Highway Bridge. The Orleans Avenue Canal site is located at approximately 30° 01' 36" N / 90° 05' 49" W. The proposed site is located at the north end of Orleans Avenue canal, south of the Lakeshore Drive Bridge. The London Avenue Canal site is located at approximately 30° 01' 41" N / 90° 04' 26" W. The proposed site is located at the north end of London Avenue canal, south of the Lakeshore Drive Bridge and north of the Leon C. Simon Drive Bridge.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The proposed project includes updated information and design details for the construction of permanent pump stations for the 17th Street, Orleans Avenue, and London Avenue Canals. This public notice supplements information previously provided in the May 4, 2009 Clean Water Act, Section 404 Public Notice for "Individual Environmental Report #5 Permanent Protection for the Outfall Canals Project on 17th Street, Orleans Avenue, and London Avenue Canals, Jefferson and Orleans Parishes, Louisiana".

17th Street Canal Pump Station: This approximately 12,500 ft³/s pump station will be approximately 450 ft long by 150 ft wide, and will include inlet and outlet works, trash screens, a pump station building housing pumps, motors, and a gate structure (Figures 1 and 2). The pump station will be located across the existing 17th Street Canal and the adjacent peninsula located to the immediate west of the mouth of the canal. The new gate structure, which will be adjacent to and west of the pump station, will consist of gates, gate guides, hoisting equipment, and an enclosure to protect the hoisting equipment. The pump station will be located approximately 1,000 ft north of the Hammond Highway Bridge, and approximately 500 ft from the existing Interim Control Structures.

In addition to the pump station design and facilities discussed in IER 5, to the west, the new gate system will transition into T-wall with a top of wall at approximate elevation +18 ft (NAVD88), which will run south, roughly parallel to the existing peninsula, eventually tying in to the existing HSDRSS levee with either a levee or T-wall. The portion of the T-wall that is in water will likely require placement of rip rap at its base to serve as erosion control. In order to allow flow to pass from the existing canal, around the new pump station and through the new adjacent gate system, the existing peninsula at the mouth of the 17th Street Canal will be removed. This is an area that measures approximately 1.3 acres. Additionally, the area (including approximately 0.7 acres of the adjoining harbor to the west of the existing peninsula) will be dredged to an elevation of -8 to -15 ft to allow sufficient flow. However, a flow training berm will be built to the north west of the gate structure to ensure the existing channel used by the Coast Guard station to enter and exit the adjacent harbor is not adversely impacted by the flow through these gates. In order to construct the pump station while maintaining canal flow,

the gate structure will serve as a flow bypass around a temporary cofferdam within which the pump station will be built.

A total of approximately 7.5 acres of open water habitat will be permanently filled by project features such as the pump station, rip-rap, T-wall, training berm and bypass gate.

Orleans Avenue Canal Pump Station: This approximately 2,700 ft³/s pump station will be approximately 165 ft long by 140 ft wide, and will include inlet and outlet works, trash screens, and a pump station building housing pumps, motors, and a gate structure (Figures 3 and 4). The new gate structure will consist of gates, gate guides, hoisting equipment, and an enclosure to protect the hoisting equipment. The new pump station and gates will be located in the existing canal, approximately 215 ft south of Lakeshore Drive, and will tie-in to the existing HSDRRS levee to the east and west with T-walls, with the tops of these walls at approximate elevation +18 ft (NAVD 88).

Due to increased velocities within the canal during construction, approximately .15 acres of rip rap would be placed along the canal bottom just southeast of Lakeshore Drive to reduce channel scour. Also, a small breakwater impacting 0.06 acres of canal bottom would be temporarily built just southwest of Lakeshore Drive to reduce wave action during construction of the pump station cofferdam.

A total of approximately 3.86 acres of open water habitat will be permanently filled by project features such as the pump station, rip-rap, and bypass gate.

London Avenue Canal Pump Station: This approximately 9,000 ft³/s pump station will be approximately 325 ft long by 150 ft wide, and will include inlet and outlet works, trash screens, and a pump station building housing pumps, motors, and a gate structure (Figures 5 and 6). The new gate structure will consist of gates, gate guides, hoisting equipment, and an enclosure to protect the hoisting equipment. The gate structure will be located within the existing canal, and the pump station will be located to the east of the gate structure, partially within the existing canal and partially on the west bank of the canal. The new pump station and gate structure would tie-in to the existing HSDRRS levee to the east and west with T-wall, with the tops of these walls at approximate elevation +18 ft.

A total of approximately 3.96 acres of open water habitat will be permanently filled by project features such as the pump station, rip-rap, and bypass gate.

Features Common to all three sites: Channel transitions in the form of retaining walls will be required north and south of the new pump stations and gates on both sides of the canal banks. Rip rap protection will be placed along the bottom of the canals, immediately north and south of the new pump stations and gate structures. No construction or dredging will occur within Lake Pontchartrain, although there will be construction and dredging in the harbor adjacent to the 17th St. Canal. Land excavation and canal dredging will be required for construction of features such as the new channel leading to the 17th St. Canal gate structure, as well for the construction of each pump station and for the intakes to all of the pump stations. These activities will result in soil removal from the site. In cases where Hazardous Toxic Radioactive Waste (HTRW) or otherwise regulated material cannot be avoided, such material will be handled and disposed of according to Louisiana Administrative Code (LAC) 33: VII, Subpart 1. .Solid Waste Regulations and LAC 30:I Chapter 13 Section 2.3 Risk Evaluation/Corrective Action Program (RECAP) Regulations.

Best Management Practices would be utilized at the construction entrances and around the sites, including but not limited to: silt fencing, fiber rolls, drain inlet protection, and stabilized construction entrances. Turbidity curtains will also be used for in-water construction and

excavation to minimize turbidity impacts in adjacent waters.



Figure 1. 17th Street Pump Station Design Layout



Figure 2. Conceptual design for 17th Street Pump Station



Figure 3. Orleans Avenue Pump Station design layout



Figure 4. Conceptual design for Orleans Avenue Pump Station



Figure 5. London Avenue Canal Pump Station design layout



Figure 6. Conceptual design for London Avenue Canal Pump Station

Discharges by Others: No discharges are anticipated by others.

Status of Environmental Assessment and other Environmental Documents: Individual Environmental Report Supplemental 5.a, Additional Rights of Way for Construction of Permanent Pump Stations at 17th Street, London Avenue, and Orleans Avenue Outfall Canals, Orleans and Jefferson Parish, Louisiana, will be released for a 30-day review in May 2, 2014. IERS 5.a addresses the impacts associated with the additional right of way and design details associated with the permanent pump stations project construction. IER 5 entitled "Permanent Protection for the Outfall Canals Project on 17th Street, Orleans Avenue, and London Avenue Canals, Jefferson and Orleans Parishes, Louisiana" addressed the impacts for constructing the permanent pump stations.

Environmental compliance for the proposed action would be achieved upon: coordination of IERS 5.a with appropriate agencies, organizations, and individuals for their review and comments. U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) and National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) confirmation that the proposed action would not be likely to adversely affect any endangered or threatened species; Louisiana Department of Natural Resources concurrence with the determination that the proposed action is consistent, to the maximum extent practicable, with the Louisiana Coastal Resources Program; receipt of a Water Quality Certificate from the State of Louisiana; public review of the Section 404(b)(1) Public Notice; signature of the Section 404(b)(1) Evaluation; receipt of the Louisiana State Historic Preservation Officer Determination of No Affect on cultural resources; receipt and acceptance or resolution of all USFWS Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act recommendations; receipt and acceptance or resolution of all Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality comments on the air quality impact analysis documented in the IER; and receipt and acceptance or resolution of all NMFS Essential Fish Habitat recommendations. The Decision Record would not be signed until the proposed action achieves environmental compliance with applicable laws and regulations, as described above.

The proposed action for additional right of way would have no effect on the West Indian manatee was received via email from USFWS dated December 18, 2013 that and a No effect determination is made for any endangered or threatened species under NMFS jurisdiction. The Louisiana Department of Natural Resources (LDNR) reviewed the proposed action for consistency with the Louisiana Coastal Resource Program (LCRP). The proposed action was

found to be consistent with the LCRP, as per a letter dated January 17, 2014. A Water Quality Certification (WQC 081110-01/AI 161807/CER 20130001) for the proposed action was received from LDEQ on December 11, 2013. A draft Section 404(b)(10) Evaluation has been prepared and will be finalized with signature upon completion of this public notice review period. The USFWS does not have any additional recommendations to avoid, minimize to fish and wildlife habitat, therefore no Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act Report will be prepared. The proposed action would have no direct impact on cultural resources. Approximately 15.32 acres of waters of the United States in the vicinity of the permanent pump stations on the 17th Street, Orleans Avenue, and London Avenue canals could be permanently impacted by construction-related activities, such as installation of two cofferdams. No additional impacts to essential fish habitat would occur as result of the proposed action.

Coordination. The following is a partial list of agencies to which a copy of this notice is being sent:

- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region VI
- U.S. Department of Commerce, NOAA National Marine Fisheries Service
- U.S. Department of the Interior, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
- U.S. Coast Guard, Eighth District
- Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality
- Louisiana Department of Natural Resources
- Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries
- Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development
- Louisiana State Historic Preservation Officer

This notice is being distributed to these and other appropriate Congressional, Federal, state, and local interests, environmental organizations, and other interested parties.

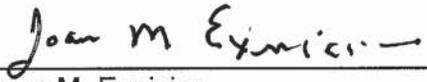
Evaluation Factors. Evaluation includes application of the Section 404(b)(1) guidelines promulgated by the Administrator of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, through 40 CFR 230.

Public Involvement. This public notice is available for 30 day public review. Interested parties may express their views on the disposal of material associated with the proposed work or suggest modifications in writing to Patricia Leroux, CEMVN-PDN-CEP, P.O. Box 60267, New Orleans, Louisiana 70160-0267. All comments postmarked on or before the expiration of the comment period for this notice will be considered.

Any person who has an interest that may be affected by deposition of excavated or dredged material may request a public hearing. The request must be submitted in writing to the District Engineer within the comment period of this notice and must clearly set forth the interest that may be affected and the manner in which the interest may be affected by the proposed action.

You are requested to communicate the information contained in this notice to any parties who may have an interest in the proposed action.

For further information regarding the proposed action, please contact Ms. Patricia Leroux at (504) 862-1544. Ms. Leroux's email address is Patricia.S.Leroux@usace.army.mil.



Joan M. Exnicios
Chief, Environmental Planning Branch

COMMENT PERIOD FOR THIS PUBLIC NOTICE EXPIRES: June 2, 2014