



US Army Corps
of Engineers
New Orleans District

Public Meeting Summary

Fronting Protection at New Orleans Sewerage and Water Board 11 and 13 and the GIWW West Closure Complex public meeting Wednesday, Aug. 26, 2009

Location	English Turn Clubhouse 1 Clubhouse Dr. New Orleans, LA 70131
Time	Open House 6:00 p.m. Presentation 6:30 p.m., followed by a discussion
Attendees	Approx 50
Format	Open House Presentation
Handouts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation • Approval Process Brochure • 2009 Status map
Facilitator	Rene Poche

Greater New Orleans Hurricane & Storm Damage Risk Reduction System



Val Exnicios: [Inaudible] We have the Corps here tonight to talk about building walls at two pump stations. They're also going to talk about the Gulf Intracoastal Waterway West Closure Complex.

Rene Poche: Thanks Val, the GIWW West Closure Complex will be just below where the Harvey Canal and Algiers Canal meets and we've provided some information on that [Inaudible]. We've talked a lot about risk reduction

Meeting Purpose

Construction of the risk reduction features at Pump Station 11 and Pump Station 13 will generate impacts to residents and businesses near the project sites.

This meeting will provide an overview of the planned improvements to the hurricane system in Algiers including an update of the Gulf Intracoastal Waterway West Closure Complex and describe the Corps' efforts to identify and minimize construction impacts to neighboring communities.

[Inaudible] buying down risk to share the responsibility. We, the Corps, provide you 100% protection so its up to you as a resident along with the local elected officials to track how much risk you can tolerate and you can see on the slides there's a lot of good things that can help them bring that risk down [Inaudible] evacuation plan, insurance [Inaudible]. But ultimately it's you as an individual who needs to decide what your tolerance is. I'm going to turn it over now to Ted Carr and he's going to talk to you about Pump Stations 11 and 13.

Buying Down Risk



Ted Carr: Well, thank you, Rene. Good evening and thank you all for coming out to learn about the Hurricane and Storm Damage Risk Reduction System projects in your neighborhood, in your community. So, first thing I'm going to do is I'm going to show you where we are.

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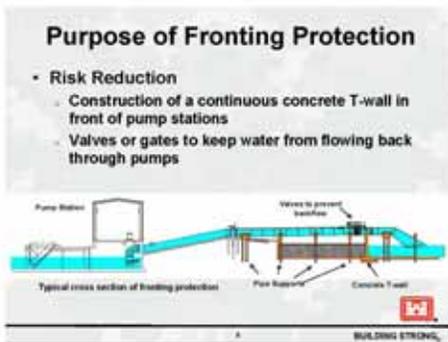


We are right there; our Pump Station 11 is right there. And, the other Pump Station two and or 13 is right there. Now, this map is intended to show you [Inaudible]. We know from all down to here from the Western Closure, all the way down and up the Harvey Canal, up the Algiers, and down and all the way tying into the Mississippi River Levee System [Inaudible]. The Western Closure Complex is located right here, and this will be the second part of our conversation this evening.



First thing I want to do is I just want to start talking with you about the station that's the closest to you all which is the Sewerage and Water Board 11 and we'll also talk about Sewerage and Water Board Pump Station 13. Okay. [Inaudible] now, let's go to the next slide and talk about

[Inaudible]



It's about risk reduction [Inaudible] construction of continuous concrete t-walls as a part of the Pump Station, and also [Inaudible] valves or gates to keep water from backflowing back through the pumps. So, that protection would increase the risk reduction for these pump stations. We currently don't even have that. Let's just look at a couple of features of fronting protection. We talked about t-walls here, this is the t-wall on this slide [Inaudible] Algiers Canal, that t-wall will be just built to nine and a half feet, that levee elevation in the Algiers Canal currently ranges from somewhere between [Inaudible]. [Inaudible] part of the Algiers Canal is at an elevation eight, and they're able to be

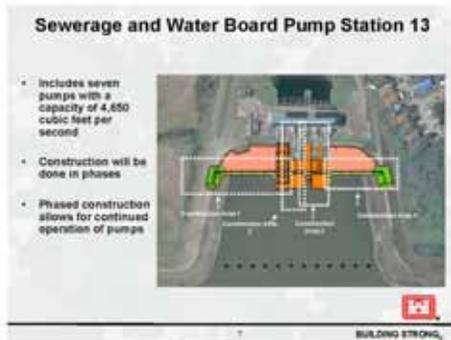
raised up to the nine elevation, that's an elevation of eight and a half feet. [Inaudible] West Closure Complex [Inaudible] Risk Reduction System, and this will be what we call a retention gate. [Inaudible] West Closure Complex. Here's another component [Inaudible]. This valve is for a vertical pump, typically we have piping for the verticals, there are two types of pumps, we have horizontal pumps, and we have vertical pumps. Pump Station 9 out here [Inaudible]. This diagram right here shows you vertical pump with pipes and they have pipe with this valve right here would keep backflow from going from the canal back to the pump station [Inaudible]. So, this is designed to keep this from happening. We've got the flood wall and we have the valves. These are a little bit harder to see. Basically, talking about why are we doing this? We've talked what we're going to do. Why are we doing it to these pump stations? Well, the existing wall cannot be [Inaudible] are not continuing across the pump stations which is a gap in the Risk Reduction System. [Inaudible] and we're doing that all along the Algiers Canal. Because we don't have the system that we're talking about water could backflow through the pump stations, and the



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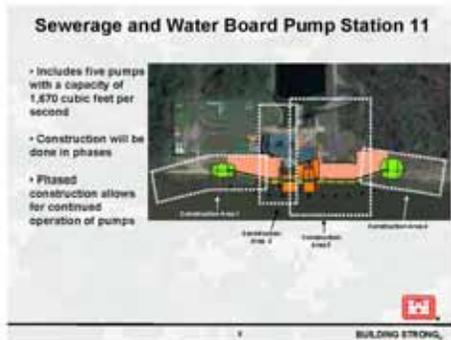
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current pump stations, they also allow water seepage from below the foundation of the current pump station so the t-walls will take care of that. Okay?



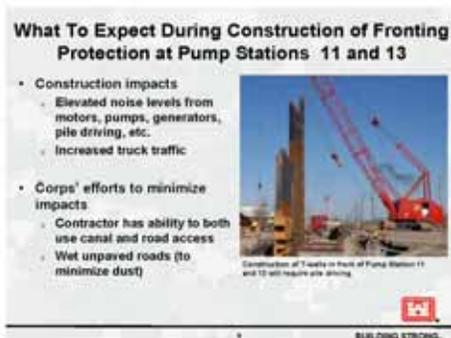
What we're looking at here is Pump Station #13, this is the one that is below you. These pump stations, when we do this work; it's going to be done in phases. As you can see here, when you look here, there's Area 1 and there's Area 2 and there's Area 3 and there's Area 4. Those four areas will have what is called a temporary, we call it a, TRS, Temporary Retaining Structure, so this will allow us to work in the dry in these four areas. So, we're doing the construction in phases and phase construction allows for continuing operation of the pumps. Now, there is going to be some pumps down [Inaudible] associated with this. We'll talk about that

[Inaudible]. Why don't we just talk about it right now? If you look at this capacity here, I don't know if that means much too many people in here, 4,650 cubic feet per second but if I can relate that to an olympic-sized swimming pool, that's three olympic-sized swimming pools a minute that would be pumped out. Olympic-sized swimming pools have around 660,000 gallons of water so that's moving quite a bit of water. When we do Construction Area 1 for Pump Station 13 [Inaudible]. Sorry, I'm trying to get the right numbers. Construction Area 1, what we'd be looking at [Inaudible] pump capacity is about 550 cubic feet per second during that construction. [Inaudible]. So, if you're looking at Construction Area 2 and 3, you'd be looking at between 5% and 10% capacity because we're going to lose efficiency when we're working in our Temporary Retaining Structures. [Inaudible] So, if we had an event and we're in there doing construction, what we do is we flood that Temporary Retaining Structure with water moving the water to flow out of the back pump and onto the Algiers Canal. When we're working over here in Area 4, we would have no impact upon capacity. So, we [Inaudible] to minimize impact on pump capacity.



First let's talk about the Pump Station closest to us, that's Pump Station 11. Once again, this is a smaller pump station having 1,670 cubic feet per second. So if you do the math that is about an Olympic swimming pool a minute. [Inaudible] allow it to maintain pumping capacity, the max amount of pumping capacity, during the time that we're working here. So, when we do Construction Area 1 [Inaudible] we would be pumping out [Inaudible] pumping capacity. When we're looking at Construction Area 2, it will be the equivalency of that TRS [Inaudible] in that area. Area 3 is [Inaudible] and that would be around 530 cubic feet per

second. During the time that those pumps are being constructed [Inaudible] and when we're doing that construction pump capacity [Inaudible] as in Area 4 there would be no impact to the pumps. We're just trying to let you know, [Inaudible] maximize pumping capacity at any time while we're working on these pump stations. The work we can get done [Inaudible]. Okay.



So, we've talked about the need for fronting protection, we've talked about why, we've talked about the construction phases that we're going to be going through, now what is it that you can expect during the time that this construction is going on?

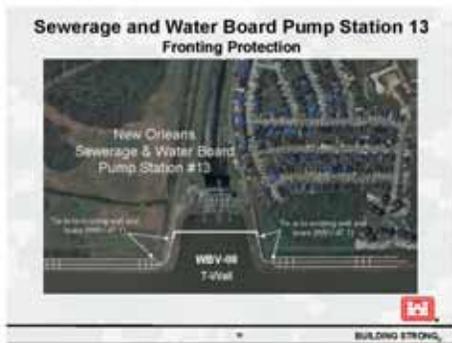
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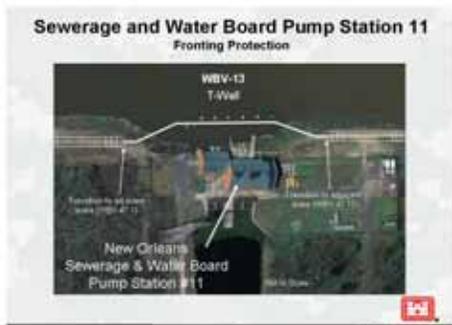
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Well, there's going to be a little bit noise levels, these noise levels are going to be associated with motors, pumps, generators, primarily pile drivers, and [Inaudible] foundation piles as well [Inaudible]. Also, increased truck traffic, and what are we going to do to minimize that, what are going to do to try to [Inaudible]. Quite frankly, there's not much that we can do about the noise. It is what it is. In order to address truck traffic, the contractor has the ability to both use the canal and road access. [Inaudible] with any construction site there's dust, there's going to be falling material, and there's going to be dust. So what we do is minimize the dust by wetting those areas down. When is this going to start? Well, if these projects are currently out [Inaudible] for bid. At the end of September, we'd be scheduling the actual pours, end of September, early October, [Inaudible] October time-frame, the contractors are going to begin to dig-out the area; November it's going to be all out [Inaudible]. Next slide please.



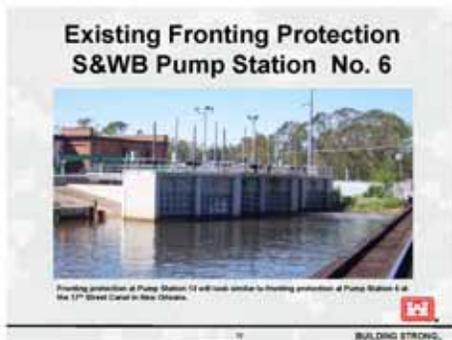
So, what do we get? If we look here at Pump Station #13 you see that this is the Hero Canal Levee and Eastern Tie-In at Pump Station 13. What we will be doing is tying the t-wall across the front of the pump station and tie it back in to the levee on the other side so we would have continual protection, risk reduction across the canal, keep any water from running, you know, backflowing through the pump station or seeping underneath the pump station, just closing the gap [Inaudible] pump station [Inaudible]. Next slide please.



Here's the same thing, this is the pump station that's closest to the community right here [Inaudible] Sewerage and Water Board 11. Here you can see tying to the Algiers Canal [Inaudible], and here is our fronting protection.



Here's a completed project. It's a little hard to see but I'll just point out a couple of things here. If we look right here we can see the flood wall, the flood wall runs here, comes up here, and it runs behind here, then it comes back here so there's continual Risk Reduction System here. If you look right here this is very similar to what it will be looking like at Pump Station 13 because you have the combination of both the vertical pumps, you can see the piping, and then these are horizontal pumps that are by the gate. [Inaudible] but I'll show you what the gate looks like [Inaudible] zoom in right here and these are the horizontal pumps [Inaudible] structure [Inaudible] the piping that comes actually through the t-wall or the vertical pumps. Next slide please.

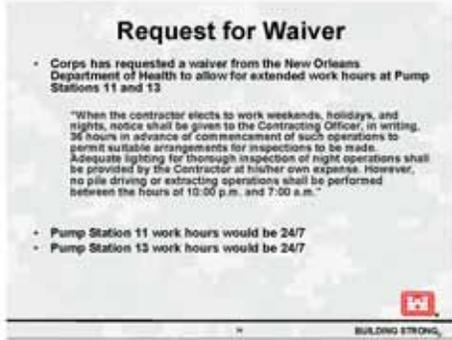


So, what we've talked about today, we've talked about the pile driving, we've talked about t-piles, [Inaudible] Pump Station 11 and Pump Station 13 are asking for the ability to work 24/7. Why is that?

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Well, to meet our deadline of protecting this place by June of 2011, we need to give these contractors the opportunity to meet that. Now, does that mean we're going to be 24/7 you're going to hear pile driving 24-hours a day? No, no. [Inaudible] that will be between the hours of 10:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m. But in order to this we have to be [Inaudible]

Next slide, please.

Ok, with that I'm going to ask you to hold your questions, maybe make a note of them so when we go through this next part I'm going to have Tim Connell to come on up, he's the project manager for the Western Closure Complex.

Tim Connell: Were you guys able to hear him and can you hear me?

[Inaudible -- Multiple speakers]



Tim Connell: Like he said, my name's Tim Connell, I'm the project manager for the West Closure Complex, and this is a structure, I'll tell you what, let me just back up to the other slide.

This is the site that has the most [Inaudible] in red, these lines are going up and down the canals. This is the current system that offers the risk reduction for the areas behind these levees. The West Closure Complex, which is going to be located right here, it's going to take about 26 miles of the 66 miles that currently can close the Westbank and Vicinity Project. It's going to eliminate those and move down from the primary goal of hurricane protection into a secondary goal behind this structure. That takes out about 40% of the system if we move from that primary goal by construction of this one structure. So, I just wanted to point that out to you, pinpoint out we're located here and we'll go to the next slide

[Inaudible] Okay. As part of this structure there are basically five major components to the structure. We have the 20,000 cubic foot per second pumping station and what that's going to do is, as you know, there are nine pumping stations along the Algiers and Harvey Canal that pump in about 29,600 cubic feet per second of water, that's at maximum capacity. Backwater is pumped into the Algiers and Harvey Canals and flows out of the Algiers and Harvey Canals, out through the Barataria into the marsh currently. Once we put this structure in and there's an event, these gate will be closed and that structure will seal off the Westbank System and seal off the Algiers and Harvey Canals so the water being pumped in can gladly flow out like it normally does so we need to construct this pump station. That pump station, when completed, is going to be the largest one in the world of its type, and I've got some pictures of that, later, what we see that looking like. Another major component of it [Inaudible] Algiers Canal and this is a major, the Gulf Intracoastal Waterway, it's a major inland waterway, an immense amount of barge traffic, we have a 225-foot gate to accommodate the barge traffic; we have a secondary navigation and flow gate, a 75-foot wide adjacent to it and another component of this is a flood wall that runs along what's called a [Inaudible] area. To anybody who doesn't know what that is, that is the [Inaudible] wetland; it's one of 12 in the nation that basically runs an area of protected wetlands that we absolutely cannot do anything in these wetlands. We're working closely with the EPA in order to get them to allow us to work on the edge of this protected wetland and that's part of the system, it's a flood wall. There's a water control sub here



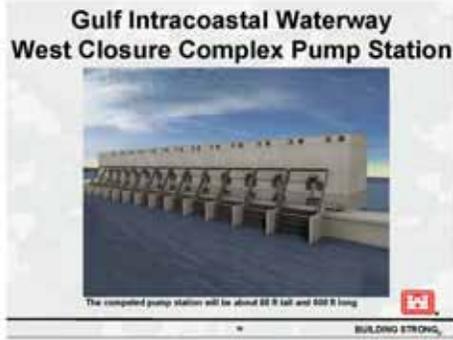
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[Inaudible] and then there's a levee in rotation [Inaudible]. As Rene stated earlier we are under construction now, got a little bit behind, we expected to get started in June but, you know, a contracting



mechanism that we used is called Early Contract Involvement, he's been onboard actually since April getting prepared to do this, as soon as he was given the okay to go, anybody who has been out there has seen this, he's really gone, and construction is going to start, a massive effort is underway [Inaudible] June 1st, 2011. The other effects from this, in this area, as far as the noise, the trucks, you're not going to hear it, it's not going to be effected at all. The big effect for you is that the storm surges are blocked from getting into the Algiers Canal. Let's go to the next slide.



This is just a conceptual drawing of what the pump station will look like, that's the [Inaudible] and this is the exterior of the flood side. This thing is 80 feet tall by about 600 feet long. It looks a little bit different than most of the other pump station that you've seen in this area. This utilizes what's called a [Inaudible] pump configuration where as the other ones actually will never see the water flowing like a waterfall in those other pump stations, [Inaudible]. In this case, we elected to use this type of pump for several reasons because the liability, the ease of operation, the simplicity of operation, and the fact that basically you have [Inaudible] going to have backflow suppression, that's unnecessary in this particular type of pump station because it actually [Inaudible] over the height of the protection and that elevation, all these structures that we have as far as this complex will be built to elevation 16. So, that is it for me. [Laughter] And I'll be glad to answer any questions.

Tim Connell: [Inaudible] Council member Jackie Clarkson's made it here and she'd like speak to you for a few minutes.

Councilwoman Jackie Clarkson: Thank you. I'm Jackie Clarkson councilwoman at large [Inaudible] so they have asked me to be a part of their [Inaudible] of which I am very flattered and willing. And, so [Inaudible] very concerned about the Westbank, especially since Gustav because [Inaudible] we were ready for the direct hit from Katrina and we were less prepared [Inaudible] and I was very concerned because I've witnessed a lot of hurricanes in my 73 years and I remember the water destroying the [Inaudible] on top of this when, first of all, [Inaudible] council and [Inaudible] Algiers, the Harvey Canal and the Algiers Canals meet [Inaudible] pumping capacity of the two Algiers Pumping Stations 11 and 13, and we can't afford to lose pumping capacity, we can't lose pumping capacity for Algiers on the water, and [Inaudible] 2002 and 2003, and we had to rebuild a levee back [Inaudible] I learned how vulnerable we were [Inaudible]. The people that work for the Corps, [Inaudible] that's not where my gripe is here, my gripe's with Washington. So, [Inaudible] Option 1 to Option 2A which is [Inaudible] try to not only protect the Harvey Canal but [Inaudible] look at the computer model and [Inaudible]. So, this is necessary [Inaudible] 24/7 building [Inaudible] they said noise and [Inaudible]. So, that's what this is all about, I'm not for allowing the noise, I'm not against it. I want to give them every opportunity to know that in order to get faster, better flood control you may have to put up with the noise or the longer hours on weekends and holidays that you wouldn't normally have to but I wanted you to have some input [Inaudible] I'm leaving here my [Inaudible] so if any of you have anything [Inaudible] and wanted to thank the Corps for this opportunity, I wanted to thank you for being here [Inaudible]. Thank you.

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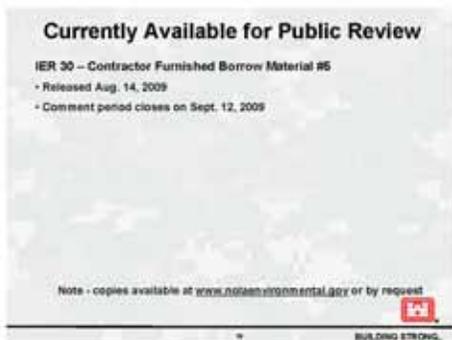
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[Applause]

Rene Poche: Thank you, ma'am. Alright, we've been talking about a lot of things that are going on or that will be going on during the next few months. I want to talk to you a little bit safety and the construction [Inaudible].



The contractor has to submit a safety plan to the Corps when he starts this project. He also has, on site, the quality control person and in turn the Corps has quality assurance inspection [Inaudible] ensures the site is safe [Inaudible] safety standards as well and is knowledgeable of the sites activity. And, the Corps along with the contractor [Inaudible] pretty good safety record and when you consider the magnitude of the projects [Inaudible] that's really impressive. Next slide, please.



Okay. There's a report out there for folks to review which is the IER-30 that's a Contractor Furnished Borrow Material #5. And they release this about 10 days ago, 12 days ago, and [Inaudible] get a copy and take a look at it at nolaenvironmental.gov or you can give us a call [Inaudible].

Upcoming public meetings. We've done tons of these since this all started [Inaudible]



This is what we have coming up. [Inaudible] meeting with you folks and give you as much information as we can. Next slide please.



And, it's no good if we don't have your input, we really, really do value your input so there's a variety of ways you can do it. What I would ask you to do, if you haven't signed in over here [Inaudible] please sign-in that will do two things for you, that will put you into our database and then you get our emails as more information becomes available [Inaudible]. Anytime you can go to nolaenvironmental.gov and submit comments, you can call the main [Inaudible] and leave a message there, we have a mailbox "Ask the Corps" [Inaudible] its checked throughout the day and then those emails are forwarded on to the appropriate person or agencies to answer those questions.

And, again, we have some resources for you, for the third time now, nolaenvironmental.gov, a lot of good information out there, and then our public website, it's got a lot of information [Inaudible] that will take you to the Hurricane Protection System part of the website and there's a lot of

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information you can get all the way down to the project [Inaudible] see what's going on with a particular project.

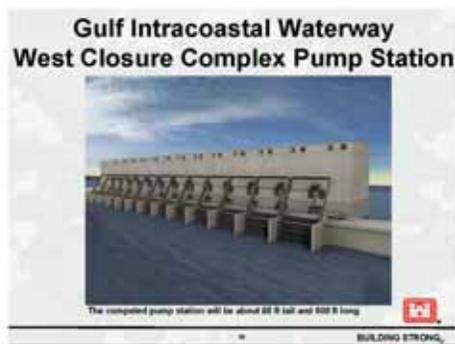
Okay. What we'll do at this time is open the floor for questions. Before we do that, just a couple ground rules. We understand there are some folks out here that have strong opinions about the Corps, we acknowledge and accept those, what I would like for you to do [Inaudible] limit your comments to the two projects that we've talked about tonight, that's Pump Stations 11 and 13 and the West Closure Complex; we're allowing three minutes that you can speak. We've got the little red, yellow, and green lighting system so if you see the yellow light come on, you need to start wrapping it up, and [Inaudible]. [Inaudible] try and go around the room [Inaudible]. If you wouldn't mind, standing up, and say your name, please so we can hear that. Before we get started [Inaudible].

Ernie Foreman: Thank you. I'm Ernie Foreman, I represent the National Flood Insurance Program. I just wanted to mention that when I was trying [Inaudible] Corps of Engineers [Inaudible] I will let you know that I will be here until the close of the meeting, some of you may have some questions concerning your flood zones, you know, [Inaudible] and I just want to mention that those [Inaudible] maps that FEMA has put out, those maps are not, and I repeat, are not going to be adopted any time soon. So, [Inaudible] flood insurance, if you don't have flood insurance you may want to think about purchasing [Inaudible] insurance premiums. So, wherever you're at right now, whatever flood zone you are in right now, it will stay status quo until we come out with new maps, that will not happen until the Army Corps of Engineers brings all of the levees in the five remaining Parishes to a 100% chance of flooding or the 100-year flood, if you will. So, I'll be in the back if you have any questions, after the meeting, I'll be happy to answer any questions that you may have. Thank you.

Rene Poche: Okay. We're going to get started, and start with the gentleman in the back here. If you could stand up and speak loudly, say your name, please.

Male speaker: Thank you. My name is Don. I live in the lower section of Algiers and I have basically one kind of question. If you send me an email [Inaudible] West Closure Complex [Inaudible] and who's going to pay for it? Second question, will the pump station be in operation during a hurricane, number two? And, number three [Inaudible].

Tim Connell: Okay. With regard to your first question, operation of the pump station is the responsibility of the local sponsor and the Office of Coastal Restoration and Protection, that's the way it's currently set up and we've been working with the Southeast Louisiana Flood Protection Authority, and [Inaudible]. That being said, all these agencies, in addition to the Navigation Industry are pushing to have the O and M of this structure be made the local sponsor's responsibility to operate and maintain [Inaudible]. The other question was will the pump station be operating during a hurricane, yes, that's the whole purpose in the design of this whole system, reliability of the system has been number one priority, we've taken some extraordinary measures. In this



pump station, if you want to bring that slide back up. The structure itself is designed, it's made to withstand 120-mile per hour winds without any damage, on the inside of that is a safe house so this pump station would be manned by a full crew to keep it operating during a storm event. That's its total purpose

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is to operate during a storm event. It will not be operated for a regular rainfall event.

The other thing about this, inside this, the 13 pumps, each one of those pumps, they're very, very large pumps, they have the capacity of 1,540 cubic feet per second each at the low level on the inside. They all have an individual power packs meaning they're all individually powered with individual engines so that you don't have a problem with one particular pump, it would just be one pump, it wouldn't affect the operation of the whole station. So, to answer your question, yes, it is designed to stay on during the storm.

Male speaker: [Inaudible]

Male engineer: The pump station [Inaudible] now the other component here is we got a lot of the parish that will be more than likely covered by water. Which will eliminate a lot of [Inaudible]

Male speaker: Thank you very much.

Male engineer: [Inaudible] this is going to operate the same way that the [Inaudible] gates be closed and the pumps operating. [Inaudible]

Clark Harris: I'm Clark Harris, I have two questions. The work on Pump Station #11, 3rd phase, you say that they'll be an increase of about 530 cubic feet per second capacity which is about 1/3rd of the capacity of that pump station. Are there any plans being made to address that? And, then my second question has to do with the West Closure Complex, and that pump pumps 20,000 cubic feet per second but I think it was stated that all the pumps that flow over there are operating at a capacity of 29,000, so what happens to the other 9,000? I suspect you know, but I was just curious.

Ted Carr: I'll refer to the first question concerning [Inaudible] there is no plan for additional pumping capacity into the off-lying pumps but what we're going to do is we're going to get in, get that work done and bring [Inaudible]

Julie Vignes: I would just like to add that we've coordinated how these phases work with the Sewerage and Water Board who operates that pump station.

Clark Harris: But, what about during hurricane season? I mean I think it would more important [Inaudible]

Julie Vignes: Right. I was just saying yes, the pump capacity during the construction period will be reduced but they don't operate that pump station at full capacity often [Inaudible] given moment. But, I just wanted to [Inaudible] we have coordinated with the Sewerage and Water Board and they know as far as operation of that pump station and how much they typically pump, you know, it's not as much as a 30% decrease to what they normally would pump out of that station.

Male speaker: What is [Inaudible]?

Male engineer: [Inaudible]

Male engineer: Okay. What we'll do is we'll take your [Inaudible]

Tim Connell: [Inaudible] just to see if everybody's listening and you usually are. Okay. You want to go back to the slide. Okay.



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In the exhausted, extensive modeling [Inaudible] of the system, there are nine pump stations that actually discharge into this. They have 49 pumps [Inaudible]. The system has been modeled to [Inaudible] rainfall event, and that's what the interior system that they modeled for and that's what it's designed to handle and capable of handling. What we've done is [Inaudible] they're taking that 10-year rainfall event scenario and then flood back into the numerical models into the canals for this 10-year rainfall event. So, incidentally, the 10-year rainfall event is almost exactly rainfall event associated with the 100-year tropical event for this location. So, they put that modeling in and as you know [Inaudible] the Algiers Canal, the levees along the Harvey Canal, when they did the modeling, at lower pump station capacities you can bring the water elevation up higher in the canals [Inaudible] having the levees actually built up to elevation 10 and allowing the water to get to that elevation. In the design process [Inaudible] we put in these new flood walls by the Harvey Canals and they have [Inaudible] about a \$65 million dollar a year annual economic impact. And, so in developing the criteria of how to size these pump stations, the things we considered were how to keep the water level low enough in the Harvey Canal that those businesses don't flood under this event, and then to utilize the levees in the Algiers Canal efficiently. We have [Inaudible] and they do provide some [Inaudible]. So, in the modeling, what they've done is if we have a situation where under that 10-year or 100-year storm and the 10-year rainfall even the water levels in the Harvey Canal with this 20,000 CFS pump station, with that [Inaudible] pumping in, the water levels in the Harvey Canal don't go above elevation 4.2 and the water levels in the Algiers Canal reach a maximum of 5.8 from the Belle Chasse Tunnel back toward Algiers lot. So, that modeling goes on for three days, for a three day event, and in the three days with the pump station pumping its full capacity, the rainfall coming in as the 10-year or the 100-year [Inaudible] the elevations in the Algiers Canal don't get above 5.8, and actually go down to and remain below 3 at the pump station. So, the answer to your question is, it's been extensively modeled and that's the reason for the system of the levees at the elevation they were designed to, and the pump station capacity of 20,000 CFS.

Male speaker: [Inaudible]

Male engineer: I just one to say one thing, [Inaudible] of 8 ½, [Inaudible]

Tim Connell: I'm going to say one more thing up here [Inaudible] construction. If the construction wasn't here, the still water levels, what they call the 20-57's, the still waters of the Algiers Canal would be up to elevation 11. And, the way the pump stations work is you're lifting water up to a higher elevation, and if you have water on the outside, the way the pump stations on the Algiers Canal and the Harvey Canal, you saw that they're underwater and they have water at this elevation and water at this elevation, and it's not like the way a pump station would normally work, it pumps up and spills over. It's actually working against that wall that's on the outside. By putting this gate structure here, the water levels in the canal, like I said earlier, never get above an elevation 5.8 so the interior pumping stations, the efficiency of those interior pump stations are actually helped out by this structure which allows them to pump [Inaudible].

Rene Poche: [Inaudible] say your name, sir.

Bob Allison: I live in [Inaudible] one question is, you say that the t-wall at Pump Station 11 [Inaudible] will be about 8 feet, plus 8?

Male engineer: It will be at elevation 9 ½ [Inaudible]

Bob Allison: Once the t-wall [Inaudible]

Male engineer: That is elevation 14, that was done before the West Closure Complex was in place [Inaudible]



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Male speaker: [Inaudible]

Tim Connell: [Inaudible] different for Plaquemines Parish and Orleans Parish.

Male engineer: Orleans Parish is 10:00 to 7:00 a.m., 10 p.m. to 7 a.m. Plaquemines Parish is 9:00 p.m. to 6:00 a.m. [Inaudible]

Pete Stavros: ...the pumping stations [Inaudible] they're not really going to help us too much. My major concern is below the Naval Air Station [Inaudible] Eastern tie-in Mississippi River. Can you tell me the current status of the levee and is it going to be complete by 2011?

Julie Vignes: [Inaudible]

Rene Poche: That was Julie Vignes, the Senior Project Manager.

Julie Vignes: Okay. Sorry. The West Closure Complex will tie-into the existing Hero Levee, and then the alignment will go [around Oakville and connect to the] Mississippi River levee. That is also under a planning and design phase, we [Inaudible] we've actually put out an IER document. We had come back and received some comments from the public [Inaudible] there's a decision on that in November. And, then we will move to our complete design [Inaudible] construction will be complete by 2011 there also.

Pete Stavros: Are you getting any [Inaudible]

Julie Vignes: We've received a lot of public comment on that IER because [Inaudible] and [we will have a public meeting about that] that will be in September.

Pete Stavros: So, you expect this to be done by 2011. What's the current status? Is there a levee there?

Julie Vignes: There is, almost to the Hero Levee there is, it's to about an elevation 8 but [Inaudible] open system until it's complete. [Inaudible] that part is currently open...

Pete Stavros: [Inaudible]

Julie Vignes: ... because the IER process [Inaudible]

Male speaker: So, this is [Inaudible]

Julie Vignes: Until they close we wouldn't [Inaudible] all of those features are, designed to work together to complete [Inaudible]

Male speaker: [Inaudible]

Julie Vignes: [Inaudible] out for public at the end of September [Inaudible]

Male speaker: Thank you.

Rene Poche: On September 19th, there will be a workshop at the Belle Chasse High School [Inaudible] Yes, ma'am?

Female speaker: You were talking a lot about the different things that are happening [Inaudible]



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Rene Poche: [Inaudible]

Female speaker: I was wondering [Inaudible]

Male engineer: [Inaudible] the Coast Guard is always going to have the final decision on what happens [Inaudible]

Female speaker: [Inaudible low]

Male engineer: [Inaudible low] all of the Algiers Canal all of the Harvey Canal to this location right here. Basically, the barge doing the operations that are currently in the Algiers and Harvey Canals have to either move their vessels out of the canals or get an approved mooring plan out of the Coast Guard.

Female speaker: [Inaudible] on the river [Inaudible]

Male engineer: I understand. The Coast Guard, it would be nice if they were here to answer that question, I do not believe that there is a regulated navigation area [Inaudible] Coast Guard within the Mississippi River and these locations. And, that is something that needs to be...

Female speaker: [Inaudible]

Rene Poche: We'll take this information and pass it to the Coast Guard [Inaudible]

Female speaker: [Inaudible]

Rene Poche: [Inaudible] Yes, ma'am?

Geneva Grille: [Inaudible] I'm concerned with the [Inaudible] being closed by 2011. And I'm also very concerned about the Westbank Hurricane Project, this whole project, this parish project. I don't even know if I said my name, Geneva. I'm a retired chief engineer. [Inaudible] and English Turn and Belle Chasse [Inaudible] the Westbank Hurricane Project originally because it affected not only Jefferson Parish, but Plaquemines and Orleans Parish. And I don't think it's being dealt with responsibly in Plaquemines Parish, with making the closure where we need to make [Inaudible] the project needs to be done but [Inaudible] the Westbank closure into a 100-year project and out of all of this being made for the whole Westbank System, for everyone behind that project, there are very few 100-year Corps of Engineer projects that are now authorized. [Inaudible] it needs to be done because there is a time when FEMA will require [Inaudible] for flood insurance [Inaudible] we all know that and it's very important that we get this done

[Inaudible]

Rene Poche: ... the Hurricane Storm Damage Risk Reduction System Projects are totally funded to the tune of a little over \$14 billion dollars. So, [Inaudible] September 19th workshop at Plaquemines, or Belle Chasse High School.

Female speaker: But, I also want to make the point, it also protects the people in Orleans Parish and [Inaudible]

Rene Poche: Yes, ma'am.

Female speaker: [Inaudible]

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Rene Poche: Yes, sir.

Male speaker: My name is [Inaudible] I agree with that lady right there. What is the elevation proposed down for that Eastern Tie-in that she was referring [Inaudible]

Julie Vignes: The levee elevation there is 10 ½ ft.

Male speaker: What about the Mississippi River levees in Belle Chasse?

Julie Vignes: [Inaudible] ranges between 18 to 20 or 22 ft, maybe.

Male speaker: [Inaudible]

Julie Vignes: The river levees go much higher than the Hurricane Protection levees.

Male speaker: What plan does the Corps have to finally dictate the route of this tie-in levee because it seems like it's a definite problem down in Plaquemines Parish that's choosing and going around certain neighborhoods. Have you started over by Plaquemines Parish?

Rene Poche: I will tell you this; you can get the information on that, Saturday, September 19th at Belle Chasse High School. We want to keep tonight's comments focused on these pump stations and the West Closure Complex.

Male speaker: Okay. But, you don't [Inaudible]

Female engineer: I would just like to [Inaudible] the approval of [Inaudible]

Male speaker: The concern I have is [Inaudible] around these little communities and sacrifice all [Inaudible].

Rene Poche: All right [Inaudible] if you want more information please attend that workshop. Anybody else have any questions, comments [Inaudible]?

Male speaker: My name Mike, I live in [Inaudible] and one of my questions is who is going to be responsible for cleaning up the debris or the construction materials, etc. [Inaudible] brought in which we have those problems now with this in general? [Inaudible] back of the truck and DOT he doesn't do it now so who's going to do it?

Male engineer: [Inaudible]

Male speaker: That's what I'm worried about, that's why I have a complaint [Inaudible]
[Inaudible]

Male engineer: Let me say this [Inaudible]

Male speaker: Well, my concern [Inaudible], number one is that, the dropping of the materials, I'm in the construction business so I know exactly what can happen; number two is damage to the roadways as things are brought in because right now we can't get anything repaired and as we all know [Inaudible] fall apart. So, what we don't want to do is create more damage, then we have more problems and we still can't get things fixed. That's where I'm at.

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Male engineer: [Inaudible]

Male speaker: Well, my concern is if we do it.

Male engineer: [Inaudible]

Male speaker: I'd just like to ask one question [Inaudible] about the Mississippi River Levee. After Katrina, [Inaudible]

Julie Vignes: What I think you're talking about, is the Mississippi River Levee on the river side...

Male speaker: [Inaudible]

Julie Vignes: [Inaudible] the hard point of this location is just to have a hardened surface there so that the waterfall of the river isn't eroding the levee behind it. So, the river rock, the rip rap provides that hardened protection over the hole. Now, what they do [Inaudible]

[Inaudible]

Val Exnicios: [Inaudible] this particular meeting is one in a series of meetings that I think started probably six months ago [Inaudible] dealing with the entire Westbank Project and then the Corps has had a series of meetings that are much more individualized, if you will, [Inaudible] can address their concerns and take them up with the Corps. That's the point of this meeting tonight. In the other aspects of the [Inaudible]. So, the focus of today's meeting [Inaudible]. Yes, sir?

Male speaker: And, I appreciate that very much, step 1, step 2, step 3, and step 4 but just to clarify one thing, the progress of where you're at [Inaudible] National Flood Insurance Program, people come up and say why should we wait because Katrina was in '05 we can get it for 95 more years.

[Inaudible]

Male speaker: That's not true. So, just remember when you hear [Inaudible] what that means is there's a 1% chance in any given year with Gustav and Ike. Okay. [Inaudible] Thank you very much.

Rene Poche: [Inaudible] Yes, ma'am?

Female speaker: [Inaudible] sometimes when we get a four to 10 inch rain I'll get water in my lawn that's 20 feet up [Inaudible]. So, what will happen during construction of this [Inaudible]?

Male engineer: [Inaudible]

Female speaker: [Inaudible]

Male engineer: No. The pump stations only operate when there is...

Female speaker: No, I mean when we have a flooding situation due to rain, will that pump station be able to pump down the water?

Male engineer: Okay. The water that we are taking out at any one time [Inaudible] 1,600 plus cubic feet per second capacity would be taking out a little over [Inaudible]

Female speaker: All right. Thank you.

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Male engineer: [Inaudible] We've worked very closely with the Sewerage and Water Board on these construction plans, they've been [Inaudible] they're very knowledgeable of what our plans are [Inaudible] working very closely with them.

Male engineer: [Inaudible] [Applause]