



US Army Corps of Engineers
Team New Orleans



Greater New Orleans Hurricane and Storm Damage Risk Reduction System

Plaquemines Parish Non-Federal Levees & Eastern Tie In

As discussed in Individual Environmental Report 13

**Mr. Rick Kendrick, Deputy Chief
Mr. Ted Carr, Project Manager
Belle Chasse Auditorium
May 4, 2009**

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**Welcome
COL Al Lee
New Orleans District
Commander**



Why we are here tonight

- **We want to hear what you have to say**
- **We need your input – public involvement is critical**
- **To provide a brief status of risk reduction measures that will benefit Plaquemines Parish south of Oakville, Plaquemines Parish Non-Federal Levee project**
- **To continue the discussion on the proposed action that will reduce risk to communities from English Turn/Belle Chasse to Oakville and other areas of the Westbank, as discussed in Individual Environmental Report 13**



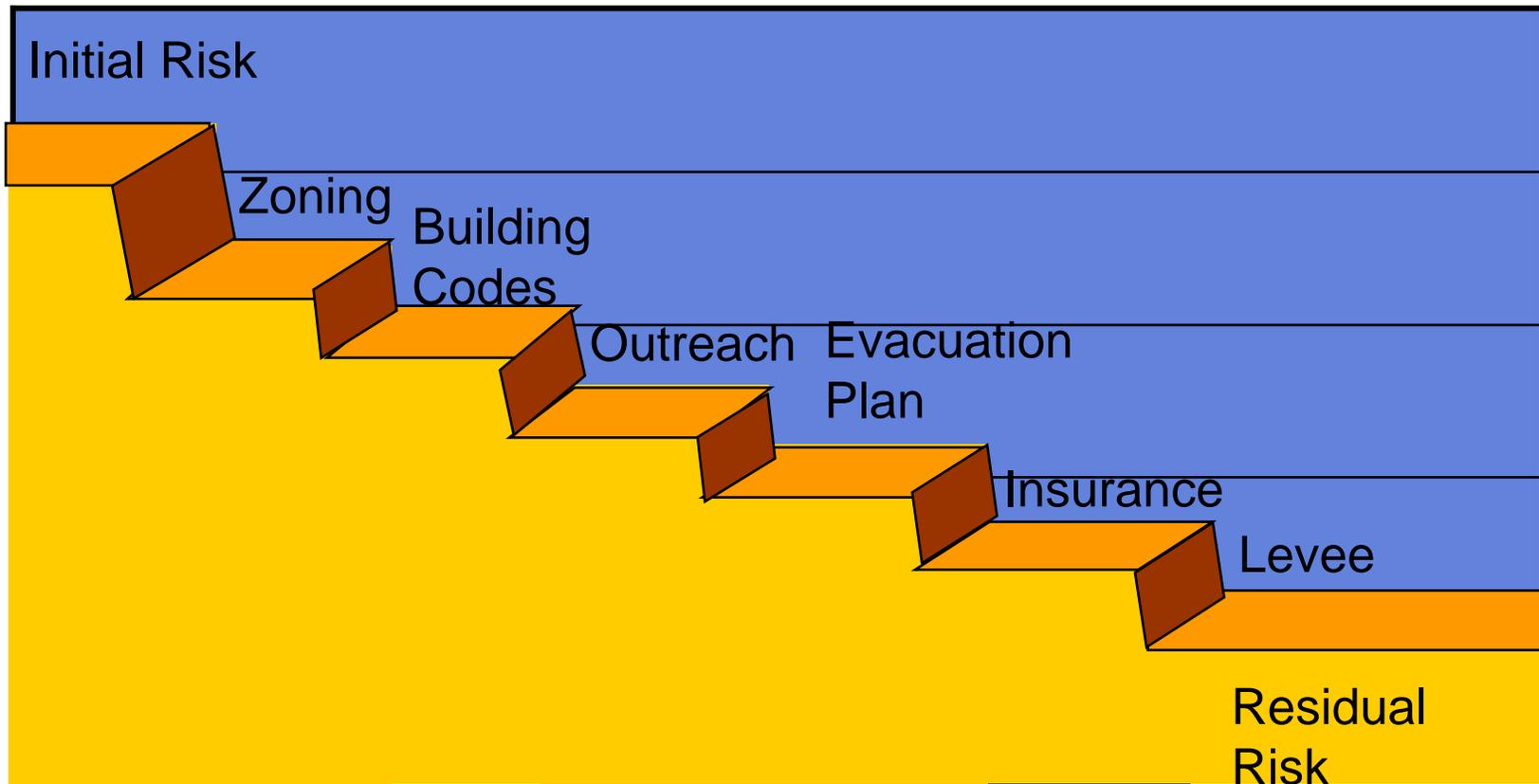
National Environmental Policy Act: NEPA

- Required of all major federal actions
- Analyze potential impacts to the human and natural environment and investigate reasonable alternatives
- Goal: more informed decision making through public involvement
- Analysis documented in Individual Environmental Reports (IER)



Buying Down Risk

All stakeholders contribute to reducing risk!



Risk Reduction Tools
(Cumulative)

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Recap of Previous Public Meetings

Request 1. Extend comment period on Individual Environmental Report 13, Eastern Tie In

Response 1. Granted, IER 13 comment period will now end May 18, 2009

Comment 2. Floodgate proposed on Hwy 23 will flood Plaquemines south of Oakville

Response 2. The Westbank and Vicinity Project, including the Eastern Tie In floodgate, would not create additional flood risk to Plaquemines south of Oakville when the Plaquemines Parish Non-Federal Levees are completed



Recap of Previous Public Meetings

Comment 3. Locating a bridge at Hwy 23 interrupts Oakville community cohesion

Response 3. The Corps' proposed action is construction of a floodgate at Hwy 23 which will maintain Oakville community cohesion and traffic safety

Comment 4. Concern about ability of access road (levee) to handle emergency vehicles

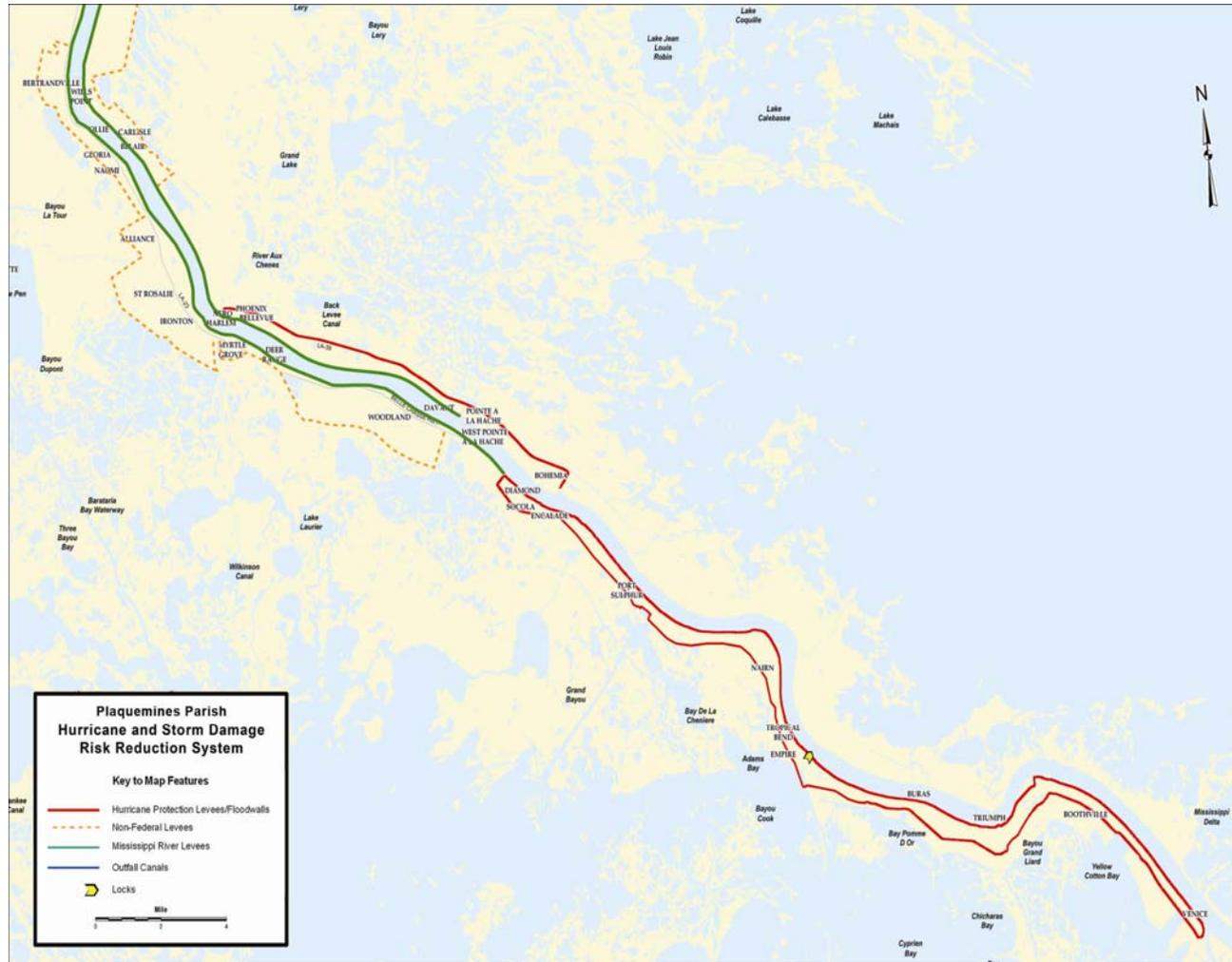
Response 4. Any vehicle that does not need a special permit can safely use the levee – this includes fire trucks



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Plaquemines Parish Non-Federal Levee Project



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Plaquemines Parish Non-Federal Levee Project Authority

“...provided, that; ... at full Federal expense, ...that \$215,000,000 shall be used to replace or modify certain non-Federal levees in Plaquemines Parish to incorporate the levees into the existing New Orleans to Venice Hurricane Protection Project...”

- 4th Supplemental, Public Law 109-234

“...provided, that ...certain projects in the greater New Orleans metropolitan area be prosecuted in a manner which promotes the goal of continuing work at an optimal pace, while maximizing, to the greatest extent practicable, levels of protection to reduce the risk of storm damage to people and property...”

- 5th Supplemental), Public Law 160-28

“...provided ...an additional amount of \$456,000,000 ...” for the project...

- 6th Supplement, Public Law 110-252



Plaquemines Parish Non-Federal Levee Background

- The existing levee is a “Back Levee” approximately 32 miles long, constructed with non-federal funds, both private and public, on the west side of the Mississippi River to provide hurricane protection from Oakville to two miles up river of St. Jude
- Three pump stations provide capacity for approximately a two year event
- Existing levee constructed with adjacent materials:
 - ***8’ in the northern areas (8 miles)***
 - ***4’ or less in the southern areas (24 miles)***
 - ***Ground level between existing NFL and NOV (2 miles)***
- Recent hurricanes have caused several breaches resulting in severe flooding and significant property damage

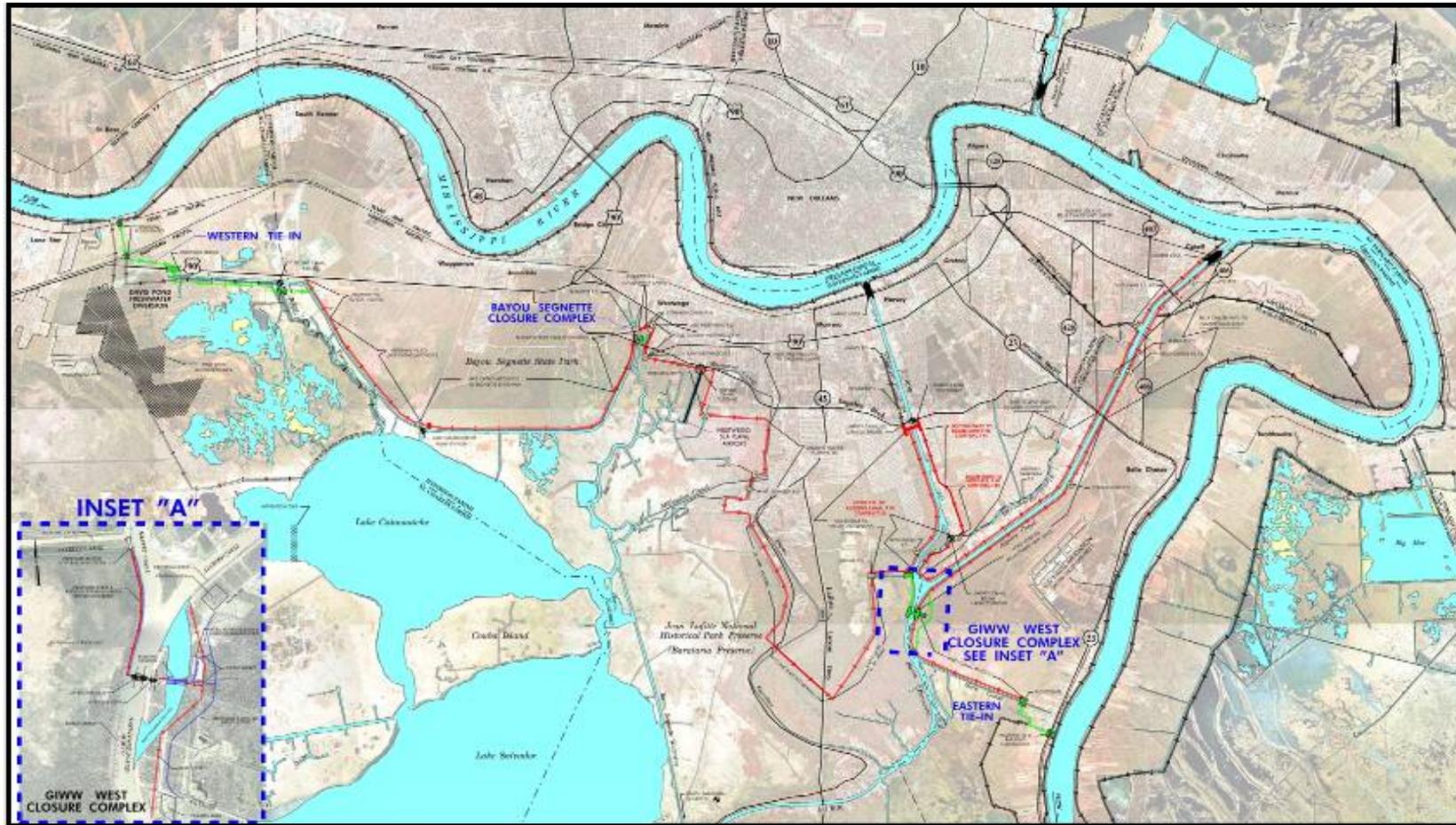


Plaquemines Parish Non-Federal Levee The Path Ahead

- Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (SEIS) in development - three public meetings to date, your comments count
- Draft SEIS ready for public review this summer
- Record of Decision (ROD) this fall
- Project Partnering Agreement
- Acquisition of Right of Way
- Construction Begins 2011
- Construction Complete in 2013



Westbank and Vicinity Risk Reduction

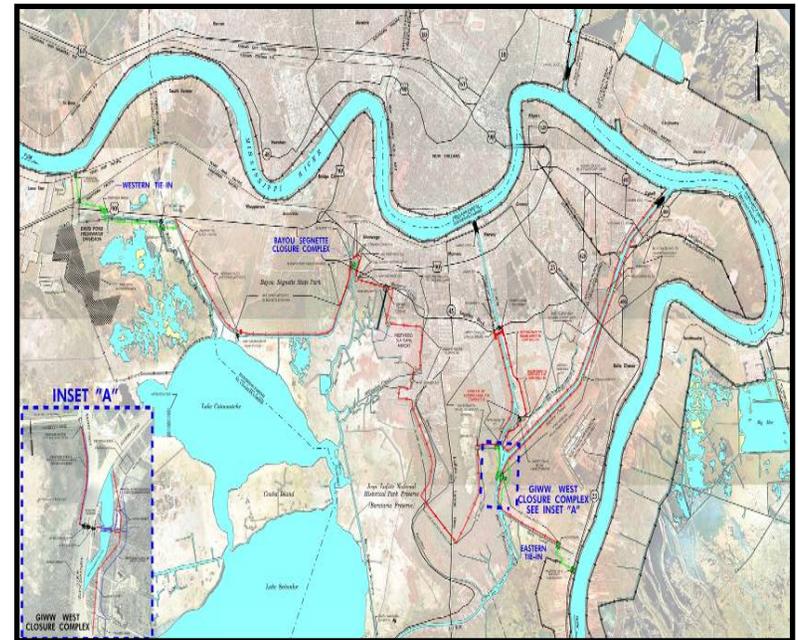


- Current or approved alignments
- Proposed or recommended alignments



Westbank and Vicinity Project Authority

- 1996 Water Resources and Development Act amended the previously authorized West Bank project to provide “hurricane protection” to areas east of the Algiers Canal extending from Belle Chasse to and including Oakville in Plaquemines Parish





Hero Canal and Eastern Tie In (IER 13)

Proposed Action:

- Raise/expand existing Hero Canal Levee
- Connect the GIWW West Closure Complex to the Mississippi River levee





Eastern Tie In

Individual Environmental Report 13: Proposed Action





Upcoming Public Meetings

- **May 11, 2009**
 - St. Bernard risk reduction at St. Bernard Parish Council Chambers
- **May 13, 2009**
 - Bonnet Carre Spillway Masterplan Update at La Maison Magnolia
- **May 14, 2009**
 - New Orleans East Risk Reduction at Church at New Orleans
- **May 17, 2009**
 - Bonnet Carre Spillway Masterplan Update at Bonnet Carre Spillway Pavilion
- **May 19, 2009**
 - St. Tammany Parish at Slidell Auditorium



Currently Available for Public Review

- **IER 13 – Hero Canal Levee and Eastern Terminus**
 - Released for public review and comment: Apr. 3, 2009
 - Comment period extended to: May 18, 2009
- **IER 10 – Lake Pontchartrain and Vicinity, Chalmette Loop Levee**
 - Released for public review and comment: Apr. 13, 2009
 - Comment period extended to: May 12, 2009
- **IER 6 – Lake Pontchartrain and Vicinity, New Orleans Citrus Lakefront Levee**
 - Released for Public Review and Comment: Apr. 24, 2009
 - Public Comment Period closes: May 23, 2009
- **IER 16 – Western Tie In**
 - Released for public review May 1, 2009
 - Public comment period closes May 30, 2009
- **IER 5 – Outfall Canal Closure Structures**
 - Released for public review May 4, 2009
 - Public comment period closes Jun. 3, 2009

Note - copies available at www.nolaenvironmental.gov or by request



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Opportunities for Public Input

- Regular public meetings throughout New Orleans metro area
- Comments may be submitted at: www.nolaenvironmental.gov

Questions and comments regarding Greater New Orleans Storm Damage Risk Reduction System projects should be addressed to:

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PM-RS

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Opportunities to Accelerate Plaquemines Parish Non-Federal Levee Project

- **Sign and return Right-of-Entry for site investigation**
- **Work with your elected officials**
- **Continue to provide feedback to the Corps**