



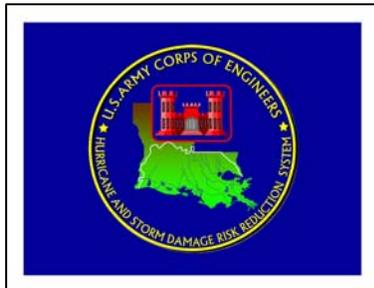
US Army Corps
of Engineers
New Orleans District

Public Meeting Summary

Individual Environmental Report 11 Tier 2 Borgne Citrus Lakefront Levee, New Orleans East Levee, Inner Harbor Navigation Canal surge barrier Wednesday, Jun. 4, 2008

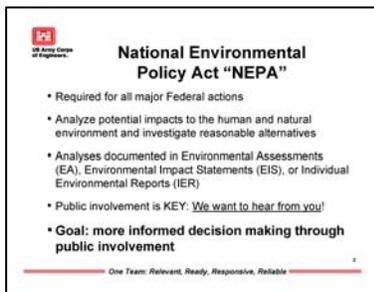
Location	Martin Luther King, Jr. Charter School 1617 Caffin Ave New Orleans, LA 70117
Time	6:00-7:00 Open House 7:00 Presentation
Attendees	Approximately 50
Format	Open House Presentation Discussion
Handouts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Public meeting presentation • Borrow handout
Facilitator	Maj. Timothy Kurgan, chief of public affairs

Maj. Timothy Kurgan, chief of public affairs



Thank you for coming tonight, my name is Maj. Timothy Kurgan, I'm the chief of public affairs for the United States Army Corps of Engineers New Orleans District. I would like to recognize Lt. Commander Steven Keel of the United States Coast Guard who will be able to answer any questions regarding the Coast Guard's involvement in the project. Maj. Jeremy Chapman will be presenting tonight and I ask that you hold all your questions until the end of the presentation. At the end of the presentation we will open the floor to questions and our experts will be available to answer.

Maj. Jeremy Chapman, senior project manager for the IHNC surge barrier



My name is Maj. Chapman and I am the senior project manager for the Inner Harbor Navigation Canal hurricane protection project.

For every Individual Environmental Report we are governed by the National Environmental Policy Act, it's required for all major federal actions. We document and analyze the impacts of the project. Public involvement is "key" to the NEPA process. We

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want to hear your comments.



IER 11 Tier 2 Borgne is a project within the hurricane protection system that will improve protection for the Inner Harbor Navigation Canal area. The project starts at the Mississippi River and goes to the lock near the Lower 9th Ward. Then it continues to Lake Pontchartrain at Seabrook. The next project covers the Gulf Intracoastal Waterway and the Mississippi River Gulf Outlet and goes south to the Gulf of Mexico. The project area

encompasses the whole set of levees and floodwalls in these areas. Currently, we have awarded the first contract out of the 4th Supplemental Emergency Spending bill for \$700 million dollars to build the surge barrier in Lake Borgne.



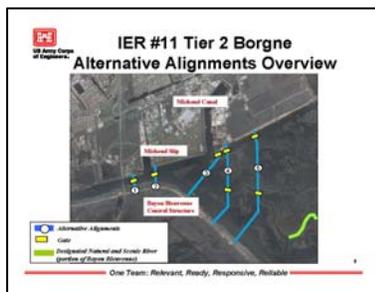
The purpose of this project is to provide 100-year level of protection to communities surrounding the IHNC in the New Orleans Metro area. This area includes the Lower 9th Ward, Upper 9th Ward, New Orleans East and part of St. Bernard. There are construction contracts in place to provide an interim level of protection before next hurricane season. [Inaudible].



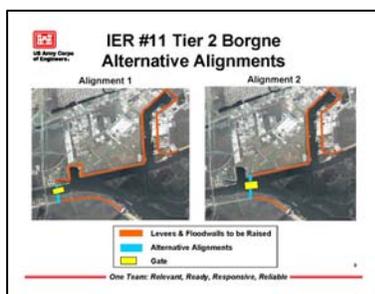
IER 11 is divided into tiers, called Borgne 1 and Pontchartrain 2. Each tier has a designated area and the general description of the different alignments in the area. We examined 2 areas in IER 11 to provide protection. A structural wall, levee, or gate system [inaudible]. The first part is a \$700 million contract in the Borgne 1 area which extends from Paris Rd. to Lake Borgne. The Pontchartrain 2 area is located along Lake Pontchartrain and we are investigating polders in that area to construct a barrier. The area south of Ted Hickey Bridge will be a gated system that can close in the event of a hurricane. Borgne 2 examines the alternative in more details. We split Tier 2 into two documents. IER 11 Tier 2 Borgne is the alignment and design alternatives within the Borgne 1 project area. IER 11 Tier 2 Pontchartrain is the alignment and design alternatives within Pontchartrain 2. The alternatives for Pontchartrain 2 will be developed this summer. Currently we are focusing on the Lake Borgne barrier.

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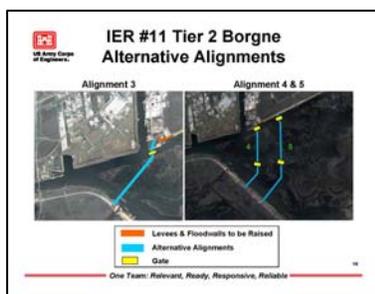


This depicts the 5 alternatives we are examining in IER 11 Tier 2 Borgne. Each alternative has a barrier with a gate system. This [pointing] is Paris Road in New Orleans East and St. Bernard. In the Lower 9th near lake Borgne is a triangle marsh area. This [pointing] is the Michoud Slip and the Michoud Canal. Each alternative is complex and we will go over these barriers in more details.

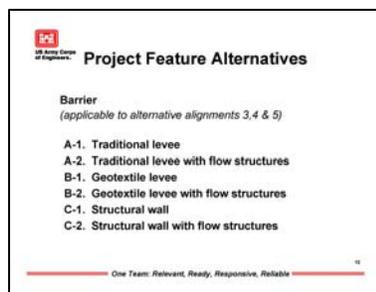
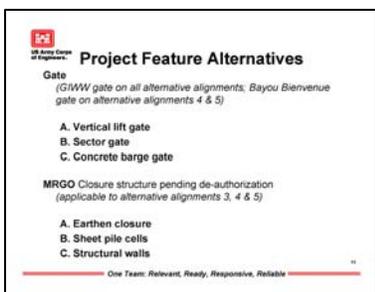


Alignment 1 and 2 are similar because both are deep draft at the mouth of the GIWW and the MRGO. Where they intersect it's deep draft navigation. By putting a structure in this location we have to have something for navigation. The structure would have to be 300 feet wide and 40 feet deep to meet the deep draft shipping requirements. [Inaudible] protecting all walls in the Michoud Canal to Bayou Bienvenue the alternative includes

improving levees and gates. [Inaudible].



The next three alternatives are similar but the alignments vary across the marsh. The difference is the GIWW is a shallow draft gate at 16 feet deep and 150 feet wide. These alignments are less expensive and easier to build. Alternative 3 is a long barrier built across the marsh and ties in north of Bayou Bienvenue. Alternative 4 is [inaudible].



The project features different alternatives to provide protection. The GIWW gate could be a vertical lift gate, sector gate, or a concrete barge gate. The vertical lift gate is similar to a railroad

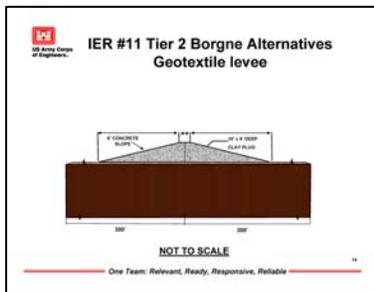
gate while the concrete barge gate swings into place. To close the MRGO there could be an earthen levee, sheet pile cells, or a structural wall. The barrier in alignments 3, 4, and 5 features either a traditional levee, geotextile levee or a structural wall. The geotextile would have a cement grout mix to stabilize the levee and we could use concrete rip rap to stabilize the structural wall.

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The IER 11 Tier 2 Borgne proposed action is alignment 4. The alignment includes a barrier from the MRGO levee across the marsh and connecting to a floodwall on the east side of the Michoud Canal. A shallow draft gate and a structural wall would connect to the Bayou Bienvenue gate that is 8 feet by 650 feet. Then the alignment continues with a structural wall [inaudible]. This area [pointing] is the marsh nourishment area. In order to access this area we have to dredge channels and bring in equipment. The organic matter dredged will be placed in this 705 acre area to create marsh. Calculations are being conducted of how much marsh would be created in this area. The blue area is the marsh nourishment location.



This slide is an example of a geotextile levee where geotextile [inaudible]. There might be a concrete levee with soil underneath to narrow the footprint in the marsh. The marsh has very poor soil and the footprint would be over 1000 feet. A geotextile levee is one way to shrink the levee footprint.



A structural wall across the marsh would include sponge cast piles supported with a cap to hold piles together. There will be an additional cap to add the final elevation advance measure [inaudible]. The plan is by June 1, 2009 to have the entire wall in place to the elevation 20-foot range. This diagram is not the actual scale of the design and is used as a moving concept. We are



deciding is there should be a road or a bridge. [Inaudible]. This is the existing Bayou Bienvenue and similar to the proposed marsh sector gates in the alignment. [Inaudible].

This is the broad picture of borrow sites in the New Orleans area. This

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slide is the New Orleans East government furnished sites in dark green. The tan areas have been declined.



Public input can be accepted in numerous ways: on www.nolaenvironmental.gov, mailed to Mr. Gib Owen or through public meetings. This slide is a snap shot of the NOLA Environmental Web site. The

Web site contains all the available IERs and upcoming public meetings.

Maj. Timothy Kurgan, chief of public affairs

Before we begin tonight's question and answer session I would like to present a few ground rules. Please limit your comments and questions to three minutes to give everyone a chance to speak. Once we have gone around the room then you may ask another question. Please speak into the microphone.

Question 1. Eugene Betin: Will the work being done economically impact the Lower 9th Ward neighborhood? Will it create opportunities for people in the 9th Ward? How will it affect the 9th Ward in the long term, not the short?

Response 1. Maj. Kurgan: We have a small business program that has granted \$400 million contracts per year and there are numerous opportunities for growth. Our local partners and contractors hire locally creating jobs in the community.

Question 2. Daryl Malek-Wiley, Sierra Club: The new gates will they stay open until a storm threatens the area?

Response 2. Maj. Chapman: Yes. The gates will remain open unless there is a storm threatening the area.

Question 3. Unidentified man: The marsh area is that fresh or salt water?

Response 3. Maj. Chapman: The marsh is brackish.

Question 4. Unidentified man: Are you aware of the Sewage and Water Board's plan for fresh water into this area? They plan to discharge water all along the levee in Orleans and St. Bernard Parish. Is the additional fresh water taken into account?

Response 4. Laura Lee Wilkinson: Yes, we are aware of the project but [inaudible].

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Question 5. Unidentified man: The borrow map for New Orleans East, I am concerned about the Stumpf Phase 2 site, that is the Chef Menteur landfill. [Inaudible].

Response 5. Soheila Holley: That area is early in the process and geotech studies have not been completed. We will take care of those concerns [inaudible].

Question 6. Daryl Malek-Wiley: Do they have to get a permit from the planning commission on the proposed borrow?

Response 6. Gib Owen: The government furnished sites do not require permits.

Question 7. Daryl Malek-Wiley: If they are private do they require permits?

Response 7. Gib Owen: Correct.

Question 8. Unidentified man: [Inaudible] borrow from the lake?

Response 8. Soheila Holley: [Inaudible].

Question 9. Daryl Malek-Wiley: [Inaudible]. When do you propose to have IER 11 available?

Response 9. Laura Lee Wilkinson: June 27 is the goal. Contained in each IER is a cumulative impact section. [Inaudible].

Comment 10. Daryl Malek-Wiley: I am looking forward to reading it.

Question 11. Unidentified man: [Inaudible]. It is not good to mention that it is too expensive. Do not sell us short now.

Response 11. Maj. Kurgan: Cost is a fact of life but the goal is to provide the 100-year level of protection. If we have to spend more we will do it but if there is an alternative that can provide the required protection at less cost then we would examine them. [Inaudible].

Question 12. Unidentified man: This is a new day?

Response 12. Maj. Kurgan: Yes, and we are trying to build the best system.

Question 13. Kathy Muse: The Lower 9th [inaudible].

Response 13. Maj. Chapman: [Inaudible].

Comment 14. Kathy Muse: [Inaudible]

Question 15. Unidentified woman: [Inaudible] Pontchartrain 2?

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Response 15. Maj. Chapman: The money is there but the contract has not been awarded. Everything is in design and not available for bid.

Question 16. Unidentified man: Who have contracts been awarded to?

Response 16. Maj. Chapman: The Shaw Group, they will be using sub contractors in the area. [Inaudible].

Question 17. Unidentified man: How will the seafood industry be affected?

Response 17. Maj. Chapman: Minimal or none because the only seafood industry operations are shrimp boats. The shrimp boats will have access through Bayou Bienvenue with alternative 3. [Inaudible].

Question 18. Morgan Elzey: Why are you only nourishing that area of the marsh?

Response 18. Maj. Chapman: A limited amount of material will be dredged and if it is spread over a large area it would not be beneficial. This is why we focus on one area.

Question 19. Morgan Elzey: Would the wall impact more than just the project area?

Response 19a. Maj. Chapman: [Inaudible].

Response 19b. Laura Lee Wilkinson: The actual alignment will be mitigated with a marsh basin project. There is an opportunity to enhance the marsh. [Inaudible].

Question 20. Unidentified woman: Does mitigation happen in the same area?

Response 20a. Laura Lee Wilkinson: This is just an enhancement because we can not guarantee marsh creation.

Response 20b. Gib Owen: I work with mitigation and the impacts in this area will be mitigated.

Question 21. Unidentified man: Is there money set aside for that?

Response 21. Laura Lee Wilkinson: Yes.

Question 22. Unidentified man: [Inaudible].

Response 22. Maj. Chapman: Yes. Alignment 4 has a 10 percent design. We are running parallel to save time. If NEPA decided something else then we will modify.

Question 23. Unidentified man: Although this is a Design-Build project there is not a set amount of money because you do not know what will be built?

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Response 23. Maj. Chapman: Right, [inaudible].

Question 24. Unidentified man: Are you leaning toward Alternative 4?

Response 24. Maj. Chapman: Yes.

Question 25. Unidentified woman: The contracts being awarded, what percentage of them are minority contracts? [Inaudible].

Response 25. Maj. Kurgan: Today the system is stronger and interim measures have been taken. I-walls stick [inaudible]. By 2009 we will have interim level of protection in place as we get closer to the 2011 deadline.

Question 26. Unidentified Acorn Representative: [Inaudible].

Response 26. Maj. Kurgan: Yes, part of the system has scour protection. There is gravel with concrete in some places because those are not at the 100-year level. [Inaudible].

Question 27. Unidentified Acorn Representative: Why were the floodwalls between Claiborne and Florida put back at 12-feet?

Response 27. Maj. Kurgan: They are actually at 15 feet.

Question 28. Unidentified woman: Col. Bedey said they were at 12-feet.

Response 28a. Maj. Kurgan: I will confirm.

Response 28b. Maj. Chapman: There was a new survey done and they are at 15 feet. [Inaudible].

Response 28c. Maj. Kurgan: The walls that did breach were at elevation 15.

Question 29. Unidentified Acorn Representative: Why are some areas at 12 and other at 15.

Response 29. Maj. Kurgan: [Inaudible].

Question 30. Unidentified person in red shirt: Have there been any tests on soil erosion?

Response 30. Maj. Chapman: We are conducting a study of 25 miles, 300 boring holes, and a safe water level study. We want to know what the safe water elevation is for all the walls and levees in the system.

Question 31. Unidentified person in red shirt: Does the floodwall have to allow for [subsidence].

Response 31a. Maj. Chapman: Yes, there is subsidence.

Response 31b. Maj. Kurgan: We do samples on every piece of ground.

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Response 31c. Maj. Chapman: These results will provide feedback into the Lake Pontchartrain projects. [Inaudible].

Question 32. Unidentified person in green sweater: What did you have in mind for the canal wall north of Claiborne Bridge? Was reinforcing with soil samples in mind?

Response 32. Maj. Chapman: If we find weak walls then we will do reinforcements.

Question 33. Unidentified person in green sweater: Is there funding?

Response 33. Maj. Chapman: Yes.

Question 34. Unidentified person in red shirt: Can you do the testing now?

Response 34. Maj. Chapman: [Inaudible].

Question 35. Unidentified person in red shirt: Why are the earthen levees at 26 and 15-feet in this area?

Response 35a. Maj. Chapman: I am not aware of any levees at 15-feet in that area.

Response 35b. Maj. Kurgan: There are different elevations. Lakefront levees are at 15-feet based on hydraulics. New Orleans East and St. Bernard all have to come up a significant level but that is part of the process. We are working towards the 2011 deadline.

Question 36. Unidentified person: How do we know these new walls will withstand a category 3 or 4 storm? [Inaudible].

Response 36. Maj. Kurgan: We do not model for a category 3 storm we developed a 100-year level [inaudible].

Question 37. Unidentified person: When engineers build bridges they conduct wind tunnel force wave studies for the worse case scenario.

Response 37a. Maj. Chapman: We have computer models and physical models that we are testing. [Inaudible].

Response 37b. Reuben Mabry: [Inaudible].

Question 38. Unidentified woman in green shirt: How are you addressing concerns on construction and sheet piling not at the correct depth? Or the wrong sheet pile and material? What is the Corps doing to evaluate the alternatives for interim flood protection? Are you analyzing safety for the communities or benefits for the marine industry? What basis is a

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decision made on what protection is the best? How is your mission regarding the maritime, public safety, and wetland restoration integrated?

Response 38a. Maj. Kurgan: Public safety is the number one concern and we are building to the 100-year level. Yes, we have many stakeholders such as communities, businesses, the city, maritime, and environmental. We address the concerns the best we can but at the end of the day public safety is number one. All comments are taken into account to build the best system. The Corps work is externally reviewed and everything is stronger and better.

Response 38b. Maj. Chapman: The engineering specifications are reviewed before the bidding period. Safety has increased so we are engineering better than before Katrina because the criteria is better. [Inaudible].

Response 38c. Soheila Holley: We have tested 285 million cubic yards of material and 45 million has been accepted. This is how picky we are about the material. [Inaudible].

Comment 39. Unidentified person in yellow suit: The cost of the levee to lives and properties in this area, have you considered bringing in the best practice experts? Civil engineers that you have hired are they credentialed to build the best levees in this area? Do you know about [Inaudible].

Comment 40. Mark Schleifstein: That was a hypothetical storm model. It had a fake storm run across the city and [inaudible].

Question 41. Unidentified person in yellow suit: Do we have capable experts? Where are these experts coming from? If you are an engineer then I depend on you to provide protection for me and to save these people in this area? Are you capable?

Response 41. Maj. Kurgan: Yes, we are capable. We find Professional Engineers. Maj. Chapman and I are Professional Engineers. We have the best in the industry and we have the best international team from the Netherlands. I have 1,500 of the best engineers working everyday.

Question 42. Unidentified person in yellow suit: So is the system better?

Response 42. Maj. Kurgan: Yes, the system is better. There will always be risk when we live in a coastal area. We can not protect against every storm and we are communicating that there will always be a risk.

Question 43. Unidentified person in yellow suit: Where will the risk factors be? [Interrupted]

Question 44. Unidentified woman in black: Who decides the 100-year level of protection? When you tested you did tests for a 500-year storm, so what is the thought behind 100-year versus 500-year? Where is the money coming from to make sure the levees do not fail?

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Response 44. Maj. Chapman: We build in 2-feet for sea level rise and subsidence. We have a 50-year project life [inaudible].

Question 45. Unidentified woman in black: What about bedrock? Are you still building on sand?

Response 45. Maj. Chapman: Different clays are being used but engineering is there to ensure it will withstand a 100-year storm.

Question 46. Unidentified woman: [Inaudible].

Response 46a. Maj. Chapman: The Department of Natural Resources and the DOTD are the local sponsors and they will be responsible for maintaining the structure.

Response 46b. Soheila Holley: Once we complete the construction we turn it over to a local sponsor and it has always been that way.

Question 47. Unidentified person in yellow: What risk impacts are in this area? Should I rebuild or move out of here?

Response 47. Rueben Mabry: This is the whole system at large. We found after Katrina that the Greater New Orleans area was operated in tiny pieces that did not integrate well. That was a major finding of IPET. We can not have different people going in different directions, we need a unified system. The threat is different on the eastern side of New Orleans because the lake surge is milder than a surge from the Gulf and Lake Borgne. [Inaudible].

Question 48. Unidentified person in yellow: What can engineers do to prevent or reduce the surge?

Response 48. Rueben Mabry: We have to recognize where the threats are and build it taller and stronger.

Question 49. Unidentified person in yellow: Is that on the drawing board?

Response 49. Rueben Mabry: It is the 2011 deadline. We have a map that shows the exact elevations. [Inaudible].

Question 50. Unidentified person in yellow: [Inaudible].

Response 50a. Reuben Mabry: [Inaudible].

Response 50b. Maj. Chapman: [Inaudible].

Question 51. Gayle Buckley: Why is Seabrook taking so long to be protected?

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Response 51. Maj. Chapman: The biggest risk is the Lake Borgne area because it is close to the Gulf of Mexico so we are working on that first. [Inaudible].

Question 52. Gayle Buckley: [Inaudible].

Response 52. Maj. Chapman: The surge on this end is double than what goes to Chef Menteur or Rigolettes. Twice the height than what is on the lake. [Inaudible].

Question 53. Gayle Buckley: The IHNC break was first before the incorporated areas.

Response 53. Maj. Chapman: This broke first because the surge here [pointing] went straight down the GIWW which caused the highest surge in this area. [Inaudible].

Comment 54. Gayle Buckley: This is a big issue for us because three canals are plugged up first.

Response 54. Maj. Chapman: This is not a small issue.

Comment 55. Unidentified woman in black: You did not answer the question on how we are protected and the risk.

Response 55. Maj. Kurgan: The greatest risk is surge from the GIWW and it is a massive project.

Comment 56. Gayle Buckley: Metairie and Lakeview have their protection.

Question 57. Unidentified person in yellow suit: You have worked in Harvey, Metairie, and Kenner.

Response 57. Maj. Kurgan: We have been also been working in St. Bernard and every section in the system. [Inaudible].

Question 58. Unidentified Acorn Representative: Col. Bedey said this area is the Achilles heel, why was it left for last?

Response 58. Maj. Chapman: This is the first contract to be awarded in the system. This area is the first 100-year level protection contract has been awarded.

Question 59. Unidentified Acorn Representative: What is the projected date for these alternative plans and advance measures?

Response 59a. Maj. Chapman: June 2009 for advanced measures and hurricane season 2011 for the completed system..

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Response 59b. Maj. Kurgan: We are still working on the system so not all areas are not protected, yet.

Question 60. Unidentified Acorn Representative: This looks racist.

Response 60. Maj. Kurgan: This is the largest civil works project in the Corps' history.

Comment 61. Unidentified person in yellow: Everyone across the country knows why we are last, it's because after three years we still do not have protection. There is a problem here.

Question 62. Unidentified Acorn Representative: What kind of protection is in place now?

Response 62a. Maj. Chapman: We have spent millions in this area on over 25 miles of levees. We've protected this area by adding support to the system and scour protection.

Response 62b. Maj. Kurgan: We are moving as fast as humanly possible.

Question 63. Unidentified Acorn Representative: The gate for 2011 do you have the complete funding in place.

Response 63. Maj. Chapman: We took money from the lakefront project so yes, we are completely funded.

Question 64. Unidentified Acorn Representative: We are still at risk and have to cross our fingers that nothing happens.

Response 64a. Maj. Kurgan: The protection is not at the 100-year level of protection yet, but yes, there is always risk of flooding.

Response 64b. Reuben Mabry: [Inaudible].

Question 65. Unidentified Acorn Representative: Why was Lakeview authorized and not us?

Response 65. Reuben Mabry: There was no special treatment to Lakeview.

Question 66. Unidentified Acorn Representative: What about their levels, what are they?

Response 66. Maj. Kurgan: They are 11 to 15-feet.

Question 67. Unidentified Acorn Representative: They have 15-feet.

Response 67. Reuben Mabry: If you look at the map you will see the improvement. What has been done has reduced the risk to the maximum extend possible.

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Comment 68. Unidentified person in yellow: Does Congress know about this? What knowledge do they have to make this decision? Are engineers there?

Question 69. Unidentified man: [Inaudible].

Response 69. Maj. Kurgan: Are you talking about wind speed?

Question 70. Unidentified man: What level are we at now?

Response 70. Maj. Kurgan: We do not have a number. You are not at the 100-year level. To understand a system you have to understand that there are sections that affect the whole system. [Inaudible].

Question 71. Unidentified Acorn Representative: Ms. St. Martin, what is the pumping capacity in that area?

Response 71. Marcia St. Martin, New Orleans Sewerage and Water Board: We have two pump stations in this area: one at Florida Ave. and one called Station 5 on the east side of the canal. The pumping stations are designed to pump rain water at 1-inch per hour. They are designed for rain water not storm surge.

Question 72. Unidentified Acorn Representative: How long does it take to pump the area?

Response 72. Marcia St. Martin: For Hurricane Katrina it took 11 days but then we still had flooding after Rita. The stations were never designed to pump out this amount of water. That is why it is important to keep the water out of the system.

Question 73. Unidentified woman in black: There is a blue line and a light blue line, where is that line where you see the rest?

Response 73. Maj. Chapman: That area is non-federal levees.

Question 74. Unidentified woman in black: Where is our community?

Response 74. Maj. Chapman: This [pointing] is the Lower 9th Ward. This area [pointing] is marsh and wetlands minus Paris Road.

Question 75. Unidentified woman in black: This is what we are dealing with for the next 3 years?

Response 75. Maj. Chapman: Next year you will see the difference.

Question 76. Unidentified woman: When will the MRGO close?

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Response 76. Gib Owen: Expect an answer in a short period of time. Once the channel is de-authorized we will move forward. [Inaudible].

Question 77. Unidentified person in green: What is the time frame?

Response 77. Gib Owen: There will be 160-days of construction.

Question 78. Gayle Buckley: [Inaudible].

Response 78. Gib Owen: Correct.

Question 79. Unidentified Acorn Representative: Are there any plans to hire more people to put in the advanced measures faster?

Response 79. Maj. Chapman: This is an aggressive project and we have the best team that could be put together.

Question 80. Daryl Malek-Wiley: The MRGO, does it have degeneration?

Response 80. Gib Owen: [Inaudible].

Question 81. Daryl Malek-Wiley: [Inaudible]. What is the timeline on public hearing reports?

Response 81. Gib Owen: Possibly holding public hearings in 4-5 months and expecting the study period to last 20-months. This is aggressive for an EIS.

Question 82. Daryl Malek-Wiley: The IER is supposed to be available on June 27, are you planning to have public hearings after the report is available?

Response 82a. Gib Owen: There will be a 30-day public comment period. During that time anyone can request to have a public meeting.

Response 82b. Laura Lee Wilkinson: A meeting is scheduled for July 1. [Inaudible].

Question 83. Daryl Malek-Wiley: Will hard copies be available at the local libraries?

Response 83. Gib Owen: That arrangement can be made. The documents are over 240 pages long and you can request a copy be sent to you. [Inaudible].

Question 84. Daryl Malek-Wiley: Maybe you can place them at neighborhood offices.

Response 84. Gib Owen: [Inaudible].

Question 85. Unidentified woman: It would be convenient to place information at the schools. A sheet of paper with the risk of certain areas or a sheet with bullet points would be helpful.

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Public Meeting Summary

Response 85a. Maj. Chapman: That is a good idea. We will try to do that and make it available at the next public meeting.

Response 85b. Maj. Kurgan: The presentations are available on the Web site.

Comment 86. Unidentified woman: That would be helpful also.

Question 87. Unidentified man in glasses: On the 2011 map, why is there not listed the risk frequency of a storm that would cause flooding?

Response 87. Reuben Mabry: It reflects flooding from a sweep of storms. [Inaudible].

Question 88. Unidentified Acorn Representative: What is the risk from barges and ships in a serious storm? Are there measures in place?

Response 88. Lt. Commander Keel: There is a plan. Twelve hours before winds hit we close off access from the [inaudible]. Barges and ships are not allowed to be there and we kick them out if they remain present.

Question 89. Unidentified Acorn Representative: People can jump ship and leave the barges there?

Response 89. Lt. Commander Keel: If they abandon the vessel we can go after it.

Question 90. Unidentified Acorn Representative: So it could stay there?

Response 90. Lt. Commander Keel: If the owner can not be found, we can do nothing.

Comment 91. Unidentified Acorn Representative: That is unacceptable.

Question 92. Gayle Buckley: Tell the barges they can not be in the IHNC.

Response 92. Lt. Commander Keel: Currently it depends on the direction the storm is coming.

Comment 93. Unidentified person in green shirt: Can there be an emergency measure to move the vessel?

Comment 94. Unidentified man in black: He said they can not do it.

Question 95. Unidentified Acorn Representative: Barges in the canal, here we go again.

Response 95. Lt. Commander Keel: We will do our best.

Comment 96. Unidentified Acorn Representative: That is not good enough.

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Public Meeting Summary

Comment 97. Unidentified person: In the event the owner can not be found do you sink the vessel or endanger the people in the surrounding areas?

Question 98. Unidentified Acorn Representative: You are saying you are not going to try to remove the vessel?

Response 98. Lt. Commander Keel: We do not have the funds to do this ourselves and we ask for assistance from the maritime community.

Question 99. Unidentified Acorn Representative: Is the Corps willing to do anything to evaluate the situation?

Response 99. Maj. Kurgan: We do not have jurisdiction. The US Coast Guard does understand the predicament and is working to get the problem resolved.

Question 100. Unidentified Acorn Representative: Who can override the decision?

Response 100. Maj. Kurgan: Give us your contact information and we will figure that out and provide the information to you.

Question 101. Unidentified Acorn Representative: [Inaudible].

Response 101. Lt. Commander Keel: We are doing the best we can.

Question 102. Unidentified Acorn Representative: How can you say “try” when there was a barge in our community?

Response 102. Lt. Commander Keel: There was not a problem last year when we closed the area.

Comment 103. Unidentified Acorn Representative: This area has no protection from a surge and barges sitting there if something happens [inaudible].

Question 104. Unidentified person in green sweater: [Inaudible]. What is the height?

Response 104. Rueben Mabry: Depends on the location. [Inaudible]. A map is available that displays the heights and value of the system.

Question 105. Unidentified person in green sweater: The plan is to build a 20-25-foot levee on the north side of the Lower 9th Ward?

Response 105a. Maj. Kurgan: [Inaudible].

Response 105b. Maj. Chapman: The height will be about 25-feet.

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Public Meeting Summary

Question 106. Unidentified woman in vertical stripes: Can you be more transparent and accountable? Can there be an annual or quarterly report to display the levee maintenance to build trust in the system?

Response 106. Maj. Kurgan: Community meetings are held, information is posted on the Web site, and the media is notified all the time. We continue to refine the products of the system and identify the risk. In concern with the levees, the Corps builds them and then turns them over to the local partner. In this situation it is [inaudible]. Inspections are done every year.

Question 107. Unidentified woman: Can you say when you inspect the levees?

Response 107a. Maj. Kurgan: I am not the expert but if you give me your information I will put you in contact with the correct person.

Response 107b. Maj. Chapman: [Inaudible]. There will be a 20-foot barrier by hurricane season. [Inaudible].

Question 108. Unidentified Acorn Representative: What responsibility to the [inaudible]. What is the responsibility of your agency? The DOTD? The Claiborne Bridge?

Response 108. Maj. Chapman: That is a state bridge.

Maj. Timothy Kurgan, chief of public affairs

Thank you for coming tonight and we will continue to hold meetings. Our project managers will be around if you have any additional questions you would like to ask. Thank you.