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CEMVN-OD-T

MEMORANDUM FOR Commander, U.S. Army Engineer Division,
Mississippi Valley, ATTN: CEMVD-TD

SUBJECT: Annual Inspection of Completed Works Program

In accordance with ER 1150-2-301, ER 1130-2-339, and
DIVR 1130-2-304, the following report (Eng Form 4390-R) is
submitted herewith for maintenance performance by local interests
for all features originally authorized under the Mississippi
River and Tributaries Project and under Construction General.
Included also are inspection reports for New Orleans District
projects.

- 2 Encls
- 1. Rept, MR&T Levees
and Small Flood
Control Projects
- 2. Rept, Completed
Eng Form 4390-R

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2001 Annual Inspection for Maintenance of Completed Flood
Control Works in the New Orleans District

1. The 2001 inspections of levees, floodwalls, and drainage structures operated and maintained by local interests were conducted during the period 18 May through 16 November 2001.
2. All inspections were conducted by the District Commander and/or his Deputy, appropriate members of Operations Division, Engineering Division, Construction Division, Planning, Programs, and Project Management, the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development (LA DOTD), and Levee Board Commissioners and their staff.
3. Comments on the condition of levees, of maintenance performed by local interests during the year, and our ratings are as follows:

a. **WEST JEFFERSON LEVEE DISTRICT**

This district is responsible for maintaining 20.2 miles of levee on the west bank of the Mississippi River and 40 miles of back levees, which are being upgraded under the West Bank Hurricane Protection Project, in Jefferson Parish.

The mainline river levee was inspected on 14 September 2001. The river levee and floodwall segments were in excellent condition. All construction work on the Mississippi River in this district has been completed except for three gap closures. The deficiencies are considered minor since they are within the allowable freeboard. However, a contract is expected to be awarded in FY03 to close these gaps. Although the hurricane protection levees are not totally complete, we conducted an interim joint inspection of the system on 2 August 2001. The condition of the levees and floodwalls were in excellent condition. An OUTSTANDING rating is assigned.

b. **RED RIVER, ATCHAFALAYA and BAYOU BOEUF LEVEE DISTRICT**

The levee system within MVN consists of the Mansura Hills to Hamburg levee (20.1 miles), Bayou des Glaisses fuse plug levee (8.1 miles), Right descending Atchafalaya River levee, including ring levees at Simmesport, Melville, and Krotz Springs (48.6 miles), and a portion of the west Atchafalaya Basin protection levee from Hamburg to the Bayou Courtableau control structure (35.3 miles). All 112.1 miles of levee within MVN's jurisdiction have been completed for years; however, recent profile information indicates that portions of the Krotz Springs and Melville Front and Ring Levees have grade deficiencies along with the Morganza Guide Levees, Bayou Des Glaisses Fuse Plug Levee and

the West Atchafalaya River Levee. Action is being taken to restore these levees back to design grade and section. Surveys have been completed at Krotz Springs, which is the first item currently scheduled for award in April 03. Melville is scheduled for July 03, while the other items are scheduled much later (FY06 and FY08).

The inspection was conducted on 3 October 2001, and the levees, cattle guards, and fence lines were all well maintained. There was one earthen levee ramp crossing that was deficient and in need of maintenance work. Although the ramp was deficient, it did not pose a threat to the integrity of the levee. The levee district advised us that they will take action to restore the ramp immediately. An OUTSTANDING rating is assigned.

c. **FIFTH LOUISIANA LEVEE DISTRICT**

The levee system within MVN consists only of the right descending Mississippi River levee (16.8 miles) between Black Hawk, LA, and the Concordia-West Feliciana Parish boundary line just above Old River lock. They are also responsible for 338 miles of levees in MVK.

The inspection was conducted on 4 October 2001, and the levee was well maintained. There is one remaining contract for 3.5 miles of levee construction in this levee district. The awarding of the last contract had been delayed until FY 03 due to funding restraints, relatively minor grade deficiency, and the uncertainty of the availability of borrow material. The levee deficiencies are minor (2.5 feet) and are considered low priority since they are within the allowable freeboard. An OUTSTANDING rating is assigned.

d. **EAST JEFFERSON LEVEE DISTRICT**

This district is responsible for maintaining 11.6 miles of levee on the east bank of the Mississippi River and 17.5 miles of hurricane protection levees and floodwalls along and adjacent to Lake Pontchartrain, within Jefferson Parish.

The river levee, hurricane protection levees, and floodwalls were inspected on 12 October 2001. The only remaining river levee work in this district is 0.8 miles in the Jefferson Heights area and it is scheduled for FY 03. The deficiencies are minor (1 to 2 feet) and are considered low priority since they

are within freeboard. The remaining hurricane protection work in Jefferson Parish consists of lakefront levee enlargements; floodproofing of the Hammond Highway bridge crossing the 17th St. Canal; completion of the lakefront landside drainage system; and construction of fronting protection at the pump stations. Project completion in Jefferson Parish is scheduled for 2013. Contracts under construction include levee enlargements in Reach 2, Reach 3, and Reach 5; fronting protection at pump station no. 6; and breakwaters at pump station nos. 2 and 3. In FY 02, we are scheduled to award a contract to commence floodproofing of the Hammond Highway Bridge. The levees and floodwalls were exceptionally well maintained. An OUTSTANDING rating is assigned.

e. **LAFOURCHE BASIN LEVEE DISTRICT**

This district is responsible for maintaining 61.7 miles of levee on the westbank of the Mississippi River between Donaldsonville, LA, and the Jefferson-St. Charles Parish line.

The levee was inspected on 17 October 2001, and was found to be in excellent condition. All work in this district has been completed except for two gap closures. The deficiencies are minor since they are within the allowable freeboard. However, contracts are expected to be awarded in FY03 and FY04 to close these gaps. An OUTSTANDING rating is assigned.

f. **ATCHAFALAYA BASIN LEVEE DISTRICT**

The levee system consists of the following reaches of river and floodway levees:

Levee along the south and west banks of lower Old River and the right descending Mississippi River levees from Barbre Landing in Pointe Coupee Parish to Bayou Lafourche at Donaldsonville, Ascension Parish (length is 119 miles, including 1.2 miles of spur dikes and the 3,906-foot length of the Morganza control structure) the upper Morganza floodway levee (length is 12.0 miles including 3.0 miles which are a part of the mainline levee at Morganza control structure); the lower Morganza floodway levee and the east Atchafalaya Basin protection levee extending from the west Mississippi River levee at Morganza, along the east side of the Atchafalaya Basin to a point approximately 6 miles south of Morgan City, in St. Mary Parish (length is 92.6 miles, of which 5.8 miles are maintained by the City of Morgan City and St. Mary Parish); the west Atchafalaya Basin protection levee

from Bayou Courtableau in St. Landry Parish along the west side of the Atchafalaya Basin to the Gulf Intracoastal Waterway below Berwick, in St. Mary Parish (length is 92.6 miles, of which 4.9 miles below the lower Atchafalaya River are maintained by the Town of Berwick and St. Mary Parish); the left descending Atchafalaya River levee from Barbre Landing in Pointe Coupee Parish to a point about 1.5 miles above the head of Whiskey Bay Pilot Channel in St. Martin Parish (length is 51.1 miles); the right descending Atchafalaya River levee from Bayou Courtableau in St. Landry Parish to a point below Butte Larose settlement in St. Martin Parish (length is 18.0 miles); total length of levees in the district is 387.0 miles.

The levee inspection was conducted on 23 and 24 October 2001. There were no Mississippi River levee contracts ongoing at the time of the inspection, and no levee contracts are scheduled to be awarded in FY 02. However, there are two contracts scheduled to be awarded in FY03, Alhambra to Hohen Solms, 1.8 miles; and Hohen Solms to Modeste, 1.8 miles. It should be noted that the New Orleans District is currently preparing a report for the completed archeological investigations of the Braziel Baptist Church cemetery that was discovered partially buried under the Mississippi River levee and batture within the Alhambra-Modeste reach. Human remains and caskets have been recovered during the investigation. The New Orleans District is preparing a course of action based upon their findings.

In FY01, slide repairs were completed at W46 and W52, and there is an ongoing contract to enlarge the W46/64 levee. Four contracts are scheduled to be awarded in FY 02 in the Atchafalaya Basin that are within the jurisdiction of the Atchafalaya Basin Levee District. Contracts scheduled for this year include W52 levee enlargement, second lift; W74 levee enlargement, second lift; E33 levee enlargement, second lift; and E69/73 levee enlargement, second lift. There are two contracts scheduled for FY03 (W85 A and B levee enlargement, second lift; and W86 levee enlargement, second lift). The levees and floodwalls were well maintained. An OUTSTANDING rating is assigned.

g. MORGAN CITY

The protection system north of the Southern Pacific Railroad is known as "Morgan City Front", which consists of 213 feet of earthen levee, 1.3 miles of concrete floodwall, a pumping station and 1600 feet of storm drainage facilities; south of the railroad is known as "Tiger Island", which consists of 1.6

miles of levee, 2,000 feet of concrete floodwall, a pumping station, and 2,500 feet of storm drainage facilities. Morgan City's flood protection and maintenance responsibilities also extends north beyond the "Morgan City Front" area to include the east Atchafalaya Basin protection levee up to the Morgan City corporate limits, which correlates with approximate east Atchafalaya Basin protection levee station 2276+30.3.

The inspection was conducted on 24 October 2001. There were no significant maintenance deficiencies noted. A SATISFACTORY rating is assigned.

h. **TOWN OF BERWICK**

The protection system consists of 1.6 miles of levee, 0.9 mile of concrete floodwall, and a gated drainage structure to provide protection for a 32-inch storm sewer passing through the floodwall.

The inspection was conducted on 24 October 2001. There were no significant maintenance deficiencies noted. A SATISFACTORY rating is assigned.

i. **ST. MARY PARISH**

The protection system consists of 63 miles of levees, 11 drainage pumping stations, drainage structures, and numerous culverts, making up the Levees West of Berwick, LA, protection system.

The inspection was conducted on 25 October 2001, and there was only one ongoing contract involving the permanent closure and partial removal of the Wax Lake East Drainage Structure. There are three contracts scheduled to be awarded in FY 02 (East Bayou Sale Gordy Levee, 4.6 miles; West Bayou Sale Maryland Levee, 2.4 miles; and Todd Levee, 1.5 miles). There were no significant maintenance deficiencies noted. A SATISFACTORY rating is assigned.

j. **LAKE BORGNE BASIN LEVEE DISTRICT**

This district is responsible for maintaining 11.6 miles of levee on the east bank of the Mississippi River, 43 miles of hurricane protection levee, and the Bayou Dupre floodgate. In

addition, the levee district is also responsible for operating and maintaining St. Bernard Parish's eight pumping stations and 19 internal drainage canals.

The mainline river levee was inspected on 30 October 2001. All construction work on the Mississippi River levee in this district has been completed for years. We also conducted a joint inspection of the hurricane protection levee on 15 June 2001, since most of the levee system is up to grade and section. The levees, floodwalls, and the Bayou Dupre flood control structure were all well maintained. An OUTSTANDING rating is assigned.

k. **GRAND PRAIRIE LEVEE DISTRICT**

This district is one of three under the direction of Plaquemines Parish Government and is responsible for maintaining 37.4 miles of levee on the east bank of the Mississippi River between the St. Bernard-Plaquemines Parish line and the Bohemia Spillway, and 16 miles of hurricane protection levee (Reach C) behind the mainline river levee.

The mainline Mississippi River levee was inspected on 30 October 2001. The levee was well maintained and in excellent condition. All construction work along the Mississippi River levee in this district is now complete. On 15 June 2001, we also conducted a joint inspection of the Reach C hurricane protection levee since most of the levee system is now up to grade and section. The hurricane protection levee was well maintained and in excellent condition. An OUTSTANDING rating is assigned.

l. **PONTCHARTRAIN LEVEE DISTRICT**

This district is responsible for maintaining 124.9 miles of levee on the east bank of the Mississippi River from 0.3 miles below the I-10 bridge in Baton Rouge to the St. Charles-Jefferson Parish line.

The levee was inspected on 1 November 2001. The levee, cattle guards, and fences were all well maintained and no significant deficiencies were noted. With the completion of the Carville-Marchand levee enlargement project in FY01, all work in this levee district is now complete, except for several gap closures which are scheduled to be performed in FY03. An OUTSTANDING rating is assigned.

m. **METROPOLITAN COUNCIL OF BATON ROUGE**

The Department of Public Works for Baton Rouge is responsible for maintaining 2.1 miles of levee on the east bank of the Mississippi River at Baton Rouge.

The levee was inspected on 1 November 2001, and was in excellent condition. There was no ongoing levee construction work in the area. The last item of levee construction work for this area is the Baton Rouge Front Phase 2 (0.2 miles), which is scheduled to be awarded in FY02. The project has been delayed several times in order to resolve borrow area concerns. The concept is for the construction of a small segment of low-level levee on the upstream end of the previously completed Phase 1 construction contract.

The results of the two soil nailing contracts that have been completed in an attempt to arrest the bank movement in this upstream area will be monitored for several years before proceeding with further levee construction work, including the repair of the concrete slope pavement that cracked as a result of this movement. We are also continuing to evaluate the results from the inclinometers that were previously installed at the site to monitor the movement in this area. An OUTSTANDING rating is assigned.

n. **ORLEANS LEVEE DISTRICT**

This district is responsible for maintaining 128.7 miles of levees and floodwalls in Orleans Parish; 13.2 miles on the east bank of the Mississippi River and 14.3 miles on the west bank, and 101.2 miles of hurricane protection along the shore of Lake Pontchartrain and canals connected thereto.

The mainline river levees and floodwalls were inspected on 8 November 2001, and the hurricane protection levees were inspected on 18 May 2001. Both flood protection systems were in exceptional condition. There are still 2.3 miles of MR&T flood protection work remaining in this district. The remaining work is on the east bank of the Mississippi River and consists of the Carrollton levee (1.9 miles) and the New Orleans District floodwall Phase I (0.4 miles). These items are considered low priority and are scheduled at the end of the project.

Hurricane flood protection work in Orleans Parish is about 97% complete, with the remaining major construction being

construction of the floodproofed bridges along 17th St. and London Avenue outfall canals, construction of the fronting protection structures for the pump stations, levee enlargements, and miscellaneous floodwall cappings. Work in Orleans Parish is scheduled to be complete by 2004-2005. An OUTSTANDING rating is assigned.

o. **PLAQUEMINES PARISH WEST BANK LEVEE DISTRICT**

This district is another of three levee districts under the direction of the Plaquemines Parish Government and is responsible for maintaining approximately 37.9 miles of levee on the west bank of the Mississippi River from the Orleans-Plaquemines Parish line to approximate river mile 44.0 AHP at Point Michel.

The inspection for the mainline Mississippi River levee was conducted on 16 November 2001. The levee was well maintained and in excellent condition. All MR&T levee construction work within this district is now complete. We also conducted an inspection of the hurricane inspection levees within this district and the Buras Levee District on 29 May 2001, and as a result of drought conditions the area was experiencing and overgrazing on the levee by livestock, we advised the Plaquemines Parish Government by letter dated 4 June 2001, that they had to take immediate corrective action to restore the levees to acceptable conditions. On 8 August 2001, we re-inspected the levees, and they were observed to be in excellent condition and back up to project conditions. An OUTSTANDING rating is assigned.

p. **BURAS LEVEE DISTRICT**

This district is also under the direction of the Plaquemines Parish Government and is responsible for maintaining 34.1 miles of levee on the west bank of the Mississippi River from Point Michel to Venice, LA, and approximately 34.1 miles of hurricane protection levees (Reach A, Reach B-1, and Reach B-2) behind the river levee.

The mainline Mississippi River levee was inspected on 16 November 2001, and it was well maintained and in excellent condition. All MR&T construction work on the Mississippi River levee in this district is now complete; however, additional levee enlargement work to incorporate hurricane protection above the MR&T design grade is still ongoing within this district. Work

will continue in FY02, with three second lift levee enlargement projects scheduled to be awarded. We also conducted an inspection of the hurricane inspection levees within this district on 29 May 2001, as stated above, and the levees were well maintained and in excellent condition. An OUTSTANDING rating is assigned.

q. **SOUTH LAFOURCHE LEVEE DISTRICT**

This district is responsible for maintaining the Larose to Golden Meadow Hurricane Protection Project which consists of 43 miles of hurricane protection levee, six pumping stations, and two floodgates (Larose and Golden Meadow).

Since the hurricane protection levees are still in the early stages of construction, a formal inspection will not be conducted until completed reaches of the levee system have been "turned over" to the levee district. However, in the interim a joint inspection of the system was conducted on 7 August 2001, and although the levees are in the early stages of construction they, along with the Larose and Golden Meadow floodgates, were well maintained. An OUTSTANDING rating is assigned.

r. **Town of Grand Isle**

A joint inspection of the beach and sand dune hurricane protection project was conducted on 15 November 2001. The situation with the Town of Grand Isle concerning the condition of the beach and sand dune hurricane protection project has not changed since the last report. There are still some areas of the sand dune within the project limits that are deficient as a result of being impacted by storms over the last several years. The damage is significant enough such that a contract needs to be awarded by the co-sponsors of the project (LA DOTD and the Town of Grand Isle) to restore the sand dune and beach back to project conditions.

The Federal government's contribution towards restoring the project is contingent upon the co-sponsors securing their share of the necessary funding from the State to rehabilitate the project. The co-sponsors had secured funding from the State; however, after HQUSACE decided that the damages sustained to the project by past storms did not qualify for PL-99 funding, the co-sponsors have had to request additional funding from the State legislature. So far, the co-sponsors have not been successful in obtaining this additional funding. HQUSACE contends that the

sustained damages to the project should be covered under normal routine maintenance as described in the sponsor's operations and maintenance manual. As a result of this decision, the Federal government's O&M contribution has increased, however, it's not enough to offset the loss of PL-99 funding. The sponsors are also trying to secure additional Federal funding for the project through Congressional channels.

s. **SMALL FLOOD CONTROL PROJECTS, NEW ORLEANS AREA**

In accordance with ER 1130-2-530 dated 30 October 1996, Chapter 3, Section 3b., small flood control projects authorized under Section 2 of the Flood Control Act of 1937 or Section 5 of the Flood Control Act of 1948 need not be inspected unless they are being considered for emergency rehabilitation under PL 84-99. The small flood control projects that we have inspected and reported on annually in the past are not under PL84-99 consideration, and therefore, were not inspected this year.

Historically, we have not had any problems with these projects, and unless we receive complaints or any reports of problems they will not be inspected. We will continue to monitor the semi-annual reports that the local sponsors are required to submit, and will investigate any problems that are reported. The semi-annual inspection reports that our office has received in the past from the local interests have indicated that the projects are in satisfactory condition.

