

## MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD

SUBJECT: Mississippi Coastal Improvements Program, MS Comprehensive Plan and Integrated Environmental Impact Statement, Civil Works Review Board (CWRB)

1. The subject meeting was held 21 May 2009 from 1300 until 1600 Eastern Time. The Agenda (Attachment 1) and List of Attendees (Attachment 2) are provided.
2. The purpose of the meeting was to gain approval by the CWRB to release the Final Comprehensive Report and Integrated Environmental Impact Statement for State and Agency (S&A) Review.
3. The meeting was opened by MG Don T. Riley who offered welcoming remarks and provided an overview of the meeting purpose for the benefit of the project Sponsors and others in attendance.
4. COL. Byron G. Jorns provided the briefing of the Mississippi Coastal Improvements Program Comprehensive Plan, including the problems addressed, alternatives considered, the recommended features and their costs, and the status of the Agency Technical Review and Independent External Peer Review. His was then followed by Statements from the State of Mississippi, represented by Dr. William Walker, Executive Director Mississippi Department of Marine Resources. Dr. Walker conveyed the state's overwhelming support of the Program, and thanked the Corps for the level of engagement it enacted to involve all levels of stakeholders. He also conveyed the importance of the program to the economic and well-being of the State of Mississippi as it rebuilds in the wake of Hurricane's Katrina and Rita.
5. Ms. Sherri Fields of the National Park Service (NPS), Southeast Region presented the agencies view on the program. Ms. Fields articulated that her agency attributes the level of successful collaboration with the physical inclusion of an NPS employee on the MsCIP team. She believes that the recommendation for Barrier Island restoration is a direct product of that open relationship.
6. BG Todd Semonite provided the South Atlantic Division (SAD) endorsement of the recommended project, followed by Mr. Thomas Hughes, who provided the Headquarters Office of Water Project Review (HQ OWPR) summary of issue resolution and a recommendation to release the report for S&A review, following incorporation of some recent changes into the main report. MG Temple spoke briefly about the importance of taking action and moving forward as expeditiously as possible.
7. The following is a summary of questions and discussion that was held during the meeting:

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a) The Moss Point Facilities Relocation element was questionable as to whether or not the proposed work was under the mission of the Corps of Engineers. It was noted that FEMA has a program to address facilities relocations and it was asked whether or not the City of Moss Point was seeking funds under that program. In addition, there was a discussion as to whether this should be an environmental restoration project in lieu of nonstructural risk reduction. The team working with the Division and HQ staff was to resolve these issues and determine the appropriate path to take.

b) Several questions were raised concerning acquisitions including whether a relocation plan had been prepared (no – typically done just prior to or at authorization) and whether additional time was factored into the HARP acquisition schedule (i.e. 400 parcels per year) for real estate activities for non HARP MsCIP projects. It was stated that preparation of a relocation plan would be completed in the next phase MSCIP and that real estate activities for non HARP projects and that additional time was factored into the HARP acquisition schedule (i.e. 400 parcels per year) for real estate activities for non HARP MsCIP projects.

c) One of the specific purposes of the legislative authority was the preservation of fish and wildlife, however the description of benefits attributable to the protection of Threatened and Endangered Species was noted to be lacking in the main report. It was agreed that more discussion would be added to the main report prior to release for State and Agency review.

d) The annual operation and maintenance (O&M) requirements under the purview of the local sponsor were discussed. It was especially noted for the Forrest Heights Levee element, which is estimated to require about \$114,000 in annual O&M. Dr. Bill Walker reiterated the State's long proven record of fulfilling its cost-sharing commitments and that it would continue to do so in the future.

e) It was asked whether or not restoration of the Barrier Islands, without implementation of the High Hazard Area Risk Reduction Plan (HARP) would induce development along the coast. It was noted that the Barrier Islands did not provide significant risk reduction by being built up, but the risk reduction was attributable to a higher risk as the Barrier Islands continued to degrade in the without-project condition. It was agreed that more discussion of the Barrier Islands in the without-project condition was needed to fully tell the story.

f) It was noted that guidance requires the identification of residual risk and that the main report didn't seem to address the issue. The team confirmed that residual risks were calculated using the HEC-FDA program and that they would better described in the main report prior to release for State and Agency review.

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g) The cost-share for the Barrier Island restoration was identified as a resolved issue by OWPR. The cost-share was to be changed in the report from 100-percent Federal funding to 65-percent Federal/35-percent non-federal. The sponsor was asked if it would provide a new letter of support and self certification. Dr. Walker agreed to have a revised letter and certification by 29 May 2009.

h) The need for additional authorization for Phase II / III actions was discussed. MG Riley indicated that any future authorization needs to require a broader Gulf-wide system analysis. Chief's report should address the additional study authorization.

8) The following is a summary of challenges / lessons learned that were provided by BG Todd Semonite and others during the meeting:

a) Need to address regional effects

b) Risk based planning needs to be fully developed and vetted through the vertical chain

c) Collaboration is essential – MsCIP is a model for comprehensive partnering

d) It as requested that the further discussions should be held on ways to streamline the HQ review process and how it relates to the CWRB meeting.

9) The meeting concluded with a positive, unanimous vote by the Board members to release the report for S&A review, following the incorporation of recent changes into the main report, and with the intent to execute a Chief of Engineers report within the next 3 months.

10) MG Don T. Riley thanked everyone for their attendance and participation and closed the meeting at 1600 hours Eastern Time.

**Mississippi Coastal Improvements Program (MSCIP)  
Comprehensive Plan**

**Civil Works Review Board  
21 May 2009**

**AGENDA**

- 1300 Welcome Deputy Commanding General, USACE and CWRB Chair
- 1305 Introductions CWRB Chair
- 1310 Project Briefing District Commander, Mobile District
- 1355 Sponsor Support Executive Director,  
Mississippi Department of Marine Resources
- 1405 Agency Support Chief, Science & Natural Resources Division  
Southeast Regional Office, National Park Service
- 1415 Division Commander Briefing Division Commander, South Atlantic Division
- 1435 Policy Review Assessment Review Manager, Office of Water Project Review
- 1445 Action Deputy Commanding General, Civil & Emergency Operations
- 1455 Lessons Learned / After Action Report: District Commander, Mobile District
- What was supposed to happen?
  - What did happen?
  - Why did it happen that way?
  - How will we improve next time?
- 1505 Lessons Learned SAD, OWPR, Sponsor, Others
- 1515 Summary of Project Briefing District Commander, Mobile District
- 1525 Close CWRB Chair

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21 May 2009**

**Attendees**

**Civil Works Review Board**

**Name:**

|   |                         |
|---|-------------------------|
| Deputy Commanding General and<br>CWRB Chair                   | MG Don T. Riley         |
| Deputy Commanding General for<br>Civil & Emergency Operations | MG Meredith (Bo) Temple |
| Chief, Planning Community of Practice (CoP)                   | Mr. Theodore Brown      |
| Commander, South Pacific Division                             | COL Janice Dombi        |
| Chief, Real Estate CoP  | Mr. Scott Whiteford     |
| Chief, Pacific Ocean Div. Regional Integration Team           | Mr. Lloyd Pike          |

**Office of Management and Budget**

|              |                           |
|--------------|---------------------------|
| OMB Examiner | Mr. William (Dick) Feezle |
| OMB Examiner | Mr. Tommy Williams        |

**Office of the Federal Coordinator for Gulf Coast  
Rebuilding**

|                                     |                |
|-------------------------------------|----------------|
| Principal Deputy Director of Policy | Ms. Drue Banta |
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**Office of the Assistant Secretary of the Army (Civil Works)**

|                       |                    |
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| Environmental Planner | Mr. Mark McKeivitt |
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**Office of Counsel**

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| Counsel, USACE | Mr. William Bayert |
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**Engineering and Construction CoP**

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|-------------|-----------------|
| Engineering | Mr. John Hunter |
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**Planning & Policy Division**

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| Acting Deputy, Planning & Policy Division | Mr. Harry Kitch |
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**Office of Water Project Review**

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|---|---------------------------|
| Acting Chief, Office of Water Project Review (OWPR) | Mr. Charles (Lee) Ware    |
| Review Manager                                      | Mr. Thomas Hughes         |
| Planning Program Manager, NWD RIT                   | Mr. Joe Redican           |
| Real Estate   | Mr. Rodney Hallstrom      |
| Real Estate   | Ms. Brenda Johnson-Turner |
| Cost Engineering                                    | Mr. Miguel Jumilla        |
| Environmental                                       | Mr. Mark Matusiak         |

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**Attendees (cont.)**

**South Atlantic and Mississippi Valley Division Regional Integration Teams**

|  |                    |
|--|--------------------|
| Chief, South Atlantic Division RIT         | Mr. James Dalton   |
| Acting Deputy, South Atlantic Division RIT | Mr. Kyle Jones     |
| Chief, Mississippi Valley Division RIT     | Mr. Theodore Brown |
| Deputy, Mississippi Valley Division RIT    | Mr. Zoltan Montvai |

**South Atlantic Division**

|                                      |                    |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------|
| SAD Division Commander               | BG Todd Semonite   |
| Chief, Planning                      | Mr. Wilbert Paynes |
| District Support Team Lead / Planner | Mr. Elden Gatwood  |

**Mobile District**

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|--|------------------------|
| SAM District Commander                     | COL Byron Jorns        |
| Chief, Planning and Environmental Division | Mr. Curtis Flakes      |
| Chief, Plan Formulation Branch             | Mr. Todd Boatman       |
| Program Manager                            | Dr. Susan Ivester Rees |
| Project Manager                            | Mr. Tom Smith          |
| Economist                                  | Mr. Jeremy Ladart      |
| Geotechnical Engineer                      | Mr. John Baehr         |
| Environmental                              | Ms. Jennifer Jacobson  |
| Real Estate                                | Mr. John (Rick) Thomas |
| Non-structural Flood Damage Reduction      | Mr. Richard (Gus) Drum |

**State of Mississippi - Non-Federal Sponsor**

|   |                    |
|---|--------------------|
| Executive Director, MS Dept of Marine Resources | Dr. William Walker |
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**National Park Service - Southeast Regional Office**

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| Chief, Science & Natural Resources Division | Ms. Sherri Fields |
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**U.S. House of Representatives**

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| Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure | Mr. Ken Kopocis |
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**Attendees (cont.)**

**Coastal Storm Damage Reduction Planning Center of Expertise - North Atlantic Div.**

Assistant Director PCX / Agency Technical Review Mgr                      Mr. Larry Cocchieri

**Independent External Peer Review Team (IEPR)**

|  |                       |                 |
|--|-----------------------|-----------------|
| Program Manager    (Battelle Memorial Institute)     | Karen Johnson-Young   | via Phone       |
| Project Manager    (Battelle Memorial Institute)     | Maureen Wooton        | via Phone       |
| Wetland Ecology; Ecohydraulics; Modeling             | Dr. Peter Goodwin     | via Phone       |
| Modeling; Hydrology; Coastal Environmental Science   | Dr. Scott Hagen       | via Phone       |
| Real Estate; Econ; Non-struct Flood Damage Reduction | Dr. Jamie Brown Kruse | via Phone       |
| Economics; Risk Assessment                           | Dr. Douglass Shaw     | via Phone       |
| Geotechnical; Civil Engineering                      | Dr. Charles Aubeny    | (Not Available) |
| Tropical Meteorology                                 | Dr. Shuyi Chen        | (Not Available) |
| Coastal Environmental Science; Geomorphology         | Dr. Don Wright        | (Not Available) |