DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20314-1000

CECW-P

11 JUN 2008

MEMORANDUM FOR COMMANDER, Mississippi Valley Division (CEMVD-PD)

SUBJECT: Implementation Guidance for Section 7015 of the Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) of 2007 – LAROSE TO GOLDEN MEADOW

1. Section 7015 requires submittal of a report to the Committee on Environment and Public Works of the Senate and the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives describing any modification to the Larose to Golden Meadow flood damage reduction project needed to provide 100-year level of protection certified in accordance with the national flood insurance program. The provision authorizes the Secretary to carry out the modification described in the report if the Secretary determines that the modification is feasible and the total cost of the modification does not exceed $90 million; however, it requires that both Congressional committees to which the report is submitted must approve the report before Congress may appropriate construction funds. A copy of section 7015 is enclosed for your information.

2. The project was originally authorized by Section 204 of the Flood Control Act of 1965 (Public Law 89-298) to provide a 100-year level of hurricane protection to the communities located along Bayou Lafourche between Larose and Golden Meadow. Construction began in 1972 but has not been completed to authorized (pre-Katrina) design elevations. Work is still needed to complete various features of the project and/or to restore them to the originally authorized design elevation due to subsidence and datum changes. The work addressed in section 7015 is additional work necessary to provide a certifiable 100-year level of protection in accordance with current design criteria.

3. Using available project funds, prepare a report describing the modifications to the previously authorized project that are required to provide the level of protection necessary to achieve the certification required for a 100-year level of flood protection in accordance with the national flood insurance program. The modifications should incorporate new storm modeling data and design criteria developed since hurricanes Katrina and Rita. The report should include an estimate of the total project costs for the proposed modifications and provide sufficient information for the Secretary to make a determination regarding feasibility. Submit the report to the Mississippi Valley Division Regional Integration Team for coordination with the Secretary.

4. No work may be undertaken to construct any proposed modifications until the report has been approved by the Secretary and funds have been appropriated for such work. Any modification implemented under this provision will be subject to the cost sharing provisions of WRDA 1986, as amended.

FOR THE COMMANDER:

Encl

ROBYN S. COLOSIMO, P.E.
Acting Chief, Planning and Policy Division
Directorate of Civil Works