



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS
441 G STREET, NW
WASHINGTON, DC 20314-1000

REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

CECW-P

DEC 08 2015

MEMORANDUM FOR SEE DISTRIBUTION

SUBJECT: Implementation Guidance for Section 1003 of the Water Resources Reform and Development Act of 2014 (WRRDA 2014) – Expedited Completion of Reports

1. Section 1003 of WRRDA 2014 directs the Secretary to expedite completion of any on-going feasibility study for a project that was initiated before the date of enactment of WRRDA 2014 and, if the Secretary determines that the project is justified in a completed report, to proceed directly into preconstruction planning, engineering and design of the project in accordance with Section 910 of the Water Resources Development Act of 1986 (WRDA 1986). A copy of Section 1003 is enclosed.
2. Section 910 of WRDA 1986 provides that, after the Chief of Engineers transmits his recommendations for a water resources development project to the Secretary for transmittal to Congress, and before authorization of the project, the Chief of Engineers is authorized to undertake continued planning and engineering (other than preparation of plans and specs) for such project if the Chief of Engineers determines the project is without substantial controversy. Section 910 further provides that this authorization is in addition to any other authorizations for planning, engineering, and design and shall not be construed as a limitation on any such other authorization.
3. Current practice for noncontroversial projects pending authorization is to undertake continuing planning, engineering, and design through plans and specifications for the initial construction contract as part of Preconstruction Engineering and Design (PED). PED is budgeted and normally carried out in the Investigations appropriation or the Investigations sub-account of the Mississippi River and Tributaries appropriation. The Chief's Reports for these projects specify that PED for the project will be continued under the authority provided for the study.
4. Funding for PED of a project for which the study was initiated before the date of enactment of WRRDA 2014 and that is justified in a completed report may be considered as part of normal development of the annual budget and normal development of any work plan to allocate additional appropriated funds.

ENCL

THEODORE A. BROWN, P.E.,
Chief, Planning and Policy Division
Directorate of Civil Works

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SECTION 1003 OF WRRDA 2014 - EXPEDITED COMPLETION OF REPORTS.

The Secretary shall—

(1) expedite the completion of any on-going feasibility study for a project initiated before the date of enactment of this Act; and

(2) if the Secretary determines that the project is justified in a completed report, proceed directly to preconstruction planning, engineering, and design of the project in accordance with section 910 of the Water Resources Development Act of 1986 (33 U.S.C. 2287).