Project Proposal Submission Form

Project Name: Baptiste Collette Section 203 Deepening Study

Note: All provided information may be included in the USACE Annual Report. Please do not include information that is Confidential Business Information (CBI) or other information whose disclosure is restricted by statute.

All proposals should meet the following criteria:

1. Are related to the missions and authorities of the USACE;
2. Require specific congressional authorization, including by an Act of Congress;
3. Have not been congressionally authorized;
4. Have not been included in any previous annual report; and
5. If authorized, could be carried out by the

USACE. Required Information:

1. **Provide the name of all non-Federal interests planning to act as the sponsor, including any non-Federal interest that has contributed or is expected to contribute toward the non- Federal share of the proposed feasibility study or modification.**

   a. LaDOTD

   b. Plaquemines Parish Government

2. **State if this proposal is for a feasibility study or a modification to an authorized USACE project or feasibility study and, if a modification, specify the authorized project or study.**

   X ☐ Feasibility Study

   ☐ Modification to authorized USACE project or feasibility study

   Name of Project/Study Modified:

3. **State the project purpose of the proposed study or modification.**

   To evaluate the economic justification of deepening the Baptiste Collette waterway to a depth of 22 feet.

4. **Provide an estimate, to the extent practicable, of the total cost of the proposed study or modification.**

   Estimated Total Cost: $

5. **Describe, to the extent practicable, the anticipated monetary and non-monetary benefits of the proposal including benefits to the protection of human life and property; improvement to transportation; the national economy; the environment; or the national security interests of the United States.**

   The Baptiste Collette waterway is situated on the east bank of the Mississippi River across from the Venice Port facilities. Transportation cost savings are expected for mid size vessels by providing shorter access to the eastern Gulf of Mexico in lieu of transiting via Southwest Pass. Also anticipated is improved safety for these midsize vessels who currently share the super highway that is the Mississippi River Ship Channel. By getting off the main "highway" onto a safer side channel that is absent the massive, international ocean vessels, risks to safety are expected to decrease. It should be noted that these safety issues are not quantified in the economic justification, but are still a serious concern for the navigation industry.

6. **Describe if local support exists for the proposal.**

   Yes.

7. **State if the non-Federal interest has the financial ability to provide for the required cost share.**

8. **Submit a letter or statement of support from each associated non-Federal interest.**

   See attached.

Please use this space for additional information.

LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION & DEVELOPMENT

Office of the Secretary
PO Box 94245 | Baton Rouge, LA 70804-9245
ph: 225-379-1232 | fx: 225-379-1863

Bobby Jindal, Governor
Sherri H. LeBas, P.E., Secretary

December 2, 2014

Colonel Richard L. Hansen, Commander
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
New Orleans District
P.O. Box 60267
New Orleans, Louisiana 70160 - 0267

Re: Baptiste Collette Bayou, LA

Dear Colonel Hansen:

The Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development supports obtaining Corps approval of the Baptiste Collette Bayou Section 203 Study and Congressional authorization. It is our understanding that inclusion in the Corps' Annual Report to Congress, required by WRRDA 2014, is a step in that process.

If you have any concerns or questions, please contact Mr. Phil Jones at (225) 379-3030.

Sincerely,

Sherri H. LeBas, P.E.
Secretary

SHL/sjb

cc: Honorable Billy Nungesser