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November 5, 2014

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

Dear Colonel Hansen:

This letter is in reference to the ongoing Southeast Louisiana Project (SELA), in particular the W-14 Canal Improvements component of St. Tammany Parish SELA. We were pleased to hear that the Corps approved the W-14 Canal Improvements 533(d) Report on July 25, 2012 under existing SELA authority. As project partners and non-Federal Sponsors, the State of Louisiana, through the Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority (CPRA), the St. Tammany Parish Government (STPG) and the City of Slidell (COS), are requesting to perform work-in-kind (WIK) during the design and construction of the W-14 Canal Improvements components of the SELA Project for credit toward the non-Federal share of total project cost.

We understand that Section 108 of the Fiscal Year 1996 Appropriations Act and Section 533(b) of Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) of 1996 directs that the cost of any work performed by the non-Federal interests subsequent to the dates of the four reports cited in such legislation, and determined by the Secretary of the Army to be a compatible and integral part of the projects, shall be credited toward the non-Federal share of the SELA project. Under the authority of Section 533(b) of WRDA 1996, CPRA, STPG and COS are requesting approval for WIK credit to design and construct certain portions of the work included in the approved SELA W-14 Canal Improvements 533(d) report. As such, this WIK is a compatible and integral part of the recommended plan and should be creditable toward the non-Federal share of project costs. The proposed WIK and the estimated costs are identified in the table below. The WIK is to be implemented by the non-Federal interests and funds originated from other Federal sources would not be used unless the Federal granting agency verifies in writing that the expenditure of such funds is expressly authorized by statute.

Project Feature	Project Cost
Design and Construction of the Initial Robert Boulevard Detention Pond and Control Structure	$1,272,823.38
Design and Construction of the West Diversion Detention Pond	761,883.70
Design and Construction of the 40' Wide Channel Improvements from Daney Street to I-10	1,342,825.00
TOTAL	$3,377,532.08

The W-14 Canal Improvements project, as presented in the approved report, is cost shared 75 percent Federal and 25 percent non-Federal. As the non-Federal sponsors, CPRA, STPG and COS are required to contribute a minimum of 25 percent of total project costs with a minimum cash contribution of 5 percent. The remainder of the non-Federal cost share will be provided through a combination of credit for lands, easements, rights-of-way, relocations and disposal areas (LERRD) and approved WIK, and additional cash. The estimated fully funded project cost for the SELA W-14 Canal Improvements 533(d) project is $22,749,514. The credit requested for in-kind contributions will be afforded only toward the required contribution of funds for the project, and will not negate the requirement to provide in cash 5% of the total project cost. The total non-Federal sponsors' cost is $5,687,379, of which $1,137,476 is the 5% cash requirement. However, due to the estimated LERRD for this project, $9,634,872, the total non-Federal sponsors' cost share for this project is 47.35%.

As shown, the proposed WIK is consistent with the plan recommended in the W-14 Canal Improvements 533(d) report and is a compatible and integral part of the authorized SELA Project. Therefore, we request that the non-Federal WIK as described in this letter be allowed as creditable costs toward the non-Federal cost share for the St. Tammany Parish portion of the SELA project. We understand a Project Partnership Agreement is required under which the WIK will be executed. CPRA, STPG and COS will be co-signatories for the Project Partnership Agreement, with CPRA having ultimate responsibility for providing, or ensuring the provision of any and all required nonfederal cooperation.

Sincerely,

Patricia P. Brister

Patricia P. Brister
Parish President

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