



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
NEW ORLEANS DISTRICT, CORPS OF ENGINEERS
P. O. BOX 60267
NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA 70160

IN REPLY REFER TO
LMEED-MP

1 June 1973

Honorable Russell B. Long
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Long:

This is in reply to your letter of 29 May 1973 regarding Mr. Charles Torres' letter concerning the St. Charles Parish lakefront levee feature of the Lake Pontchartrain, Louisiana and Vicinity, hurricane protection project.

I have concluded that the proposed St. Charles Parish lakefront levee appears to possibly have more adverse environmental impacts than can be reasonably justified by offsetting flood protection benefits. Therefore, I have initiated a complete reevaluation of this project feature to include additional detailed environmental studies designed to more thoroughly evaluate the natural values associated with the St. Charles levee. The reevaluation, to be completed in about 11-12 months, will also include economic, demographic, and land-use studies, and engineering alternatives. An extensive public participation program will also be a major element of the reevaluation.

The St. Charles Environmental Council, among others, has been directly involved in the aforementioned study. Information and assistance offered by the council have been of great value and its views, as well as the views of all concerned parties, will continue to be considered throughout the course of the reevaluation. However, not until completion of the study can a final recommendation be made concerning the St. Charles levee which will best serve the overall public interest.

If I can be of any further assistance in this matter, please let me know.

Sincerely yours,

RICHARD L. HUNT
Colonel, CE
District Engineer

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