

AUGUST 4, 1983

Campbell
PD-J

Executive Office

Hill
PD-7

LTC J. K. Bratton
Chief of Engineers
Department of the Army
Washington, DC 20314

Rest
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Dear Chief:

As directed by ASA, our study effort for the Lake Pontchartrain, Louisiana, and Vicinity hurricane protection project is currently on hold awaiting further guidance from ASA. (As you will recall, Mr. Gianelli was given a detailed briefing on 10 November 1982 and was provided preliminary copies of the decision document in early December 1982. Further, ASA was furnished the printed final draft document along with OCE's views on the use of the Chief's discretionary authority on 31 March 1983. Additional information has been furnished informally.) We are approaching the critical stages of the schedule for this study effort. Any further delays will significantly impact the construction of the hurricane protection project. Efforts by your staff to get this off of dead center have been unsuccessful to date. I think it has reached the point where you should discuss this personally with Mr. Gianelli.

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Harri
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Sincerely,

COL Yor
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William E. Read
Major General, U.S. Army
Commanding

GEN Rea

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Ayers*

LAKE PONTCHARTRAIN HURRICANE PROTECTION PROJECT

Summary of Major Actions

1. 1965 - Project was authorized.
2. 1966 - Barrier concept of protection was recommended.
3. Cost sharing - Minimum 30% Non-Federal Cost
4. Construction initiated.
5. Currently 56%+ complete.
6. Jan 1975 - EIS completed (on Barrier Plan).
7. Dec 1977 - Barrier portion of project enjoined.
8. Dec 1978 - Reevaluation initiated.
9. 1982 - GAO Audit.
10. 8 Oct 82 - ASA(CW) requested briefing.
11. 10 Oct 82 - ASA(CW) briefing.
12. 17 Nov 82 - ASA(CW) memo to Chief requesting current EIS, Chief views of discretionary authority to change plan of protection from barriers to high level levees, and directing a moratorium on reevaluation until further guidance was provided.
13. 24 Nov 82 - Interim response to ASA(CW) providing working Draft of Reevaluation Report and DEIS and promising more to come concerning Chief's discretionary authority.
14. 24 Nov 82 - EIS delivered to OCE for transmittal to ASA(CW).
15. 16 Dec 82 - LMVD Position Paper on discretionary authority forwarded to OCE.
16. 8 Mar 83 - Letter from LMVD CDR to Chief urging OCE to press for guidance from ASA.
17. 18 Mar 83 - Response from OCE indicating that OCE review of LMVD 16 Dec 82 data was nearing completion.
18. 31 Mar 83 - Memo from Chief to ASA(CW) providing position on Chief's discretionary authority.
19. Several calls and discussion between LMVD, OCE, and ASA(CW).
20. 4 Aug 83 - Letter from LMVD CDR to Chief urging Chief to discuss matter personally with Mr. Gianelli.

- 21.* 8⁺ Aug 83 - Informal notification that memo from ASA(CW) approving High Level Plan would be forthcoming.
- 22.* 16 Aug 83 - Informal notification that memo had been received by COL Myers approving High Level Plan. Further that OCE was asked to provide drafts of letters for ASA(CW) use to inform concerned Congressional elements, i.e., Congressmen and committees.
23. 16 Aug 83 - We await receipt of ASA memo and drafts (for our review) of OCE Congressional letters.

* OCE was informed that no formal recommendation had been made and the final report was yet to be completed, and that coordination had not been accomplished. OCE indicated that Mr. Gianelli had been sold on the High Level Plan and therefore was approving it.