

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY NEW ORLEANS DISTRICT, CORPS OF ENGINEERS P. O. BOX 60267 NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA 70160-0267

FEB 2 2 2010

Regional Planning and Environmental Division, South New Orleans Environmental Branch

Mr. Scott Hutcheson State Historic Preservation Officer Department of Culture, Recreation and Tourism Office of Cultural Development P.O. Box 44247 Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70804 No known historic properties will be affected by this undertaking. This effect determination could change should new information come to our attention.

Date

Scott Hutcheson

State Historic Preservation Officer

Re: Continuing Consultation, Expanded Area and Finding of no impacts, IER #15 Pipeline Crossings, Jefferson Parish, Louisiana

Dear Mr. Hutcheson:

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New Orleans District (The Corps) is preparing to improve the Lake Cataouatche Segment of the West Bank and Vicinity Hurricane Protection Levee in Jefferson Parish, Louisiana. The majority of this proposed work, as IER #15, was discussed in a Management Summary prepared by Coastal Environments, Inc. (CEI) and was agreed by your office to have no impact to cultural resources in a letter dated December 11, 2007. There is now additional Right-of-Way (ROW) and Area of Potential Effect (APE) adjacent to the proposed levee footprint, required by directional drilling for the relocation of a Chevron pipeline in Segment WBV-15a.2. The landside portion of this expanded APE falls within the originally considered ROW to be studied and was considered a low potential area for cultural resources. The floodside of the original ROW was delineated for distributaries and soils that may indicate a high potential for cultural resources, and none of these high potential areas intersect with the additional APE required by the pipeline relocation. A map of the pipeline relocation is enclosed for your consideration.

Based upon the findings of areas for low and high potential as discussed in the Management Summary, and that the landside additional APE was investigated as part of the Management Summary, and that the floodside additional APE does not intersect a past distributary or other high-potential area for cultural resources, the Corps concludes that use of the expanded APE will have no effect on cultural resources. We ask that you provide comments to this conclusion within 30 days. Please contact Dr. Paul Hughbanks at (504) 862-1100 if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

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Joan M. Exnicios

Chief, New Orleans Environmental Branch

Enclosure