



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION 6

1445 ROSS AVENUE, SUITE 1200
DALLAS, TX 75202-2733

January 11, 2011

John Fiorentino
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Reg. Planning and Environment
Division South, CEMVN-PDR-RP
P.O. Box 60267
New Orleans, LA 70160-0267

SUBJECT: Comments regarding the draft Environmental Assessment (EA) #495 Mississippi River Outlets, Vicinity of Venice, Louisiana, Bank Stabilization Features along the Left Descending Bank of Grand Pass

Dear Mr. Fiorentino:

In accordance with your letter dated December 14, 2010, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 6 is providing the following comments for the draft EA and draft Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI). EPA has identified potential areas of concern that should be addressed in the EA:

- Section 404(b)(1) evaluation and/or Public Notice should be referenced within the Important Resources section and the FONSI
- suggest adding a floodplain section within the Important Resources section to comply with Executive Order 11988

We appreciate the opportunity to provide comments for the draft EA and FONSI. Thank you for your coordination and don't hesitate to contact John MacFarlane, of my staff, at 214-665-7491 or macfarlane.john@epa.gov should you have any questions or concerns regarding this letter.

Sincerely,


Rhonda Smith
Chief, Office of Planning and
Coordination