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United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-1804

September 18, 2009

VIA U.S. MAIL AND FACSIMILIE (504-862-1259)

Colonel Alvin B. Lee

District Commander

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New Orleans District

Executive Office

P.O. Box 60267

New Orleans, LA 70160-0267

Dear Colonel Lee:

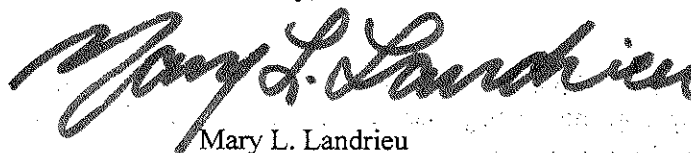
Thank you for evaluating and responding to the legitimate community concerns regarding the proposed alignments for the Eastern Tie-In structure in Oakville, LA. Unfortunately, I am concerned that the revised alternatives you have presented do not meet the desire of my constituents to have a higher level of flood protection in the communities south of Oakville, LA.

While I stand ready to work with my colleagues in Washington should a congressional solution be needed, I urge you to work with President Nungesser to increase flood protection through a locally preferred option under the existing New Orleans to Venice authorization. I feel that this will be the most expedient path to meeting these local concerns.

I strongly support the efforts of Plaquemines Parish to pursue better flood protection and coastal restoration with the resources they have at their disposal. Their willingness to invest in elevating the New Orleans to Venice levee beyond existing congressional authorizations is a key component of this parish-led initiative, and I hope the Army Corps will be a partner going forward. Please provide me with an update of this matter, its final disposition, and should Congressional action be required to accomplish the desired outcomes of the citizens in Plaquemines Parish, I trust you will transmit the specific language to me as soon as possible.

With kind regards, I am

Sincerely,



Mary L. Landrieu
United States Senator

MLL:jwk