



**US Army Corps
of Engineers** ®
Galveston District

News Release

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Galveston District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, closely monitoring hurricane protection structures on Texas coast

FORT WORTH, Texas - The Corps of Engineers is closely monitoring hurricane protection structures along the Texas coastal areas in Port Arthur, Texas City, and Freeport in light of the large storm surges being predicted by meteorologists. All three of these structures were built by the Corps of Engineers but, under partnership agreements, are maintained by local government sponsors. The Corps does not own these structures, but does inspect them at least annually and is working closely with local and state officials as Hurricane Ike approaches.

Of particular note is the hurricane protection structure in Port Arthur. The structure was completed in 1984 to provide protection to the urbanized and industrial areas of Port Arthur, to include the City of Port Arthur and the associated petrochemical complex from a hurricane surge up to 14 feet. It is maintained by the Jefferson County Drainage District No. 7, and was last inspected by the Corps in June of this year.

The other hurricane protection structures are located in Texas City and Freeport. The Texas City structure was completed in 1987 for protection against a storm surge of up to 15 feet, and the Freeport structure was completed in 1980 to protect against a storm surge of up to 14 feet. Both have also been inspected within the last year.

"We are working closely with local and state officials to keep abreast of this situation and to assist them in any way possible," said Colonel David C. Weston, Galveston District commander. "It is an integral part of our mission to work with these local sponsors to support our communities and the nation."