

Under the Marine Protection, Research, and Sanctuaries Act (MPRSA) the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) are responsible for the development and administration of Site Management and Monitoring Plans (SMMP) for each Ocean Dredged Material Disposal Site (ODMDS). On the Louisiana coast the Dallas Region 6 USEPA Office and the New Orleans District USACE Office share this responsibility. These SMMPs, or sometimes referred to as just Site Management Plans (SMPs), are specific to each ODMDS or a group of ODMDS, if multiple sites are located along the same navigation channel. There are four SMPs for which Region 6 USEPA and the New Orleans District USACE are accepting comments from the public and other interested parties. Referenced in the SMPs is the Regional Implementation Agreement (RIA). The RIA was developed jointly by the New Orleans and Galveston District Offices of the USACE and the Region 6 USEPA Office to identify the monitoring strategy, methodology, timing, locations, responsibilities, etc. necessary to implement the statutory and regulatory aspects of dredging navigation channel. An electronic copy of the RIA is located on this website.

At this time the New Orleans District Office and the Region 6 Office request your comments on the four SMPs being subject to a 30-day comment period. The SMPs are for the **Mississippi River Southwest Pass Project, Atchafalaya River and Bayous Chene, Boeuf and Black Project, Houma Navigation Canal Project** and the three sites located adjacent to the **Calcasieu River and Pass Project**. If you have any comments please submit them to either:

Mr. Stephen Bainter, 6WQ-EC or
US EPA Region 6
1445 Ross Avenue, Suite 1200
P.O. Box 2733
Dallas, TX 75202-2733

Mr. Edward D. Creef
Chief, Environmental Function
US Army Corps of Engineers
New Orleans District
P.O. Box 60267
New Orleans, LA 70160-0267

All comments must be submitted by March 16, 2009.