From: tphinney1@mgmaher.com
To: MVN Environmental;
Subject: NOLA Environmental Comment - Orleans East Bank
Date: Friday, May 15, 2009 3:43:27 PM

FYI-Sent to Gib Owen today:

TO:Mr. Owen - Army Corps of Engineers
CC:Ms Midura - New Orleans City Council
CC:Mr Fielkow - New Orleans City Council
Sent Separately: Senator David Vitter,Senator Mary Landieu, Congressman Steve Scalise

Dear Mr. Owen,

I'm a Lakeview resident who's house was flooded by the post-Katrina flooding, so I'm very concerned about the plans for the 17th St Canal Pumping Station. I've also played volleyball at Coconut Beach for 18 years. I feel that there is a way to not only protect property and lives, but also accommodate an entity that has provided economic and social benefit to the community for over 20 years.

I understand that Tony's II had more comments than Coconut Beach. I feel that the reason for this is that most people, myself included, thought that a plan was chosen last year that "spared" Coconut Beach. It wasn't until this week that I discovered that some decision had been reversed. I feel this is extremely unfair to the people who invested a great deal of money in the complex after being assured that it would not be taken away. I can understand taking a small portion along the water for the station, but not enough to close the entire site.

Finally, I'm still incredulous that the pumping station that was built after Katrina was a temporary one! When it was almost complete and discussions turned to a "permanent" station I could not believe it. I feel that a great deal of taxpayer money was wasted. Had the "temporary" station been designed to be converted to a permanent one it would have saved taxpayer money and could probably have been built on nearly the same footprint, avoiding all the controversy that is occurring today.

Regards,
Tim Phinney
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