

**Associated General Contractors of America
Comments for Lt. Col. Mike Burt
February 7, 2003**

Final

SLIDES

TEXT

1. Corps seal

Greetings. I am Lt. Col. Michael Burt, deputy district engineer of the New Orleans District. Col. Rowan was unable to attend but sends his regards.

2. Title Slide --
Associated General
Contractors of America
February 5-7, 2003

Before I begin I'd like to call your attention to the district's construction advertising schedule for next year that's available to anyone interested. Please help yourself to the information.

3. Graphic:
Topics
*Funding
*Construction Projects
*Safety Award

My topics this morning will cover our FY 2003 program and upcoming work. I'll then hand out the district's annual Safety Awards.

4. Graphic: NOD FY
2003 President's Budget
Bullet:
\$287 M Regular Appro.
\$50 M Coastal Restor.
\$2 M Support for Others
\$14 M Other Programs
PAS, CAP, FCCE
\$25 M Local Interests

The President's Fiscal Year 2003 budget includes \$287 million for the New Orleans District. We anticipate receiving \$50 million for coastal restoration efforts, \$2 million for our Support for Others program, and \$14 million for programs such as Planning Assistance to States.

\$378 M (Total)

5. Photo: Baton Rouge Front, Phase II

As for construction contracts to be awarded this fiscal year, I'll begin with the Mississippi River and Tributaries project where we expect to award a two-week, two-blocks-long levee contract at the Baton Rouge Riverfront, once we identify an appropriate borrow pit.

6. Photo: Alhambra to Hohen-Solms levee

We plan to address some gap closures along the east bank, and to enlarge the Alhambra (all HAHM bra) to Hohen Solms (HOE-en SEWMS) and Hohen-Solms to Modeste (MOE dess tee) levees.

7. Graphic: FY03, Atch contracts

To be awarded (7):
Melville Front & Ring Levee; Krotz Springs Front & Ring Levee; W-52 Levee; E-69/73 Levee; Wax Lake Outlet West Levee; Wax Lake West Drainage Structure; and West Bayou Sale North Bend Levee

In the Atchafalaya Basin, we'll let seven contracts at these locations, if funds are available. (*Pause....*)

8. Graphic: Morganza to the Gulf Study map

Switching to hurricane protection... The Chief of Engineers signed the Morganza to the Gulf Report back in August. It has been forwarded to Congress for authorization. Total costs for the project are estimated at \$680 million. Construction is scheduled to begin in FY 2005.

9. Graphic: Morganza to Gulf, Hwy. 57 Alignment

The plan authorizes improvements to existing levees and construction of 72 miles of new levees south of Houma, construction of nine 56-foot-wide sector gate structures in various waterways, one 125-foot floodgate in the Gulf Intracoastal Waterway (GIWW) near Bayou Lafourche, and two 125-foot floodgates adjacent to one another in the GIWW near Houma.

10. Map: Houma Canal (200'w, 1,200'l, 15'd)

A prominent feature of the Morganza to the Gulf project is the multi-purpose Houma Navigation Canal Lock. It is currently in the design phase.

11. Photo: aerial, St. Rose

Contracts scheduled for award this fiscal year on the Lake Pontchartrain and Vicinity Hurricane Protection Project in St. Charles Parish include a floodgate at the Illinois Central Railroad, a levee enlargement in Reach 2B and a closure at the Gulf South Pipeline.

12. Photo: Orleans Parish, P.S. #6

In Orleans Parish, we'll award a contract for fronting protection at Pump Station #3, similar to work shown here at P.S. #6.

13. Photo: N.O. East back levee

And we'll award a levee contract to enlarge the New Orleans East Back Levee along the GIWW near Michoud (ME shoe).

14. Photo: aerial, Bayous Dupre and Bienvenue

We also plan to award a levee enlargement contract between the Bayou Bienvenue (be IN vin new) and Dupre (DO pree) structures.

15. Harvey Canal
On the West Bank and Vicinity Hurricane Protection Project, we will award a contract for a sector gate complex in the Harvey Canal.
16. Photo: Lake Cata. at Bayou Segnette
And we have a contract scheduled for award from the Lake Cataouatche (cat ah watch ee) Pump Station to Bayou Segnette (SIGG net) State Park.
17. Photo: SELA, Orleans Parish
On the Southeast Louisiana Urban Flood Control project, we plan to award one contract in Orleans Parish...
18. Photo: SELA, Jeff Parish
... and 13 in Jefferson Parish by the end of this fiscal year.
19. MRGO Dredging
Moving now to the maintenance of our waterways ... on the Mississippi River Gulf Outlet we will award one contract in the spring for non-continuous cutterhead dredging in the channel, a second cutterhead job in the summer that will restore Breton Island, and a third contract in late summer depending on channel conditions.
20. Photos: aerial, dredging in SWP, dredging NO Harbor
Show both on screen at the same time
Also dependent on channel conditions are the 11 contracts scheduled for award for dredging on the Mississippi River—nine in Southwest Pass and two in the New Orleans harbor.
21. Photo: dredging, Berwick Bay
We will award several contracts on the Atchafalaya River system ...two contracts, one in the spring and another in the fall for dredging in Berwick Bay; and routine dredging contracts on the bar channel, the bay and horseshoe.

22. Photo: aerial, towed oil rig

A non-routine contract is scheduled for award this fiscal year on Bayou Chene (shane) where dredging is needed for the movement of a large oil component.

23. IHNC

Along the GIWW, we recently awarded a contract for guidewall and dolphin repairs on the IHNC. Future work to replace two dolphins at Calcasieu Lock is currently in the plans and specs stage.

24. Aerial, Port Allen Lock

If funding becomes available, we will award a contract for construction of a new office building at Port Allen Lock.

25. Aerial, Calcasieu River

And in the Lake Charles area, we'll award three contracts on the Calcasieu River.

26. Infrared: West Bay

As for coastal projects constructed under the Breaux Act, New Orleans District will award one contract in early spring -- the West Bay Sediment Diversion project. The project will be located about 5 miles above Head of Passes. The diversion will create, nourish and maintain about 10,000 acres of marsh.

27. LCA study area map

In addition to addressing coastal land loss under the Breaux Act, the district, together with the state of Louisiana, is currently managing a comprehensive coastwide ecosystem restoration study, referred to as LCA. LCA will identify long-range, large-scale ecosystem restoration strategies across coastal Louisiana that will total an estimated \$14 billion over the next 30 years.

28. Davis Pond

That's it for contracts. But before I move on to present the safety awards, I'd like to take a minute to thank all the contractors who work for the Corps, and who construct the projects that come about as a result of stakeholder requests. Early last year, we completed construction of the Davis Pond Freshwater Diversion Structure. During the six-year construction period, seven contractors – Maharrey (muh harry)- Houston, Pittman, River Road, Weeks Marine, Souter (s outer), Dean Equipment and J. Caldarera – did an excellent job building a project that will help restore the state's wetlands for many years to come. As partners in creating projects, we thank you and look forward to continued relationships that enable the good folks of Louisiana to live and prosper here.

29. Graphic: Safety

It is now my pleasure to present safety awards to those companies who have maintained the highest standards of safety while on the job.

30. Safety Graphic
Bullet:
Safety Award
To
Dredging Contractor
Large Business Contr.
(Land or Marine)
Small Business Contr.
(Land or Marine)

For the past ten years, New Orleans District's Safety Office has been presenting annual safety awards to contractors with the best safety records. The categories are for Dredging, Large Business and Small Business.

31. Photo: SWP Jetties
Bullet: Safety Award,
Outstanding Dredging
Contractor,
Weeks Marine Inc.

We plan safety into every job with the same diligence and forethought as other project features. And we're proud to recognize contractors who place a high priority on safety, too. With that in mind, when the statistics were calculated for our contractors working in the dredging industry in 2002, Weeks Marine came out on top with an impressive 193,527 man hours worked without a recorded accident. Would someone from Weeks Marine please come forward to accept this plaque.

32. Photo: Hollygrove
Bullet: Safety Award,
Outstanding Land
Contractor,
Angelo Iafrate
Construction Company

Similarly, our Large Business Contractor clocked in 186,125 man hours without a single accident. Credit goes to Angelo Iafrate (EYE a fraidie) Construction Company for providing a safe working environment. Would someone from Angelo Iafrate please come forward to accept this well-earned recognition.

33. Photo: Angola
Bullet: Safety Award,
Small Business
Contractor,
Merrick Construction
Company

Now to recognize our Small Business Contractor of the Year. I'm proud to recognize Merrick Construction Company for their 42,346 hours of work without a recorded accident. It's great doing business with a company who makes safety a #1 priority. Would someone from Merrick Construction please come forward?

34. Seal Obverse

Closing comments.