



## Corps Hurricane Response

*Task Force Hope Status Report*

*February 6, 2007*

# Corps Awards \$52.5M Contract for Pumps

*Pump manufacturing  
contract goes to  
local firm*

**T**he U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Hurricane Protection Office (HPO), has awarded a contract of \$52,560,000 to M.R. Pittman Group, LLC, of Harahan, La., for the manufacture of vertical flow pump systems to be installed at the 17<sup>th</sup> Street and London Avenue Canals.

This contract calls for the manufacture of 19 vertical pumps. Once manufactured, 11 of the 19 pumps will be installed at 17<sup>th</sup> Street Canal to provide that site with 7,600 cubic feet per second (cfs) in pumping capacity. The remaining eight pumps will be installed on the London Avenue Canal, bringing its capacity to slightly more than 5,000 cfs. Currently, the 17<sup>th</sup> Street and London Avenue canals can pump 4,060 cfs and 2,800 cfs, respectively. (One cubic foot = approximately 7.5 gallons.)

The vertical pumps will be supplied two and three at a time as they are manufactured, with delivery starting around the end of April. A separate contract is currently being advertised to build the pump structure and install the pumps; this contract will be



**This photo, taken last summer, shows pumps being tested at the 17th Street Canal. New pumps on order for 17th Street and London Avenue Canals will dramatically increase pumping capacity at both outfall canals.** (USACE Photo)


awarded very soon.

Installation will begin as the pumps arrive, and full pump capacity will be reached based on the final results of the contract award.

“Because of our work at the outfall canals, the City of New Orleans is better protected from extreme events than it has ever been,” said Col. Jeff Bedey, Commander of the Hurricane Protection Office. “The current closure structures and new vertical pumps are temporary until we have a permanent solution in place.”

This contract is among the largest contracts awarded by the Corps for

the outfall canals to date. Prior to this award, approximately \$94M had been spent on the 17th Street Canal structures, \$57M on London Avenue Canal and \$69M on Orleans Avenue Canal. (No new pumps are being added to Orleans Avenue Canal because that site is already at full capacity, 2,200 cfs.)

Projects at the outfall canals are 100% federally funded with no local cost share. 

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Safety is our priority

# Corps and FEMA Release At-Risk Levee List

By Susan Spaht

**A**fter Hurricane Katrina, Congress directed FEMA and the Corps of Engineers to identify at-risk levees nationwide. The Corps recently released a list of 122 levees around the country that pose an unacceptable risk of failing in a major flood. None of these are in Louisiana

The Corps inspects almost 2,000 levees nationwide; most were built by the Corps and turned over to local authorities which are responsible for maintaining them.

Maj. Gen. Don Riley, Director of Civil Works for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, released an open letter which accompanied the Corps' at-risk levee announcement.

**Maj. Gen. Riley's letter:**

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' most recent investigations into nationwide levee system performance have revealed the need for a consistent, comprehensive and risk-informed approach to improve public

safety.

Our goal is an informed public, empowered to take responsibility for its safety; a clear, national levee safety policy and standards; and sustainable flood damage reduction systems.

Last year, Congress appropriated funds for the Corps to initiate a national levee inventory and assessment program to determine the status and condition of our nation's levees.

The Corps began entering inventory data for the nearly 2,000 projects in the federal levee system. The data is entered as levee inspections are reviewed with local levee boards, which are responsible for operating

and maintaining levees.

The Corps inspects levees eligible for federal rehabilitation assistance. To ensure eligibility, levees must meet acceptable maintenance standards.

The Corps is informing levee owners of maintenance status changes and ensuring maintenance requirements are met. In addition, the Corps agreed to a one-year maintenance deficiency grace period, which will allow for corrections before a levee is removed from the program.

Finally, the Corps is working closely with federal, state and local partners toward improving the safety and reliability of our national levees. Our intent is to inform the public so people understand the risks they face and can act to improve their safety.



Maj. Gen. Riley

*Don Riley*

### Contact Information

| Topic                                                                                     | Phone          | Organization                        |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|-------------------------------------|
| New Orleans District work                                                                 | (504) 862-2201 | New Orleans District Public Affairs |
| Task Force Hope - Overall hurricane protection system restoration, repair and improvement | (504) 862-1836 | Task Force Hope Public Affairs      |
| Debris Removal in Louisiana                                                               | (504) 681-2317 | Louisiana Recovery Field Office     |

The *Status Report Newsletter* supports the information program for Task Force Hope and its stakeholders. It also serves as the primary tool for accurately transmitting the hurricane recovery work to stakeholders. This is an online publication and open to public distribution. This issue and past issues can be found at: [www.mvn.usace.army.mil/hps](http://www.mvn.usace.army.mil/hps)

Comments and questions may be sent to the Status Report Newsletter editor at: [b2fwdpao@usace.army.mil](mailto:b2fwdpao@usace.army.mil)

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**Tune In**

**on Tuesday Evenings**



Representatives from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers appear regularly at 7:00 & 11:00 p.m. on Tuesdays on the program "A Greater New Orleans—Road to Recovery" on WLAE-TV.

On **Feb. 6**, Hurricane Protection Office Commander Col. Jeffrey Bedey will appear; and on **Feb. 13**, New Orleans District Commander Col. Richard Wagenaar is the featured speaker.



An LaRFO contract crew takes down a dead tree on New Orleans' West Bank. (USACE Photo)

## Dead Tree Removal Program Underway by LaRFO

**T**he Corps of Engineers, through its Louisiana Recovery Field Office (LaRFO), has been assigned the FEMA mission to remove trees killed by storms. The Corps and its contract crews are removing large stands of salt-water killed trees as well as dead trees along the rights-of-way requested by municipalities.

Dead trees are hazards that threaten homes, lives, and other property whenever a strong wind blows or the dead tree finally falls because of the normal decay process.

Additionally, dead trees create economic and esthetic eye-sores. A fallen tree could easily turn out lights in a neighborhood or an entire city ward, and could block emergency crews from priority missions.



For more information, go to: <http://www.faceofthecorps.com/>

### LaRFO Missions Update

**Debris Mission Total**

27,722.998 cu. yds.

**Debris Removed Total**

26,619.313 cu. yds.

**Demolition Mission**

17,804 structures

**Demolition Completed**

5,346 structures

**Tires Removed**

170,000

### Pump Capacity Report

17th Street Canal.....4,060 cfs

London Avenue Canal....2,800 cfs

Orleans Avenue Canal... 2,200 cfs

*As of Feb. 5, 2007*

**Note:** The Status Report Newsletter will give weekly reports on the pump capacity of the three temporary outfall canals under construction.

For more details, please visit this Web site:

[www.mvn.usace.army.mil/hps/pumpcomp.htm](http://www.mvn.usace.army.mil/hps/pumpcomp.htm)

### Contracts Awarded by Corps of Engineers

| <u>Company</u>                                                      | <u>Amount of Contract</u> | <u>Scope of Work</u>                                                              |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| FFEB JV of Metairie, LA                                             | \$100M<br>IDIQ*           | A/E Geotechnical Studies & Investigations                                         |
| Bioengineering Group – Arcadis LLC, New Orleans, LA                 | \$150M<br>IDIQ*           | A/E design, engineering during construction; and construction management services |
| RES Contractors, Pierre Part, LA                                    | \$1.4M                    | Replace electric engine with diesel engine at Westwego Pump Station               |
| Allen Wright Enterprises, Inc./ Hamp's Construction New Orleans, LA | \$8.8M                    | New generator & water well, Westminster/Lincolnshire Pump Station                 |
| Southern Services & Equipment, Inc., St. Bernard, LA                | \$800,000                 | Empire Floodgate damage repairs                                                   |
| B&K Construction Mandeville, LA                                     | \$31M                     | Gardere Canal improvements                                                        |
| Cycle Construction Co. Kenner, LA                                   | \$2.3M                    | Floodwall pile load tests                                                         |

*\*Indefinite Delivery/Indefinite Quantity*

## Faces of Hope

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

# Pump Station & Storm-Proofing Team Repairing Non-Federal Pump Stations

### Editor's Note:

Under the 3<sup>rd</sup> Emergency Supplemental, Congress appropriated funds for the repair of non-federal (Parish-owned) interior pump stations in Orleans, Jefferson, St. Bernard and Plaquemines Parishes. Under the 4<sup>th</sup> Emergency Supplemental, Congress appropriated funds for the storm-proofing of pump stations.

## Bolinger heading Corps of Engineers' Interior Pump Station Team

By Susan Spaht

**D**aniel Bolinger, a Civil Engineer and Corps of Engineers contractor, is a Senior Project Manager assigned to the non-federal pump station repair and storm-proofing team. Since so much of the four-parish area is at or below sea level, the area depends on the interior pump stations to pump rain and storm water out of the City of New Orleans and surrounding area.

Of the 73 pump stations in the area, 65 were damaged by Hurricane Katrina. The pump station repair team has 26 repair projects in progress for these stations.

"Some of the pump stations were severely damaged and some sustained only minor damage," said Bolinger, a New Orleans native who received his master's degree in Civil Engineering from the University of New Orleans. "Even though some were operational, their operational reliability was unknown because of saltwater intrusion.

"In Orleans Parish, we first repaired the 22 large pump motors to rewind the electrical components that were damaged by the storm surge salt water," Bolinger explained. "At the same time, our team made signifi-



This is the Corps' pump station and storm-proofing team; from left are, Project Manager Chris Sanchez, Senior Project Manager Daniel Bolinger, Project Manager Avis Gaines, Project Manager Drew Walsh, Senior Project Manager Dan Bradley, and Branch Chief Jim St. Germain. (USACE Photo by Susan Spaht)



Members of the Corps' Project Delivery Team inspect re-wound motors at Orleans Pump Station #6. These motors were installed in 1915, were damaged by Hurricane Katrina, and repaired recently by the Corps of Engineers. They are again in superb working order. (USACE Photo)

cant roof repairs."

The pump stations in Orleans Parish are, in many cases, over 100 years old. "But these pumps are in great shape," Bolinger offered, "because

the city has maintained them quite well."

The huge horizontal pumps were designed and built by the New Or-


Continued on page 5

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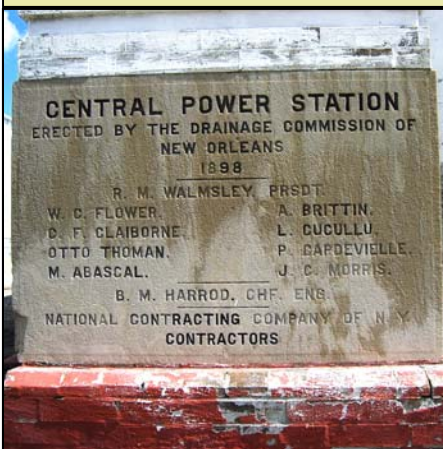
leans Sewerage & Water Board. "Their simplicity of design and dependability are a tribute to the Sewerage & Water Board and their personnel," said Bolinger.

The storm damage to Jefferson Parish pump stations was minor. "Right now, Jefferson Parish is 100%; all the repair work is complete," according to Bolinger. "In St. Bernard and Plaquemines Parishes, we are working with FEMA to provide temporary portable pumps for the pump stations while the repair work continues.

"Our on-going effort is to assess and implement measures to storm-proof all the pump stations," added Bolinger. "We are in the process of a detailed technical storm-proofing study to determine the most effective means to do this."

Bolinger concluded with: "In Jefferson and Orleans Parishes, the pump stations are working at their normal operational pumping capacity. In addition, the closure gates and pumps at the outfall canals at Lake Pontchartrain are operational. So, the City is well-protected for the next Hurricane Season." 

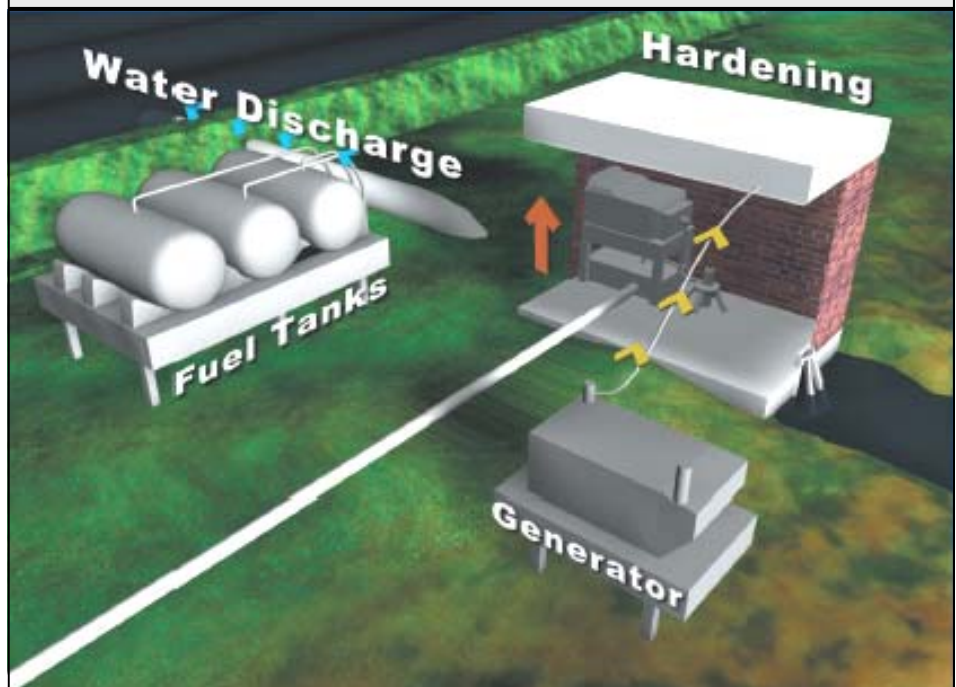
### Century-old New Orleans Pump Station well-built and well-maintained



Plaque commemorating construction of the Sewerage & Water Board's Central Power Station, dated 1898.

(USACE Photo)

## Corps To Provide Storm-Proofing of Non-Federal Pump Stations in Orleans and Jefferson Parishes



In the near future, the Corps of Engineers will be providing storm-proofing of interior, non-federal pump stations in both Orleans and Jefferson Parishes.

This USACE illustration demonstrates some of the features the Corps will be providing. These storm-proofing measures are designed to help maintain pump station operation during and after storms, and to provide protection against hurricane-force winds and storm surges that might inundate the project area.

#### Storm-proofing features will include:

- Exterior operator safehouses, or
- Interior pump station hardened operator control rooms
- Providing remote operation of some pump stations
- Hardening roofs
- Strengthening of structures
- Flood-proofing structures
- Storm-proofing doors and windows
- Elevation of pump drives and switch gear
- Protection of existing back-up power
- Additional back-up power
- Waterproofing electrical and ancillary equipment
- Providing fresh water wells

