

**Lilly Bayou Control Structure Groundbreaking Ceremony  
Comite River Diversion Project  
Bullets for Col. Peter Rowan, March 17, 2003**

**Welcome. Groundbreaking.**

- Lilly Bayou Control Structure (a weir/channel stage control structure) controls amount of water west of Hwy 61 (at the far western end of the channel) from the diversion channel into Cooper Bayou and into the Mississippi River.
- \$2.42 M awarded to James Construction Group of B.R.
- One year contract
- 1<sup>st</sup> construction contract out of 11 for the Comite River Diversion Project

**Purpose:** Reduce flood stages on the Comite from the diversion point to the confluence with the Amite River; on the Amite from the confluence with the Comite near Denham Springs to Port Vincent; and on various area creeks, anals, and bayous responsible for back flooding in the Comite River Basin.

- Will protect more than half a million people.

**Comite Project:**

- Building an east-west 12-mile diversion channel (from Comite to Mspi R)
- 4 drop structures intersecting bayous will minimize amount of water flowing into bayous south of the diversion channel  
(Baton Rouge, Cypress & White bayous and drainage at McHugh Rd).
- Relocate 4 highway bridges and two railroad bridges
- Total 8-year construction project (depending on funds)
- Total \$163 Million project, \$115 M Feds, \$48 M non

**Thanks to:**

**Congressman Baker**, a strong project proponent; worked hard for funding

**Partners:**

- \* La. DOTD (Kam Movassaghi, Secretary),
  - \* City of Baton Rouge/East BR Parish  
(Bobby Simpson, Mayor/President),
  - \* Amite River Basin Commission  
(Dietmar Rietschier (Deet mar Rite shur, Executive Director,  
and Pat Bell, President).
- Thanks for hard work; agreeing on issues such as  
local sponsor responsibilities

**Larry Poindexter**, our Senior PM

**NOD's Real Estate** team got the acquisition job done in time, and will acquire ROW for the channel in time for 10 other contract awards.