DAEN-CWP-C (LMNPD-F, 8 Aug 84) 2nd End SUBJECT: Lake Pontchartrain, Louisiana, and Vicinity Hurricane Protection Project

HQ, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Washington, D.C. 20314-10007 FEB 1985

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TO: Commander, Lower Mississippi Valley Division

1. I have reviewed the revised Post Authorization Change (PAC) Notification Report, the Reevaluation Report and Final Supplement I to the Environmental Impact Statement. I find that the High Level Plan will provide the New Orleans area the authorized standard project hurricane level of protection at a total project Savings cost of about \$103 million less than the Barrier Plan. in remaining costs would be about \$146 million. Remaining benefits of the High Level Plan are about 10% greater than those of the Barrier Plan. Implementation of the High Level Plan will avoid the adverse environmental impacts of construction of the barriers and is environmentally superior to the authorized Barrier Plan. Mitigation concepts are included in the Recvaluation Report and development of a specific mitigation plan is scheduled for completion in 1985. There are no basic differences in the local cooperation requirements of either plan. Therefore, I concur with the recommendations of the New Orleans District and Lower Mississippi Valley Division Commanders and approve the PAC.

2. The Final Supplement I to the Environmental Impact Statement \*\* was filed with EPA on 29 November 1984, and given notice in the Federal Register on 7 December 1984. The 30 day administrative review period has expired, and I have reviewed the comments received and have signed the Record of Decision adopting the High Level Plan.

3. Approval authority for the reevaluation report is delegated in accordance with ER 1105-2-10, paragraph 1-5a(3).

4. Development and finalization of a specific mitigation plan should proceed expeditiously.

FOR THE COMMANDER:

JHN F. WALL Major General, USA Disector of Civil Works

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CF: New Orleans Dist.

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