



**US Army Corps  
of Engineers**  
New Orleans District

# News Release

Public Affairs Office  
504-862-2201

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

---

## **For Immediate Release**

**Contact:** Julie Morgan, 504-862-2587

September 21, 2007

## **Corps closes Company Canal**

*Harvey Canal being monitored*

NEW ORLEANS – Col. Alvin B. Lee, New Orleans District Engineer, has announced the closing of the Company Canal in Westwego due to high tides expected from a low pressure area currently located off the coast of the Florida panhandle. Local officials have been notified and support the closure.

The Corps is taking the precautionary steps of closing the canal due to the uncertainty of the storm's track and the time it takes to complete closure of the canal gate. The gate will be completely closed by the end of the day.

A road ramp adjacent to the canal will also be closed with an earthen embankment. The canal, used for commercial fisheries and marsh tours, should be reopened early next week as conditions permit.

The Corps used emergency funds to construct the gate for the purpose of protecting the canal businesses and the Westwego area. The Corps awarded a contract to Cajun Constructors for \$14.7 million in May after it was determined during post-Katrina inspections that the floodwall system surrounding the canal was inadequate. The contractor has worked seven days a week since then to ensure that the structure was operational in time for the 2007 hurricane season. The contract will be completed in December 2007.

The Corps is also monitoring the sector gate at Harvey Canal. Current elevations are at .8 feet and would be closed if water elevation reaches and is expected to exceed +3 feet.

###