



US Army Corps
of Engineers®
New Orleans District

News Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: John Wm. Hall, 504-862-2545
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UPDATE, May 24, 2006: *This forum has been changed to focus on projects in Louisiana. The initial announcement May 23 said Louisiana and Mississippi. However, attendees interested in Mississippi can be helped. First paragraph is corrected below.*

Corps invites small, large businesses to forum on \$6 billion of hurricane recovery opportunities

NEW ORLEANS—The U. S. Army Corps of Engineers will hold an industry forum in New Orleans June 2 to highlight contracting opportunities in the next four years to improve hurricane protection in Louisiana ~~and Mississippi~~.

Representatives of architectural and engineering firms and construction companies large and small are expected to attend. The forum will be held in conjunction with the Society of American Military Engineers' 2006 Joint Engineer Education and Training Conference & Expo, at the New Orleans Marriott Hotel, 555 Canal Street.

The Corps' Task Force Hope will oversee \$6 billion of hurricane protection improvements. Levees, floodwalls and other projects will require an unprecedented volume of engineering design and construction work. It will be one of the largest disaster recovery operations in Corps of Engineers history.

The forum will be opened at 8 a.m. by Brig. Gen. Robert Crear, commander of the Corps' Mississippi Valley Division. Next will be overviews of the Hurricane Protection System, the newly created Hurricane Protection Office, the Protection Restoration Office, and programs managed by the Corps' Louisiana Recovery Field Office.

Representatives of the Corps' Small Business Office will discuss small business set-asides and subcontracting.

After the formal session, Corps senior program managers will be available to answer questions and give details on programs and projects. The fiscal year 2006 acquisition strategy will be available to contractors, as will an overview of projected fiscal year 2007 to 2010 projects.

INFORMATION AND CONTACTS

Web site for the forum

<http://www.mvn.usace.army.mil/industryforum.htm>

Small business. Randy Marchiafava, Deputy for Small Business, New Orleans District, 504-862-2627,

Randy.J.Marchiafava@mvn02.usace.army.mil.

General contracting. Dianne Allen, Contracting Division, New Orleans District, 504-862-1120, Dianne.Allen@mvn02.usace.army.mil.

INDUSTRY FORUM AGENDA

8 a.m. to 8:15 a.m.

Opening remarks

Brig. Gen. Robert Crear, commander, Mississippi Valley Division, Corps of Engineers

8:15 a.m. to 8:45 a.m.

Hurricane Protection System overview

Dan Hitchings, director, Task Force Hope, Corps of Engineers

8:45 a.m. to 9:15 a.m.

Hurricane Protection Office (HPO) program review

Eddie Belk, acting deputy director, HPO, Corps of Engineers

9:15 a.m. to 9:45 a.m.

New Orleans District Protection Restoration Office (PRO) program review

9:45 a.m. to 10 a.m. -- Break

10 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.

Louisiana RFO (Recovery Field Office) program review

10:30 a.m. to 10:45 a.m.

Small Business Program,

Randy Marchiafava, deputy for small business, New Orleans District

Paul Tuccio, Small Business, Corps of Engineers, Washington, D.C.

10:45 a.m. to 11:15 a.m.

Industry Prospective **ASCE, Design Build Institute**

11:15 a.m. to Noon

Networking