



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

# News Release

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## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Contact: Julie T. Morgan, 504-862-2587

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## **Mississippi River Gulf Outlet public meeting scheduled for Saturday, Oct. 28, at UNO**

NEW ORLEANS – What are the most important things for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to consider in its MRGO Deep Draft Deauthorization Study. MRGO stands for Mississippi River Gulf Outlet?

“We are asking the public to answer this question. We have scheduled a public meeting so people can express themselves on the MRGO study,” said Julie T. Morgan, a Corps outreach coordinator.

The meeting is set **Saturday, Oct. 28** at the University of New Orleans’ main or lakefront campus. It will be in the UNO Lindy Boggs International Conference Center, 2045 Lakeshore Drive, near the end of Elysian Fields Avenue. Click on map and look for building 34:  
<http://www.uno.edu/university/maps/maincamp.cfm>

Open house begins at 9 a.m., the Corps’ presentation at 10 a.m. and public comments at 10:30 a.m.

Congress authorized the MRGO in 1956 to provide a shorter route for deep-draft ocean ships to the inner harbor of the Port of New Orleans. Now, Congress has directed the Corps to develop a plan to de-authorize deep-draft navigation on the MRGO, a 76-mile manmade canal linking the Gulf of Mexico and the ports’ Industrial Canal.

Comments from members of the public will appear in the Interim Report prepared to inform the Congress about changing the authorized dimensions of the MRGO, including options for closing the channel to navigation. The report is scheduled for completion by Dec. 15, 2006. The final recommended plan will be part of the December 2007 Louisiana Coastal Protection and Restoration (LaCPR) Project report.

