

Media Advisory

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What: Media briefing about the New Orleans hurricane protection system and release of the Interagency Performance Evaluation Team's Draft Final Report.

Who: Chairman Donald E. Powell, Federal Coordinator of Gulf Coast Rebuilding

Lt. Gen. Carl Strock, Chief of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Dr. Ed Link, Senior Fellow and Senior Research Engineer, University of Maryland

When: Thursday, June 1, 2006, 9:30-10:30 a.m.

Where: New Orleans Marriott Hotel, 555 Canal Street, Galerie 5, 2nd floor

Background: The Office of the Federal Coordinator for Gulf Coast Rebuilding coordinates the long-term Federal rebuilding efforts by working with state and local officials to focus on a set of prioritized, integrated and long-term initiatives to rebuild the region, such as restoring long-term safety and security, renewing economic activity, and revitalizing communities.

The Corps of Engineers is responsible for the design, repair, improvement and new construction of projects for the New Orleans area Hurricane Protection System. The Interagency Performance Evaluation Task Force (IPET) study, commissioned by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, is being released on June 1.

Dr. Ed Link, senior fellow and senior research engineer at the University of Maryland, will review key findings from the IPET draft final report,

which is the work of about 150 of the nation's leading engineers and scientists from government (federal, state and local agencies), academia and private industry. These experts used some of the most advanced scientific and engineering methods and tools in their comprehensive study of the New Orleans and southeast Louisiana hurricane protection system. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers incorporated findings from IPET in its work to restore New Orleans Hurricane Protection System to the pre-Katrina hurricane protection level.

Questions & Answers: Following comments, Chairman Powell, General Strock and Dr. Link will be available for questions.