



US Army Corps
of Engineers®
New Orleans District

News Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Kathy Gibbs, 504-862-2201
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Miss. River Commission coming to La., Aug. 25

Your chance to present ideas and question the Corps of Engineers

NEW ORLEANS – What’s your interest: hurricane protection, coastal restoration, Atchafalaya Basin, wetlands regulation, inland navigation?

Want to give the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers a piece of your mind?
Have questions to ask?

Your opportunity will sail into Louisiana aboard the Motor Vessel *Mississippi*—for a public meeting of the Mississippi River Commission in Houma on Aug. 25.

“The commission’s seven members are well positioned to give you frank answers on Corps issues,” said Col. Richard Wagenaar, commander of the New Orleans District.

“Their degree of independence springs from nomination by the President and confirmation by the Senate. Under the law, the members advise the Corps’ chief of engineers and the secretary of the Army.”

The public meeting begins at 9 a.m. The MV *Mississippi*, a 241-foot Corps towboat, will be at the Cenac Towing Co. dock, 141 Bayou Dularge Road, Houma.

The Louisiana public meeting will conclude the 2006 Low-Water Inspection Trip, which began Aug. 14 in La Crosse, Wis. All public meeting proceedings, including citizens’ statements and members’ responses, are stenographically recorded and available to the public.

The Mississippi River Commission includes three Corps generals responsible for the basin’s three great rivers: Brig. Gen. Robert Crear, the

commission president and Mississippi Valley Division commander; Brig. Gen. Bruce A. Berwick, commander of the Great Lakes and Ohio River Division, and Brig. Gen. Gregg F. Martin, commander of the Northwestern Division (Missouri River).

Houma public meeting agenda

- Brig. Gen. Crear reports on national and regional issues.
- Col. Wagenaar reports on the New Orleans District
- Members of the public present their views and ask questions.

The Mississippi River Commission was established in 1879. Staff support is provided by the Mississippi Valley Division, based in Vicksburg, Miss. The division directs the work of six Corps districts on the Mississippi River from the Gulf of Mexico to Canada.

Members of the Mississippi River Commission

Brig. Gen. Crear
Sam E. Angel, farmer, Lake Village, Ark.
R.D. James, civil engineer, New Madrid, Mo.
William Clifford Smith, civil engineer, Houma
Rear Adm. Samuel P. De Bow Jr., National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Silver Spring, Md.
Brig. Gen. Berwick, Cincinnati, Ohio
Brig. Gen. Martin, Portland, Ore.

Media: For interviews before the Houma public meeting, call 504-862-2201. Specify an interest and it may be possible to interview a project manager or other expert. Please board the MV *Mississippi* by 7:45 a.m.

Mississippi River Commission:

<http://www.mvd.usace.army.mil/MRC/index.php>