



**US Army Corps
of Engineers**

New Orleans District

News Release

www.mvn.usace.army.mil

Task Force Guardian

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Corps compensates landowners for property needed in flood control/hurricane protection system restoration

NEW ORLEANS – Landowners whose property is required as part of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' efforts to restore the hurricane and flood protection system will receive fair market value for any real estate interests acquired. The Corps is working to make the New Orleans levee system better and stronger than ever before.

Compensation for real estate will be determined on a case-by-case basis under these legal requirements:

- The federal government will pay landowners fair market value for their property.
- Licensed, independent real estate appraisers hired by the Corps of Engineers will determine fair market value using standard real estate procedures.
- The Corps may also pay homeowners benefits based on the Uniform Relocation Assistance (URA) and Real Property Acquisition Policies Act of 1970, as amended. These benefits may include comparable replacement housing, moving expenses, and incidental expenses.
- Assistance received from the Federal Emergency Management Administration (FEMA) for housing and incidental expenses may be deducted from the benefits paid under the URA in some cases.

For more information call the Corps' Yvonne Barbier at (504) 862-1666 or visit www.mvn.usace.army.mil/tfg. Task Force Guardian is a Corps of Engineers task force charged with the mission to repair to the New Orleans area federal flood control/hurricane protection system by June 2006.

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