



US Army Corps
of Engineers
Mississippi Valley Division



Corps Hurricane Response

Task Force Hope Status Report Newsletter

May 7, 2013

Corps issues notice to proceed for construction of permanent pumps

PCCP Constructors,
a Joint Venture
to construct Permanent Canal
Closures and Pumps
at three outfall canals

by Susan Spaht

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has issued a notice to proceed to PCCP Constructors Joint Venture for construction of the Permanent Canal Closures and Pumps (PCCP) at the London Ave., Orleans Ave., and 17th Street outfall canals. (see map) Last month the Corps reaffirmed its decision to award the contract to PCCP Constructors after several protests over the past two years among the final phase competitors. (see contract history on page 4)

The PCCP Constructors is comprised of Kiewit Louisiana Co., Traylor Bros., Inc., and the M.R. Pittman group, LLC. The contract award has been modified from \$629,500,000 to \$614,755,700. This value is based on PCCP Constructors' revised proposal received during the corrective action procedures.



The initial award of the contract to PCCP Constructors in September 2012 was protested by two of the final phase competitors. Upon review of the protests, the Corps undertook a voluntary corrective action to address the issues brought forward. At no time during the corrective action did the Corps' evaluation criteria change. Upon completion of its review and evaluation, the Corps confirmed that its contracting decision to award the contract to PCCP Constructors was fair and in compliance with all federal regulations.

"The Federal government has very stringent and specific regulations and laws that apply to all Federal contracts," said Tim Black, Chief of Contracting for the New Orleans District Corps of Engineers, "and we strictly adhere to those requirements. These regulations and laws were established to ensure that all who submit bids and offers for Federal contracts are treated fairly and equally."

Black furthered explained, "Part 33 of the Federal Acquisition Regula-

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PCCP Construction Footprints at Three Outfall Canals

17th Street Canal



Orleans Ave Canal



London Ave Canal



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tions (FAR) includes a detailed process on how to protest a contract award to ensure integrity in our acquisition selection. The purpose of the procedure is to ensure that everyone knows that everything is above board and fair in the Federal government source selection process.”

The Permanent Canal Closures and Pumps, commonly known as the Permanent Pumps, will provide permanent and more sustainable measures for reducing the risk of a 100-year level storm surge entering the three outfall canals. This risk reduction is currently being provided by interim closure structures and pumps. These temporary structures

were built at the mouths of all three outfall canals immediately following Hurricane Katrina in 2005, and were in place and performing before the start of the 2006 hurricane season.

The interim closure structures will continue to provide 100-year levels of storm surge risk reduction until the permanent pumps are constructed and operational. Since their construction in 2006, the temporary structures have performed as designed in five named tropical weather events, most recently during Hurricane Isaac.



Tim Black

The interim gates and pumps were installed with a life expectancy of five to seven years, the time that was anticipated for the permanent structures to be designed and constructed. Over the past seven years the Corps has regularly maintained these structures to keep them in dependable working order.

“The PCCP is the third largest construction contract in the \$14.6 billion Hurricane and Storm Damage Risk Reduction System that the Corps is

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building,” said Mike Park, Chief of Task Force Hope, “and these structures are an integral part of the surge defense system.” The two larger contracts were for the Inner Harbor Navigation Canal at Lake Borgne Surge Barrier (\$1.55 B), and the West Closure Complex (\$1.18 B).

“During the Project Partnership Agreement negotiation process, the Corps of Engineers listened to the non-Federal sponsor on this important project,” said Park, “and accommodated their concerns by including engineered features that would facilitate future modifications should those be authorized and funded.

“We are very pleased to have this contract awarded and to be moving closer to construction of the permanent structures.”



Mike Park

Construction of the Permanent Canal

Closures and Pumps is anticipated to begin this fall and is expected to take approximately 44 months to complete. PCCP Constructors JV will work on all three outfall canals simultaneously. The interim pumps and gates will remain in place and operational until the Permanent Pumps are constructed and operational. At that time all the interim pumps and gates will be dismantled.



17th Street Outfall Canal

Interim Structures at three Outfall Canals



London Ave. Outfall Canal



Orleans Ave. Outfall Canal

USACE Photos

PCCP Contract History

- April 2011** Corps awards contract to CBY. Two unsuccessful offerors protest to Government Accountability Office (GAO)
- August 2011** GAO sustains the two protests
Corps prepares for corrective action based on GAO recommendations
- Nov. 2011** CBY protests GAO recommendations, and the Corps' plan to follow those recommendations, to the U.S. Court of Federal Claims (COF)
Concurrent with the protest to CoF, two unsuccessful offerors file Agency protests over the Conflict of Interest investigation completed by the Corps
- May 2012** CoF denies the protest and affirms the Corps' decision to follow GAO's recommendations. The Corps denies the Agency protests and confirms the Conflict of Interest investigation was completed properly
- July 2012** Corps receives revised proposals from all offerors in the competitive range
- Sept. 2012** Corps announces award to PCCP Constructors JV
- Oct. 2012** Two unsuccessful offerors protest the award to GAO
- Nov. 2012** Corps agrees to do corrective action, GAO dismisses the protests
- Feb. 2013** Following a round of new discussions, Corps receives revised proposals from all offerors in the competitive range
- April 2013** Following the completion of corrective action procedures, the Corps reaffirms the award to PCCP JV, and their contract, previously awarded in Sept. 2012, is modified to incorporate the new PCCP JV Feb. 2013 revised proposal, and the sole Agency protest is voluntarily withdrawn
- May 6, 2013** Corps issues "notice to proceed" to PCCP Constructors JV



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It also serves as the primary tool for accurately transmitting the Corps' hurricane risk reduction efforts to stakeholders.

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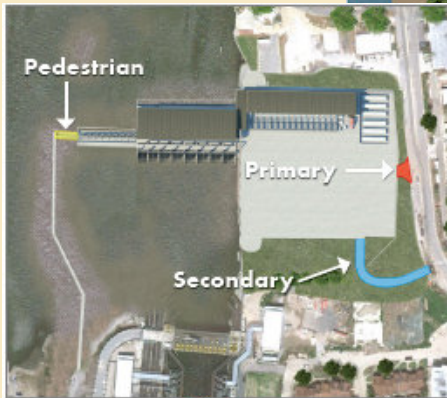
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Artist renderings of future permanent closure structures and pump stations at three Outfall Canals



Above: Cutaway illustration of closure structure and pump station building. Left: Proposed locations of permanent surge gates and pump stations at the three outfall canals. Illustrations: PCCP Constructors JV