



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
CORPS OF ENGINEERS, NEW ORLEANS DISTRICT
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7 June 2024

Regional Planning and
Environment Division, South

NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), Vicksburg District, published in the Federal Register a draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) addressing a proposed Federal Action on the Pearl River Basin titled "Pearl River Basin, Mississippi Federal Flood Risk Management Project". The USACE is notifying the public of its release in compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and the Council of Environmental Quality's Regulations for Implementing NEPA, Section 1506.6, Public Involvement.

The purpose of the DEIS is to evaluate flood risk management alternatives that can be implemented under Section 3104 of WRDA 2007 for the Section 211 Draft Final Integrated Feasibility Report and Environmental Impact Statement Titled, "Pearl River Basin, Mississippi Federal Flood Risk Management Project, Hinds & Rankin Counties Integrated Final Feasibility Study & Environmental Impact Statement (NFI Section 211 Report)" dated June 22, 2022. Section 3104 of the Water Resource Development Act (WRDA) of 2007, which modified Section 401(e)(3) of WRDA 1986, authorizes the Secretary of the Army to construct the National Economic Development (NED) plan, or the Locally Preferred Plan (LPP), or some combination thereof (CTO), subject to certain determinations.

Alternatives considered include the NFI Section 211 Report, and new alternatives developed through USACE and NFI collaboration (referred to as USACE-developed alternatives). The NFI alternatives include a "nonstructural plan" (Alternative A), a "levee plan" (Alternative B) and a "channel clearing/weir/levee plan" (Alternative C). The USACE-developed alternatives include a modified nonstructural plan proposing elevating/floodproofing/acquisition of structures (Alternative A1) and Combination Thereof Alternatives (CTO with/without new weir) which may combine Alternative A1 and flood damage risk reduction structural features with/without consideration of constructing a new weir (Alternative D and Alternative E, respectively). The NFI Alternatives A and B were determined not to be economically justified and were removed from further consideration early in the evaluation process.

The final array of alternatives includes the Nonstructural Plan (Alternative A1), the Locally Preferred Plan (Alternative C), the Preliminary NED Plan (Alternative D, CTO w/weir) and CTO wo/weir (Alternative E).

The 45-day review period begins 7 June and ends 22 July 2024. The DEIS is available online at the following weblink: <https://www.mvk.usace.army.mil/Missions/Programs-and-Project-Management/Project-Management/Pearl-River/>. Comments postmarked on or before the expiration date 22 July 2024 will be considered. Public Hearings are

planned for July 10 and 11, 2024. Specific details on the time and location of the public hearings will be posted on the project website.

Comments may be submitted by email to PearlRiverFRM@usace.army.mil, or by mail to Mr. Eric Williams; Chief, Environmental Branch, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers; Regional Planning and Environmental Division South; CEMVN-PDS; 7400 Leake Avenue; New Orleans, Louisiana 70118.

Sincerely,

Eric M. Williams
Chief, Environmental Planning Branch