Mark Wingate
Chief, Projects and Restoration Branch
US Army Corps of Engineers
New Orleans District

New Orleans District Section 408 Liaison
for Mississippi River Diversions

January 8, 2014
Expert Panel on Diversion Planning and Implementation
Section 408 Authority

- 33 USC 408 provides authority that the Secretary of the Army may permit alteration to existing Corps projects if the alteration:
  1) Does not impair the usefulness of the project; and
  2) Is not injurious to the public interest

- Approval authority delegated to Chief of Engineers for Major Alterations

- The District cannot issue a Section 404/10 Permit Decision until Section 408 approval is obtained
Section 408 Decision Making

- USACE Implementation Guidance dated 17 Nov 08
- Principles in USACE Decision Making: Lower Mississippi River Diversions (2 Aug 13)
- Overview of Applicant Requirements for Section 408 Request to Alter an Existing Federal Project Related to Proposed Lower Mississippi River Diversions (User’s Guide)
- Section 408 Process Flow Chart for Major River Diversions
**Mid-Barataria Diversion Conceptual Schematic**

"Cartoon Rendering"

- **Inflow Flume**: 16,000’
- **Flow**: 75,000 cfs
- **Guide Levees** (to be constructed to MRL/HSDRRS design standards)
- **NOV Levee**: +11.5’
- **Outfall Area**
- **NOGC Railroad** (Raise/Bridge)
- **LA-23** (Raise/Bridge)
- **MRT Levee**: +16’
- **Batture Trees** (to be Removed In Diversion Path)
- **Cofferdam** (MRL design standards)
- **Mississippi River**
- **Not to Scale**
Federal Projects Potentially Affected by Planned State of Louisiana Diversions

Mid-Barataria Diversion

Lafitte

Barataria Bay Waterway

NOV

Empire Lock

Grand Isle

BBBS

Key

LA State Planned Diversions
CWPPRA Project Locations