



**THE WATER INSTITUTE
OF THE GULF®**

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

The Water Institute to Host Expert Panel on Diversion Planning and Implementation Meeting

BATON ROUGE, La (August 24, 2016) – The Water Institute of the Gulf will host the seventh meeting of the Expert Panel on Diversion Planning and Implementation on August 31, 2016 at the Hilton Baton Rouge Capitol Center in the Heidelberg Conference Room. This session will be an opportunity for the panel to assess ongoing efforts in sediment diversion planning in Louisiana and for the public to participate in the process.

The expert panel was formed by the Institute, at the request of the Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority, to provide technical input, review, and guidance as plans are refined on diverting freshwater and sediment from the Mississippi and Atchafalaya rivers into adjacent estuarine basins to build, maintain, and sustain coastal wetlands.

The meeting will begin at 10:00 a.m. and will include a series of presentations and panel discussions on various topics, including the current status of planned sediment diversions projects, potential operational regimes, the role of adaptive management, and understanding and predicting how wetland vegetation responds to inundation. The meeting is open to the public and will include a period for public comment.

For more information on the panel and to view the meeting agenda and learn about downtown parking options, please visit <http://thewaterinstitute.org/river-diversion-expert-advisory-panel>.

About The Water Institute of the Gulf

The Water Institute of the Gulf is a not-for-profit, independent research and technical services resource for resilient coasts and sustainable water systems worldwide. The work of the Institute helps ensure livable communities and a thriving economy and environment. For more information, visit www.thewaterinstitute.org.

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