



State of Louisiana
Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Engineering and Design Contractor Selected for Mid-Barataria Sediment Diversion

BATON ROUGE - Louisiana's Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority (CPRA) has selected the AECOM Team to provide engineering, geotechnical, surveying, and other technical services for the Mid-Barataria Sediment Diversion project.

The Mid-Barataria Sediment Diversion will be the first controlled sediment diversion reconnecting the Mississippi River with its delta. A cornerstone of Louisiana's Coastal Master Plan, the diversion will provide sediment, water, and nutrients to Barataria basin in order to build, maintain, and sustain the wetlands. When complete, this project will complement the billions of dollars that have been or will be invested in marsh creation projects in the basin, which are being built by dredging sediment from the Mississippi River.

Earlier this year, CPRA issued a Request for Statement of Interest and Qualifications to eligible firms interested in the engineering and design portion of this project. Four teams submitted written proposals and a selection committee evaluated these proposals. In late June, CPRA conducted oral presentations with every team.

"This has been an extremely competitive process and we were fortunate to receive proposals from four quality teams. The State has full confidence in the AECOM Team's expertise and experience, and we are confident that they will help us design the largest and most complex coastal restoration project in Louisiana's history. They have a proven track record of tackling complex projects and achieving unparalleled results." said CPRA Executive Director, Michael Ellis.

AECOM is a globally-recognized engineering company and was recently ranked 1st on Engineering News Record's "Top 500 Design Firms" list for the 8th consecutive year. AECOM will serve as the prime firm with nearly 70 years of Southeast Louisiana presence. They are supported by a strategically-selected team of local companies.

The AECOM Team will play a critical role in an innovative project delivery method known as Construction Management at Risk (CMAR). Under this model, CPRA will hire the construction contractor during the early design phase to collaborate with the project team on engineering, constructability,



scheduling and costing. It is anticipated that CPRA will release a Request for Qualifications for CMAR services in the 3rd quarter of 2017.

Current preliminary designs for the project include an inlet channel, a gated structure at the Mississippi River Levee, a conveyance channel, a gated outlet structure at the future New Orleans to Venice back levee, interior drainage improvements, and highway and railroad alignment accommodations.

Engineering and design of this project will begin immediately and run concurrently with the permitting process required by the National Environmental Policy Act that is being led by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and G.E.C., Inc. Construction will begin soon after the engineering phase and the permitting process are complete.

To learn more about the Mid-Barataria Sediment Diversion, visit the program's webpage [HERE](#).

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Louisiana's Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority is the single state entity with authority to develop, articulate, implement, and enforce a comprehensive coastal restoration and protection Master Plan of unified vision to reduce hurricane storm surge flood impact, to restore our bountiful natural resources, to build land to protect our nation's critical energy infrastructure, and to secure Louisiana's coast now and for future generations.