



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
U.S. ARMY ENGINEER DIVISION, GREAT LAKES AND OHIO RIVER
CORPS OF ENGINEERS
550 MAIN STREET
CINCINNATI, OH 45202-3222

CELRD-PD-G

13 Jan 2013

MEMORANDUM FOR Commander, U.S. Army Engineer District, Chicago, Attention, Susanne Davis (CELRC-PM-PL), Chicago District, Corps of Engineers, 111 N. Canal Suite 600, Chicago, IL, 60606-7206

SUBJECT: Review Plan for Des Plaines River Phase I

1. The attached Review Plan (RP) for Des Plaines River Phase I was presented to the Great Lakes and Ohio River Division for approval in accordance with EC 1165-2-209 "Civil Works Review" dated 31 Jan 2010.
2. The project is located in Cook and Lake Counties, Illinois.
3. The purpose of this project is to reduce flood damages along the Des Plaines River. The Des Plaines River has a long history of flooding that has caused significant economic losses. The maximum flood of record, September 1986, caused an estimated \$35 million in damage to 10,000 dwellings and 263 business and industrial sites. More than 15,000 residents were evacuated from the flooded area. In this area of 33 municipalities along 67 miles of river in two counties, severe impacts to the area transportation networks were also identified and a large proportion of project benefits accrue to motorists. Average annual flood damage prevention benefits are estimated at \$6,000,000.
4. The project has two levees (Levee 37 and Levee 50), two expansions of existing reservoirs (Buffalo Creek Reservoir Expansion and Big Bend Lake Reservoir Expansion), one lateral storage area (Van Patten Woods Lateral storage area), one dam modification, (North Mill Creek Dam Modification) and a flood warning system required for levee operation, as described below. Both levees will meet Federal Emergency Management Agency certification requirements to provide 95 percent reliability in containing the 1 percent chance flood. Environmental mitigation for 24.8 acres of wetlands habitat losses will be provided by developing 65.00 acres of scrub-shrub and forested wetlands. The mitigation will be provided at four locations: 13.5 acres at the Buffalo Creek Reservoir site and 51.5 acres at the Van Patton Woods site.
5. The RP defines the scope and level of peer review for the activities to be performed for the subject project. The USACE LRD Review Management Organization (RMO) has reviewed the attached RP and concurs that it describes the scope of review for work phases and addresses all appropriate levels of review consistent with the requirements described in EC 1165-2-209.

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6. I concur with the recommendations of the RMO and approve the enclosed RP for the Des Plaines River Phase I project.

7. The District is requested to post the RP to its website. Prior to posting, the names of all individuals identified in the RP should be removed.

8. If you have any questions please contact Dr. Hank Jarboe, CELRD-PDP, at (513) 684-6050.


MARGARET W. BURCHAM
Brigadier General, USA
Commanding

Encl

1. Review Plan