

The area involved within the project area is in a developing section of New Orleans. It is served by the Gulf Intracoastal Waterway which has a depth of 12 feet over a width of 150 feet. It is just east of the Mississippi River Gulf Outlet. The Gulf Outlet has dimensions of 36-foot depth by 500-foot width and the recommended improvement for the channel eastward of the Mississippi River Gulf Outlet would be a channel 36 feet deep by 250 feet in width in the existing Gulf Intracoastal Waterway to its intersection with the Michoud Canal with the same dimensions which would be extended into the Michoud Canal with a turning basin at the northern end of the Michoud Canal with minimum dimensions of 800 feet by 800 feet.

Presently, this Canal is served by inland waterway equipment limited to vessels drawing not more than 12 feet, and on the basis that this developing area already has or is anticipating industries that will require deep draft vessel operations, we respectfully request your approval of the project.

At the present time, contingent upon authorization of the project, one company that imports foreign vehicles will provide an annual benefit of \$188,000, and one company dealing with fertilizers will provide average annual benefits of \$307,000 which benefits are sufficient to justify the project and in fact provide the 7.1 to 1.0 benefit-cost ratio. It is patent that with the authorization and construction of the project that additional benefits will accrue through the utilization of the facility by additional industries.

On the basis of the total annual charges of \$69,900 based on a 50-year project life and in consideration of the total average annual benefits over that period of \$495,000 with the resulting benefit to cost ratio of 7.1 to 1.0, it is respectfully urged that this project be included in the presently considered Authorization Bill since no objections have been received from the State of Louisiana and the other Federal Agencies.

STATEMENT OF LEON GARY, ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT TO THE GOVERNOR OF LOUISIANA, AND DIRECTOR OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

MISSISSIPPI RIVER-GULF OUTLET, MICHOD CANAL, LA.

My name is Leon Gary. I am Administrative Assistant to the Governor of Louisiana and Director of the Louisiana Department of Public Works. The Department of Public Works is the planning agency of the State government and is responsible for coordinated development of the water resources of Louisiana. One of its most important duties is improvement and extension of navigation throughout the State. I therefore submit this statement in support of modification of the existing project to provide for enlargement of the existing channels of the Gulf Intracoastal Waterway and Michoud Canal, Louisiana.

AUTHORITY

The report on the Gulf Intracoastal Waterway east of the Mississippi River and Michoud Canal, Louisiana, was authorized by resolution of the Committee on Public Works of the United States Senate adopted June 9, 1964.

PROPOSED PROJECT

The proposed project consists of modification of the existing channels of the Gulf Intracoastal Waterway and Michoud Canal to provide a channel 36' deep over a bottom width of 250' from the Mississippi River-Gulf Outlet to the north end of the Michoud Canal, a distance of approximately $2\frac{1}{4}$ miles including a turning basin 800' x 800'.

DISCUSSION

Industries located along the Michoud Canal handle products hauled by sea-going vessels, export of fertilizers and import of foreign automobiles. The channel at present has a controlling depth of about 19 feet in the Gulf Intracoastal Waterway and about 30 feet in the Michoud Canal. The size of ocean-going vessels needed for exporting and importing cargo used by industries on the canal have loaded drafts ranging 27 to 31 feet requiring a 36-foot depth channel as proposed. Enlargement of the canal will eliminate double handling of cargo for inbound and outbound shipment which is now necessary and will make available additional space for the expansion for the crowded facilities of the Port of New