Location: The Cape Girardeau, Missouri, project is located on the right bank of the Mississippi River flood plain between river miles 51.6 and 52.8 above the Ohio River in Missouri. The area protected by the Cape Girardeau flood protection project lies within the corporate limits of the City of Cape Girardeau, Missouri.

Description: The overall length of the project is 8,240 feet consisting of 2,175 feet of levee; 6,065 feet of floodwall; 2 pumping stations; 5 closure structures; and other appurtenant structures. The reconstruction includes rock berm to stabilize existing retaining wall; floodwall work (joint repairs, toe drain replacement, soil stabilization and closure gate seal replacement); and pump stations (mechanical, electrical, and miscellaneous structural and culvert work).

Issues: Project was authorized to increase the federal funding limit in the Water Resources Reform and Development Act (WRRDA) 2014. This project is not budgetable because the cost share arrangement is inconsistent with Administration policy on cost-sharing and has been funded in the past through Congressional adds, ARRA and work plan.

Importance: The Cape Girardeau Flood Protection Project protects residential and commercial development, including several small businesses, industrial facilities, a railroad depot and freight yards.

Risk: Deficiencies associated with an important toe drain, stabilization rock berm, and underseepage controls increase the probability of failure for the levee system.

Consequence: Failure of the levee system poses a life safety and economic threat to the protected area. Residential, commercial, and transportation development would be affected by failure of the system.

Activities for FY 15: Funds are being used to design and award the construction contract to complete the approximately 660’ of toe drain requiring replacement behind the flood wall, initiate and complete the specification package associated with awarding a service contract for the Mississippi River bed exploration necessary to complete the design of the Merriwether Pump Station box culvert, perform the S&A/EDC of these construction activities and for project management and coordination activities with the local sponsor.

Acquisition Strategy: Small business set aside.

Amount That Could Be Used in FY 16: An additional amount of $3,348,000 could be used for the design and construction of floodwall rock berm, filling the voids in the floodwall, as well as to perform the S&A/EDC of these construction activities and for project management and coordination activities with the local sponsor.

Project Sponsor/Customer: The City of Cape Girardeau

Congressional Interest: Senate: Blunt (MO) and McCaskill (MO) House: Jason Smith (MO-8)