Project Fact Sheet
East St. Louis, IL

Flood Control Act of 1936; Energy and Water Development Appropriations Act of 1988 (Public Law 100-202)

**Location:** The East St. Louis levee system is located in St. Clair and Madison Counties, IL, along the left descending bank of the Mississippi River between river miles 175 and 195 above the Ohio River.

**Description:** The levee system was designed to withstand a flood at 54 feet on the St. Louis gage; approximately a 0.2 percent chance of exceedance (500-year event) and provides flood protection to approximately 250,000 residents and over $4.5 billion in economic value. The East St. Louis, Illinois, deficiency correction project will correct underseepage and through-seepage and consists of 305 new relief wells, grouting 312 wood stave relief wells, ditching and pipe collector systems, a seepage pump station, a lift station, a variable frequency drive, seepage berms, cutoff walls, riverside clay blanket, and environmental and archeological mitigation work.

**Issues:** Levee system will have a significant risk of failure during high water events unless underseepage design deficiency and through-seepage corrections are made. The system currently does not provide the authorized level of protection, which is equivalent to 54’ on the St. Louis Mississippi River gage (approximately a 500-year event) due to aged infrastructure and uncontrolled underseepage. Rehabilitation of aged infrastructure is nearing completion. Design deficiency corrections are underway to address uncontrolled underseepage. The sponsor, Southwestern Illinois Flood Prevention District Council (FPD), is performing work to improve the levee to 1.0 percent chance of exceedance to attain 100-year level of protection and maintain FEMA accreditation. The FPD continues to request that Congress override MVS’ decision to initially use a PLA for construction contracts in the geographic area. MVS determined the project solicitation will provide for voluntary submissions of a PLA under a Best Value Lowest Price Technically Acceptable acquisition strategy. Before making a final decision on initiating design deficiency construction, the FPD awaits a response from their Congressional Delegation to their request to override MVS’ decision. The FPD has provided non-federal cost share funds to initiate design for the Federal deficiency correction project. It is expected that the FPD will continue to provide cost share funds for design activities (cash or work in kind (WIK) credit). Initiation of design deficiency construction is dependent on resolution of the use of a PLA. MVS will identify a collaborative way forward given the sponsor’s PLA demands. WRRDA 2014 includes a provision providing WIK credit toward their cost share. Once obtained, this credit could allow federal funds to be applied to construction in the future without a requirement to meet sponsor PLA demands. Future capability could increase significantly upon acceptance of the IDR.

**Importance:** The Metro East Sanitary District (MESD) levee has high probability of failure during significant flood events due to inadequate underseepage and through-seepage controls. Serious underseepage problems were observed during the 1993 flood. Approximately 250,000 residents and $4.8 billion in economic value are protected by the levee.

**Risk:** Without the deficiency correction project, the levee will continue to be in danger of failing due to underseepage or through-seepage problems during a flood.

**Consequence:** A levee failure would have catastrophic life, economic, and environmental consequences including damages to commercial/heavy industrial development, environmental and agricultural losses, spread of hazardous and toxic wastes, and significant loss of life.

**Activities for FY 15:** Funds are being used to perform 408 observation of FPD construction activities, execute the MOU for WIK credit, prepare an IDR, and continue design of slurry trench cutoff wall.

**Acquisition Strategy:** Initial cutoff wall construction contract is scheduled for award 24Sep15 using the LPTA strategy with voluntary inclusion of a PLA. Contract award is dependent on resolution of the PLA issue and adequate project funding.

**Amount That Could Be Used in FY 16:** $50k will be used to conduct basic project management activities.

**Project Sponsor/Customer:** Metro East Sanitary District and Southwestern Illinois FPD

**Congressional Interest:** Senate: Durbin (IL) and Kirk (IL) House: Bost (IL-12), Shimkus (IL-15) and Davis (IL-13).

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<th>Phase</th>
<th>FY 15 Allocation</th>
<th>FY 16 Budget</th>
<th>FY 16 Total Capability</th>
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<tr>
<td>Construction</td>
<td>$50,000</td>
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