



**US Army Corps  
of Engineers®**  
St. Louis District

# News Release

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## **Levee protection restored in St. Louis District**

**St. Louis, MO, Friday, February 27, 2009** – The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in St. Louis announced today that authorized levels of protection have been restored to levees damaged by flooding in the summer of 2008 in both Missouri and Illinois.

The District had targeted February 28 for the work, which was completed yesterday.

Level of Protection – or LOP – is determined by restoring the levees that were damaged to their heights prior to last summer's floods.

Forty-five levees were proposed for repairs under Public Law 84-99, under which the majority of repair funding comes from the Federal Government. To date about \$13 million in Federal dollars have been expended on the work.

While all breaches in the levees have been closed, Corps of Engineers authorities indicate substantial work remains to fully restore the levees. This work includes replacing some damaged gravity drains, which allow precipitation water to drain when rivers are below flood stage; replacing some damaged pumps and seeding levees to restore grass coverage which reduces erosion.

Some of this work will have to be delayed until weather improves.

Work was delayed several times this winter due both to freezing and rainfall conditions. This required designs and construction to be altered to properly install and compact levee materials.

Even before all work is completed, Corps of Engineers authorities indicate that current levels of protection, combined with plans and materials to conduct flood fighting if necessary, will provide required interim protection.