



US Army Corps  
of Engineers  
St. Louis District

# Information Paper

## Chain of Rocks, IL (Deficiency Correction)

The Rivers & Harbor Act of 1945

### Construction (FRM)

**Location:** The Chain of Rocks levee is located in Madison County, Illinois, in the vicinity of Granite City and East St. Louis.

**Description:** The Federal levee did not perform satisfactorily during the flood of 1993. Sand boils developed along a large portion of the levee, indicative of significant foundation underseepage problems. The project purpose is to correct design deficiencies and assure that the Chain of Rocks levee will withstand a 0.2 percent chance of exceedance (500-year). The deficiency correction includes the installation of relief wells, construction of levee berms, a pump station, relocations, and mitigation. The levee protects a major urban area.

**Status:** Recently completed construction restores the authorized level of protection for the 0.2 percent chance of exceedance (500-year event) for the Chain of Rocks levee. This Federally-owned and operated levee is an integral part of the Metro East urban levee system which currently does not provide the authorized level of protection. The sponsor for the Metro East system, Southwestern Illinois Flood Prevention District Council (FPD), has recently completed work to improve the system to 1.0 percent chance of exceedance to attain 100-year level of protection and maintain FEMA accreditation. USACE policy prohibits the Corps from certifying only a portion of a levee system; therefore, USACE's role is to evaluate the East St. Louis Flood Protection Project (including both Metro East Sanitary District (MESD) and Chain of Rocks (COR) segments) for the purposes of National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) accreditation through information resulting from a thorough Risk Assessment. This approach is consistent with both USACE and FEMA guidelines in which a systems approach is maintained.

**Importance:** The Metro East urban levee system provides protection for approximately 250,000 inhabitants and economic assets valued at over \$9.9 billion. Project is 100 percent construction complete.

Phase	FY 20 Allocation
Construction	\$0

**Risk:** The recently completed construction restores the authorized level of protection provided by the Chain of Rocks levee segment.

**Consequence:** With completion of deficiency corrections, the Chain of Rocks levee segment has transitioned to ongoing Operation and Maintenance by the Corps of Engineers.



*New Chain of Rocks Pump Station*

**Activities for FY 20:** Carryover funds will be used to continue the evaluation of the ESTL system (both MESD and COR segments) for the purposes of NFIP accreditation through information resulting from a thorough Risk Assessment. Carryover funds will also be used for preliminary activities to complete project financial closeout.

**Acquisition Strategy:** N/A

**Activities after FY 20:** Carryover funds will be used to coordinate with the sponsors and FEMA with respect to NFIP accreditation and project closeout.

**Project Partner:** Project is 100% federally funded.

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