

THE NEWS ROOM

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BOEMRE Approves \$100,000 CIAP Grant for Vermilion Parish

Funding to Support the Exploration of New Methods of Shoreline Protection

NEW ORLEANS – The Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, Regulation and Enforcement (BOEMRE) announced today that it has awarded a Coastal Impact Assistance Program (CIAP) grant for \$100,000 to Vermilion Parish, La. The grant will provide funding for a feasibility study to evaluate alternative methods and provide recommendations for shoreline protection along the coast in Vermilion Parish.

Created by the *Energy Policy Act of 2005*, CIAP provides funding to the six Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) oil and gas producing states to conserve and protect the coastal environment. CIAP is an ongoing program with grant funding that is allocated based on the offshore energy revenues collected by the United States.

“Developing innovative and reliable methods to protect and preserve the shoreline is a critical task for this Department,” said BOEMRE Director Michael R. Bromwich. “We are very pleased to be able to help Vermilion Parish with this significant project.”

The \$100,000 grant will be used to assess new methods of shoreline protection along the northeastern edge of Weeks Bay, adjacent to the western shoreline of the Gulf Inter-coastal Waterway, approximately 50 miles south of Lafayette, La. The feasibility study, conducted in conjunction with Iberia Parish, will explore innovative alternatives to restore and protect the shoreline, build landmass and create vegetated wetlands.

CIAP will receive \$250 million in appropriated funds for each of the Fiscal Years 2007-2010 to be disbursed to six eligible OCS oil- and gas-producing states – Mississippi, Alabama, Alaska, California, Louisiana and Texas

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