Levee Safety Policies Supporting a Sustainable Flood Risk Management Program

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Discussion Topics

- Principles Embedded in Levee Policy Change
- Levee Safety Policy as Part of Overall Mission Accomplishment
- Current Levee Safety Policy Activity
- Path Forward on Levee Safety Policy
Levee Policy Principles (a sampling)

- Accompany with Commensurate Process and People Changes
- Decision Oriented – Risk Informed
- Institutionalize Lessons…I but
- ….Compliance Requires Critical Thinking
  ➤ One Size Does Not Fit All
Policy as an Aid to Sponsor Flood Risk Management

Old Way
- Handoff Between Corps and Sponsors
- Decision Framework Not as Clear
- Paper Trails
- Silent on Role of Communication

New Way
- Continuing Collaboration with Sponsors
- Puts Form and Substance to “Shared Responsibilities”
  - Decision Framework
  - Roles and Options
- Data Rich Environment
- Communication an Explicit Part of Policy
Policy as an Aid to Understanding the Nature and Severity of Flood Risk

Old Way
- Condition Based
- Economic Consequences
- Considers Exceedance Events?
- Doesn’t Consider Non-Breach Risk

New Way
- Risk Informed
- Life Safety, Economic, and All Consequences
- Considers Exceedance Events!
- Considers Non-Breach Risks
Elements of Mission Accomplishment

**Policy**
- What, Who, When and How of Levee Safety Activities

**Process**
- Management Framework & Technical Tools for Policy Implementation

**People**
- Sustain a Competent and Capable Workforce to Implement Policies

Technical & Program Guidance
- Cadres
- LS SC
- SOG
- Models

CoP
- RMC
- MMC
- Training
- Bench Building
Current Policy Activities

Program Policy – What and When

- Levee Safety Engineering Circular – 2nd Quarter FY13
- Interim Policies in Place
  - ECB IRRM
  - Periodic Inspections
  - Program Standup
- Vegetation Policies:
  - ETL 571 Standard
  - System Wide Improvement Framework
  - PGL on Variances

Technical Guidance – How

- Levee Design
- Seepage
- Seismic Stability
- Hydrologic Analysis
- Culverts
- Risk Assessment
Levee Safety EC

“Culture Changers”

- Levee Modifications will be planned and formulated fully compliant with the new Planning Paradigm
- Corps has an important role in communicating and advising sponsors of benefits and risks of levee systems
- Life Safety Risks are an explicit consideration in the policy
Approach to Future Policies

- More Integrated Across Disciplines, Programs, and Communities of Practice
- Better Technology and Policy Transfer
- More Stakeholder Feedback