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Memphis District

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Contact:

Jim Pogue

For Release:

Immediately

Phone:

(901) 544-4109 (office)

(901) 828-0152 (cell)

Corps asks public to review and comment on Bayou Meto Basin report and Environmental Impact Statement

MEMPHIS, Tenn., Dec. 29, 2005 – The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Memphis and Vicksburg districts, released copies of the Bayou Meto Basin, Arkansas, General Reevaluation Report, Main Report and Draft Environmental Impact Statement to local libraries for public review and comment. Compact discs of the report are also available upon request.

Copies have been placed in the following libraries:

Central Arkansas Library System
Main Library
100 Rock Street
Little Rock, AR 72201

Arkansas State Library
#1 Capitol Mall
Little Rock, AR 72201

Carlisle Public Library
105 East Fifth Street
Carlisle, AR 72024

Lonoke County Library
204 East Second Street
Lonoke, AR
72086

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BayouMeto-2/2/2

The Bayou Meto project area is located in eastern Arkansas and includes portions of Lonoke, Prairie, Jefferson, Arkansas, and Pulaski counties. The project as described in the general reevaluation report is designed to provide a comprehensive water management plan for the Bayou Meto basin. The project is comprised of three major components: (1) agricultural water supply and conservation and groundwater preservation, (2) flood control, and (3) waterfowl management.

The draft environmental impact statement (DEIS) was prepared in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969. Comments on the DEIS should be addressed to Commander, Memphis District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, ATTN: PM-E (Smith), 167 North Main Street, Room B-202, Memphis, TN 38103-1894. The official closing date for comments is February 24, 2006. Contact Mr. Mark Smith (e-mail mark.r.smith@mvm02.usace.army.mil or telephone (901) 544-0670 or 1-800-317-4156, extension 0679) if you have questions regarding the DEIS or would like to request a compact disc of the report.

A public meeting will be held at 6:30 p.m. on January 25, 2006, at the Lonoke Community Center, 1355 West Front Street, Lonoke, Arkansas. The purpose of the meeting will be to answer questions and to receive comments from all interested individuals and organizations concerning the proposed project. Pursuant to Section 404 of the Clean Water Act, this meeting will also allow opportunity for public comment on the discharge of dredged and fill material into waters of the United States. Such comments would be considered by the Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality in granting or conditioning water quality certification for the project.