



# MISSISSIPPI-OHIO RIVER CONFLUENCE UPDATE

US Army Corps  
of Engineers

Illinois, Kentucky, Missouri, Tennessee

## Memphis District

April 6, 2012

Our priority this fiscal year is the restoration of projects in the Mississippi and Ohio rivers confluence area. Therefore, I have directed the publication of this report to ensure all stakeholders in the confluence area have timely and accurate information on these projects.

In December 2011, the U.S. Congress approved emergency supplemental funding that allowed for restoration of these and other critical projects. Much of the work after the Flood of 2011 was accomplished by the Corps of Engineers redirecting funding from existing projects. Our engineers are working daily with our partners to bring these projects to construction this calendar year. However, we must balance the risk to the system as we move forward.

We are fully committed to reducing the risk to life and property in the confluence area as quickly as possible. Let there be no doubt, this is a team effort and we must continue to work together to make a difference. I look forward to seeing all of our partners out on the ground this construction season. — **Col. Vernie Reichling, Memphis District Commander**



### Above Cairo (Slurry Trench)

In construction

**Award date:** September 2011

**Scheduled completion:** January 2013

On schedule

7,200 linear feet of soil-bentonite will create an impermeable barrier, reducing the risk of seepage underneath the Mississippi River levee. The site was cleared last fall before the project entered a non-work period. Excavation for the slurry trench will begin when field conditions and river stages allow. This contract is valued at \$5.4 million.



### Above Cairo (Relief wells)

In construction

**Award Date:** September 2011

**Scheduled completion:** January 2013

Ahead of schedule

28 relief wells will reduce uncontrolled seepage underneath the Mississippi River levee north of Cairo. Existing ditches and culverts will be cleaned along roadways to ensure adequate drainage. Thanks to favorable field conditions at this site, the new estimated completion date is November 2012. This contract is valued at \$1.2 million.



## Memphis District—U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

### Birds Point—New Madrid Floodway (Levee Repairs)

In design

On schedule

Construction began: June 2011 Estimated completion: December 2012 Estimated value: \$44.7 million

Task Order	Crevasse Location	Scope of work	Scheduled Award	Scheduled Completion	T.O. value
TO #1	Upper	Earthwork to 55 feet (full width)	May 2012	September 2012	—
TO #2	Center	Earthwork to 55 feet (full width)	June 2012	September 2012	—
TO #3	Lower	Earthwork to 55 feet (full width)	June 2012	September 2012	—
TO #4	Upper	Earthwork 55 to 62.5 feet*	September 2012	December 2012	—
TO #5	Center	Earthwork 55 to 62.5 feet*	September 2012	December 2012	—
TO #6	Lower	Earthwork 55 to 62.5 feet*	September 2012	December 2012	—

**\*Schedule is highly dependent on risk mitigation within the confluence area and updating operational plans. Also includes installation of activation method and any required seepage control measures.**

Current protection is to 51 feet with clay, with HESCO barriers to 55 feet (below left), at the upper crevasse; 55 feet with clay at the center crevasse; and 51 feet with clay at the lower crevasse. This project is in maintenance status. Earthwork will resume after TO #1 is awarded and when field conditions allow. Access road improvements were completed this winter at the upper crevasse and the center crevasse (below right). Proposals for the overall contract and TO #1 are due May 1. The solicitation is posted on the Federal Business Opportunities website: <https://www.fbo.gov/index?s=opportunity&mode=form&id=dfc05c9935e091ce847ccbd331432879&tab=core&cvview=1>.



### Island 8 (Relief Wells)

In design

Scheduled award: July 2012  
Scheduled completion: December 2013

On schedule

111 relief wells will improve the resiliency of a mainline Federal levee protecting 350,000 acres in Kentucky and Tennessee (right, 2011 flood). Engineering plans are complete and the project is awaiting right-of-way acquisition by the project sponsor. The estimated project value is \$6.0 million.



### Cairo-Mound City (Slurry trench)

In design

Scheduled award: September 2012  
Scheduled completion: December 2013

On schedule

Two landside earthen berms and 4,200 feet of soil-bentonite slurry trench will reduce the risk of seepage underneath the Ohio River levee north of Cairo. Engineering plans are complete and the project is awaiting right-of-way acquisition by the project sponsor. The estimated project value is \$8.5 million.



### City of Cairo Floodwall (Relief wells)

In design

Scheduled award: August 2012  
Scheduled completion: December 2013

On schedule

28 relief wells will reduce the risk of uncontrolled seepage underneath the floodwall in Cairo (right, 2011 sand boil). Engineering plans are near completion and the project is awaiting right-of-way acquisition by the project sponsor. The estimated project value is \$2.5 million.

