

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-1804

April 21, 2010

The Honorable Daniel K. Inouye
Chairman
Senate Committee on Appropriations
S-131, U.S. Capitol
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Thad Cochran
Vice Chairman
Senate Committee on Appropriations
S-131, U.S. Capitol
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Chairman Inouye and Vice Chairman Cochran:

As the Senate Committee on Appropriations considers supplemental appropriations requests from President Obama for Fiscal Year 2010, I respectfully request that you consider these critical needs that relate to Louisiana's continued recovery from Hurricane Katrina and Rita.

Operation & Maintenance of Waterway Closure/Navigation Structures – Legislative language is needed to ensure that the operation and maintenance of key structural complexes, for critical regions of SE Louisiana, be done at full Federal expense. *DRAFT LANGUAGE ATTACHED*

Emergency Dredging needs on the Lower Mississippi and critical Louisiana waterways - The recent high water events on the Mississippi River require supplemental operation and maintenance funding. In addition and as a consequence of dredging activities underway on the Mississippi, other critical waterways in Louisiana have significant unmet needs for dredging that threaten essential water borne commercial and offshore energy activity. These are authorized activities that require emergency funding.

Reimburse Expenses for Storm Proofing, Constructing Safe Houses for Operators, and Other Interim Flood Control Measures, Greater New Orleans, Louisiana Metropolitan Area - \$41,000,000 is needed to reimburse local governments of Jefferson Parish (\$36,185,581), Orleans Parish (\$6,022), St Bernard Parish (\$204,732), St. Charles Parish (\$3,844,917), and St. Tammany Parish (\$28,564). Reimbursement is authorized and directed by SEC. 118 of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, Public Law 110-161.

Mississippi River-Gulf Outlet Relocation Assistance - \$23,500,000 to support the relocation of deep draft facilities from the Mississippi River-Gulf Outlet (MRGO), the Gulf Intracoastal Waterway, and the Inner Harbor Navigation Canal to the Mississippi River. Of these funds, \$16 million is requested for the relocation of a cold storage facility and \$7.5 million is requested for the relocation

of a scrap facility. The Mississippi River-Gulf Outlet Relocation Assistance was authorized by Sec. 3082 of Public Law 110-114 to mitigate the critical port facilities impacted by the de-authorization and closure of the MRGO.

I certify that neither I nor my immediate family has a pecuniary interest in any of the congressionally directed spending item(s) that I have requested for Fiscal Year 2011, consistent with the requirements of paragraph 9 of Rule XLIV of the Standing Rules of the Senate.

I further certify that I have posted a description of the items requested on my official website, along with the accompanying justification.

Sincerely,



Mary L. Landrieu
United States Senator

cc: The Honorable Byron Dorgan, Chair
Energy and Water Subcommittee
Senate Committee on Appropriations

The Honorable Barbara Mikulski
Commerce, Justice, Science Subcommittee
Senate Committee on Appropriations

The Honorable Robert Bennett, Ranking Member
Energy and Water Subcommittee
Senate Committee on Appropriations

The Honorable Richard Shelby
Commerce, Justice, Science Subcommittee
Senate Committee on Appropriations

Operation & Maintenance of Waterway Closure/Navigation Structures:

BILL LANGUAGE:

"SEC. ____ Operation, maintenance, repair, replacement, and rehabilitation of navigable features constructed for the purpose of providing hurricane and storm damage risk reduction in the vicinity of New Orleans, Louisiana, consisting of the Inner Harbor Navigation Canal , Lake Borgne - Gulf Intracoastal Waterway barge gate and sector gates; the Bayou Bienvenue vertical lift gate; the Inner Harbor Navigation Canal Seabrook sector gate, pump station and vertical lift gates; the West Closure Complex - Gulf Intracoastal Waterway sector gate and vertical lift gates; and the Harvey Canal sector gate, shall be carried out at full Federal expense."