



United States Department of the Interior

U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY
Reston, Virginia 20192

In Reply Refer To:
Mail Stop 423
#20010416

JUN 08 2001

Ann H. Berger
Damage Assessment and Restoration Program Coordinator
Office of the General Counsel
U.S. Department of Commerce
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
1305 East-West Highway, SSMC #4
Silver Spring, MD 20910

Dear Ms. Berger:

Thank you for inviting the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) to participate as a cooperating agency in the development of a Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement (PEIS) to develop a framework and procedures for the proposed Louisiana Regional Restoration Planning Program (RRP Program). The USGS has expertise in geologic, hydrologic, biologic and geographic disciplines, and has scientific capabilities both offshore and onshore Louisiana.

The USGS is interested in cooperating in the development of this PEIS in any way possible, but our involvement will be limited by budgetary and personnel resources. We are willing to participate, however, in the early stages of project scoping to determine the extent that the USGS can and should be involved in the future.

For further consideration regarding USGS participation in the development of this PEIS, please contact me by phone at (703) 648-4191, or by mail at U.S. Geological Survey, 106 National Center Reston, Virginia 20192.

Enclosure

Sincerely,

James F. Devine
Senior Advisor for
Science Applications

Copy to: Glenn B. Sekavec
Regional Environmental Officer
Albuquerque, New Mexico
Team Leader, Natural Resources Management Team
Team Leader, Natural Resources Trust and Response Team