

BRIEF ON BAYOU POSTILLION

May 18, 2004

TO: Secretary Scott Angelle
FROM: Sandra Thompson

The Bayou Postillion project is probably the most important project we will do in the Atchafalaya Basin. It represents years of public support, designs by experts, scrutiny by the State Land Office, negotiations with landowners and signatures from Attorney General Charles Foti, Commissioner of Administration Jerry Luke LeBlanc, and Governor Kathleen Blanco.

Postillion is a compromise agreement whereby the landowner family, represented by Newman Trowbridge, agrees to give up claims to accretion lands, and gives the State a permanent boundary agreement representing permanent state ownership at that line. The State is also allowed to dredge this disappearing bayou to an average width of 60' and a depth of 12'. The State is also authorized to maintain that channel by inspecting every 5 years to do maintenance work.

This project was started in March of 2000 and has been vigorously pursued for the past 4 years. It has the support of all the fishing, crawfishing and hunting groups in the Basin. Petitions have been signed by the fishermen on the east side where this bayou is located.

Rep. Karen St. Germain met with the Governor and Terry Ryder on behalf of 6 or 7 legislators and received their support. Rep. Eddie Lambert has also been a prominent supporter of the project.

The permit has been received from the Corps of Engineers and we are ready to advertise. We could get started on this project in 60-90 days.

Our task is to convince Jerry Jones that this represents a clear commitment and must be funded this year. Please let me know if you have any more questions.

Thank you!

