



State of Louisiana

Department of Environmental Quality



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ENVIRONMENTAL NEWS

Westlake joins DEQ and others in evaluation of the Calcasieu Estuary Bayou d'Inde Site

BATON ROUGE -- The Calcasieu Estuary is one step closer to improvement, according an announcement by the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality. Westlake Polymers, L.P. has joined other participants in a cooperative agreement that will lead to an evaluation of cleanup options for the Bayou d'Inde Site.

The agreement requires the participating parties to conduct a Corrective Action Study to evaluate cleanup options and develop proposed site-specific standards for the Calcasieu Estuary Bayou d'Inde Site. DEQ will oversee the study and encourage public participation throughout the process.

DEQ Secretary Mike McDaniel said, "The agency is committed to finding solutions that will resolve any ecological risk and human health concerns associated with Bayou d'Inde. By working with industries and the communities, this agreement will lead to a clean and safe environment. I wish to express my appreciation for the help and support provided by Rep. Dan Flavin, Mayor Randy Roach and Mark McMurry, the parish administrator, and all of the other elected officials in the area. Without their support and involvement we would not have made the progress that has occurred to date."

Other industries entered into this enforceable agreement are PPG Industries, CITGO Petroleum Corporation and Occidental Chemical Corporation. DEQ will continue to encourage other responsible parties associated with Bayou D'Inde to participate in this cooperative effort.

Bayou d'Inde is more than nine miles long and is located in the northern portion of the Calcasieu Estuary, west of Lake Charles. Its headwaters originate in the western portion of Sulphur, near the Interstate 10 Bridge. Bayou d'Inde flows primarily east-southeast and empties into the Calcasieu River Ship Channel southwest of Coon Island.