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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration  
NATIONAL OCEAN SERVICE  
OFFICE OF OCEAN AND COASTAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT  
Washington, D.C. 20235

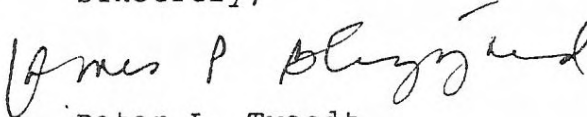
AUG 20 1987

Dr. Charles G. Groat  
Assistant to the Secretary  
Coastal Management Division  
Department of Natural Resources  
P.O. Box 44487  
Baton Rouge, LA 70804-4487

Dear Dr. Groat:

The Office of Ocean and Coastal Resource Management has reviewed the submission, dated July 17, 1987, of the St. Bernard Parish Local Coastal Management Program for incorporation into the Louisiana Coastal Resources Program. We find that this change, that incorporates recommended changes by our Office in our April 3, 1986 letter, does not substantially change any enforceable policies or authorities related to implementation. Therefore we concur that this program change constitutes a routine program implementation pursuant to 15 CFR 923.84. Federal consistency will apply when you publish notice of our approval.

Sincerely,

  
Peter L. Tweedt  
for Director





EDWIN W. EDWARDS  
GOVERNOR

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES  
Coastal Management Division

B. JIM PORTER  
SECRETARY

June 1, 1987

Ms. Cheryl Graham  
Office of Coastal Resources  
Management  
Assistant to Gulf States  
Regional Manager  
1825 Connecticut Avenue, N.W.  
Room 718  
Washington, D.C. 20235

Dear Ms. Graham:

Enclosed are the following items; 1) Draft Finding of Fact, 2) Draft Special Legal Notice, 3) Draft Request for Routine Program Implementation (RPI) letter and 4) Final changes to the St. Bernard Parish Program Document, for your informal review. St. Bernard is anxious to see this program implemented. St. Bernard Parish is tentatively scheduled to "on line" 1 October 1987.

Please review the enclosures and advise us of any changes which OCRM would need to see in order to expedite the RPI request when formally presented. We have indicated to St. Bernard that we would like, if at all possible, to formally submit our RPI request by the end of the first week of July. This should allow us to meet our 1 October "on line" target date. Any assistance and/or guidance you can provide would be greatly appreciated. If you have any questions, please call either Greg DuCote or me at 504/342-7591. I look forward to hearing from you and to an expeditious implementation of this much needed program.

Sincerely,

Joel L. Lindsey  
Coastal Management Division

JLL:GJD/ct

Enclosures (as noted)

**FINDING OF FACT**  
**PERTAINING TO THE ST. BERNARD PARISH**  
**COASTAL MANAGEMENT PROGRAM**

On 24 September 1985 St. Bernard Parish officially submitted its local coastal program (LCP) to the Secretary of the Department of Natural Resources for approval pursuant to LA. R.S.49:213.9.

The submittal of the St. Bernard LCP began the official ninety (90) day review period within which the Secretary is required to either approve the program or inform the parish of changes that must be made in order that the program could be approved. The St. Bernard Parish program has undergone review by various personnel in both the Coastal Management and Legal Division's of the Department of Natural Resources. The program has also been submitted to other local, state and federal agencies that have an interest in or may be affected by its implementation. Public awareness of, scrutiny of and input into development of the program has also occurred through a medium of public notices and hearings. St. Bernard Parish held a public hearing on 30 September 1982 and a state hearing occurred on 29 March 1983. Responses to all hearing comments and reviews were formulated by the parish and reviewed and approved by the CMD subsequent to Secretarial approval.

The St. Bernard LCP will have several favorable impacts upon the parish. First, the parish will be granted implementation monies which they will use to establish a permitting process for uses of local concern, which at the present time are being handled by the State (DNR/CMD). The State also foresees the permit process as a means to improve coordination between the State and the Parish, which will ultimately result in more efficient management and protection of the coastal areas of the parish. This is

particularly incumbent since the entirety of St. Bernard lies within the coastal zone. Second, the parish program will serve as a guide to any person who wishes to apply for a permit at the local level or who may just want to know more about the coastal areas of the parish. It is anticipated that this will, engender and foster an appreciation for as well as a desire to protect, enhance and/or regenerate lost coastal areas, within the body politic which will become part of the social fabric of residents of St. Bernard. This will ensure its existence within future generations. Thirdly, the approved program and the permit process will establish a set of consistent, orderly procedures and policies between the two levels of government.

The legal authority for the program was created by LA. R.S. 49:213.1 - 213.32. Rules and procedures for the development, approval, modification and periodic review of local programs became effective on 20 September 1980 after being published in the 20 August 1980 edition of the Louisiana Register, Volume 6, Number 8, page 493.

In accordance with Part III, of the Rules and Procedures, the requirements for local program content are listed below. The method of compliance by the St. Bernard Parish Coastal Management Program is indicated for each requirement.

(A) A summary of the Local Program

The St. Bernard Parish LCP management document provides an introduction and summary of the program on pages 1-1 to 1-9. It notes that the LCP was developed in response to a locally perceived need for comprehensive and scientific management of the parish's abundant but threatened coastal resources. It is also stated that the program document represents the culmination of a long and productive partnership between St. Bernard Parish and The Coastal Management Division of DNR. The information contained

within the program document represents the results of the gathering and synthesis of a large corpus of data. Analyses of the resource base, both physical and biological, as well as the social and economic characteristics of the parish yielded much needed information concerning the nature and extent of the resources, the user groups, and problems and conflicts between them resulting from resources use. This effort enabled the parish to delineate environmental concerns which were of paramount importance to the parish and its citizenry.

Based upon this information, St. Bernard was able to proscribe the following as the official policies and goals of the parish:

1. To promote the health, safety, convenience and general welfare of the inhabitants of the parish of St. Bernard.
2. To bring about the coordinated, efficient, and economical development of the parish.
3. To protect, develop, and, where feasible, restore and enhance its resources.
4. To support and encourage multiple use of resources consistent with maintenance and enhancement of renewable resource management and productivity, with the need to provide for adequate economic growth and development; and with minimization of adverse effects of one resource use upon another without imposing undue restrictions on any user.
5. To develop and implement management programs which are based on consideration of the resources, environment, and needs of the people of St. Bernard Parish.
6. To establish goals and plans for St. Bernard Parish, based on economic, environmental, and social needs which will guide activity in conformance to this Statement of Policy.

7. To establish separate guidelines for wetlands which recognize that:
  - a. The wetlands of St. Bernard Parish, although part of a larger estuarine ecosystem stretching from Lake Maurepas to the Chandeleur Islands, consist of a series of distinct geographic units. These units have been combined into appropriate districts to facilitate management of these areas.
  - b. Individual permissible uses for each wetland management unit are based on a balance of economic, environmental, and social priorities and needs for each area.
  - c. The primary goal for future use of parish wetlands is to maintain them in their natural condition and to restore, when possible, those areas that have deteriorated due to natural and cultural factors. A major aspect of these restoration activities should be the preservation of the parish's archaeological and historical resources. Maximum utilization of the renewable and non-renewable resources of the wetlands is encouraged so long as high productivity is maintained and the ecological balance of the wetlands is not further disrupted.

In order to achieve the aims of the above stated policies, St. Bernard set for itself the following goals:

1. Attain proper use of parish resources through a balance of conservation and development.
2. Identify areas with unique characteristics and develop methods to maintain them.
3. Determine the degree of development intensity suitable for all areas of the parish.
4. Enhance the biologically productive and physically protective

aspects of the parish's wetland environment.

5. Enhance cultural and recreational opportunities in the parish by the development of ecologically sensitive facilities within the context of a comprehensive program.

These policies and goals have been formalized as an ordinance of the parish and as such constitutes its official governing, stance on matters concerning the coastal zone.

In summary, St. Bernard has sought through deliberate reasoned and intensive efforts to seek out the nature and extent of its coastal zone resources and the needs thereof. St. Bernard has also through an open methodical and extensive effort established a permitting process as a means of meeting these needs and has embodied all of this with parish ordinances, thus, giving it all legal life.

- (B) Maps and descriptions of the natural features, resources, existing land use in each management unit. These maps shall depict the division of the coastal areas into coastal waters and wetlands, transitional areas, fastlands and lands more than five feet above mean sea level.

Chapter II (Pages 2-1 to 2-53) of the St. Bernard Parish Coastal Management Program Document identifies and describes the environmental characteristics of St. Bernard's Coastal Zone. Divided into nine portions, this chapter deals with; 1) Geology and soils, 2) Climate, 3) Hydrology, 4) Vegetation, 5) Wildlife and Fisheries, 6) Endangered and Threatened Species, 7) Cultural Resources, 8) Transportation and 9) Land Use. With this general data base well described the St. Bernard program document identifies, describes and maps 13 environmental management units (EMU) within its boundaries in great detail within Chapter 6 (Pages 6-1 to 6-55). These units are:

- 1) EMU #1 - Bienvenue - Proctor Point Marsh
- 2) EMU #2 - Central Wetlands
- 3) EMU #3 - Lower Urbanized Wetlands
- 4) EMU #4 - Lake Lery Marsh
- 5) EMU #5 - Bayou Terre Aux Boeufs Wetlands
- 6) EMU #6 - Lake La Fortuna
- 7) EMU #7 - Lower LA Loutre Wetlands
- 8) EMU #8 - Biloxi Marsh
- 9) EMU #9 - Bay Boudreaux - Bay Eloi
- 10) EMU #10 - MRGO Spoil Area
- 11) EMU #11 - Semi - urbanized Levee
- 12) EMU #12 - Modified Wetland
- 13) EMU #13 - Urbanized Area

Individual EMU's discussed in great detail. Each discussion delineates the unit and describes the soils, vegetation and wildlife, hydrology, cultural resources, land use, transportation, unique ecological features, environmental considerations, management units goals and permissible uses.

(C) The results of the social and economic analysis carried out pursuant to Section II-B, (Program Development) on page c2-1 of the Louisiana Coastal Resources Program.

A detailed account of the socio-economic characteristics of St. Bernard Parish is provided in Chapter IV (Pages 4-1 to 4-8) of the program document. The document identifies significant social and economic factors operative in the parish, delineates economic nodes or centers, describes future growth needs, and determines the kinds of demands future needs will have on the parish as a whole as well as each EMU. These factors and points are briefly discussed below.

As of 1980 St. Bernard Parish reported a population of 64,097 which



represented a 25.2% increase over the 1970 population figures. This increase was not, however, nearly as dramatic as that for the two previous decades of 1950 - 1960 and 1960 - 1970 which recorded increases of 50% and 59% respectively. A reversal of rural to urban living has occurred in St. Bernard as is evidenced by the fact that in 1950 24% of the population was urban and 76% was rural while by 1980, 94% of the population was urban and 6% rural. This change in rural/urban make-up is reflected in and reflexive of other changes in the parish. The most notable of these is the change in economic structure and makeup.

As late as 1950 agriculture and fishing were major portions of the economy of St. Bernard. By 1980 shipping, manufacturing, residential development (to serve surrounding areas eg. New Orleans), and chemical and Petroleum Production had become the new economic base. This change has not been without its detriments. Clearing, leveeing and draining of marshes, dredging for ship channels and oil and gas exploration access as well as subsidence and erosion has begun to take a serious toll on St. Bernard's wetlands.

(D) A description of those existing and future resource-use conflicts identified pursuant to Section II-C, (Program Development) on page c2-1 of the Louisiana Coastal Resources Program.

Resources, resource users, and resource use conflicts are discussed in detail in Chapter III (Pages 3-1 to 3-17). Resources are noted as being of two basic types, renewable and non-renewable. Renewable resources include but are not limited to commercially and recreationally exploited terrestrial and aquatic fauna, agricultural products as well as some cultural resources. Non-renewable resources to be exploited include oil, gas, and other minerals as well as some cultural resources (archaeological sites and structures). The resource users are those who benefit from the harvesting

of the resources. These include commercial and recreational fishers as well as the purveyors and consumers of seafood and other faunal resources such as hides and furs. Other resource users include petro-chemical producers, refiners and consumers. Maps are included which delineate major waterways, transportation routes, pipelines, oil and gas fields, recreation sites, potential preservation areas and potential unique and particular areas. Tables provide information on fisheries values and other resources.

Resources use conflicts generally develop between users who wish to change the natural landscape in order to pursue their activities and users who wish the landscape (i.e. habitat) to remain in a natural or barely altered condition. The former users are usually developers (including residential, commercial and industrial interests), shipping and transportation interests, and the oil and gas industry. The latter users are sport and commercial fishermen, trappers and those having recreational interests. Both categories of users are necessary in today's economic and social order, and, their conflicts can be minimized by wise coastal planning and management. The resource use conflicts section identifies five major conflict types occurring in St. Bernard Parish including; petroleum industry, navigation, development, water quality and space restrictions.

Resolution of the conflicts are a major goal of the LCP for St. Bernard. The performance standards, goals and procedures are designed to provide a measure of resolution to the conflicts and to insure that one user does not unnecessarily impact or hinder other users.

- (E) An identification of those particular areas, if any, requiring special management as described in Section II-D of Appendix c2 of the L.C.R.P., the special policies and/or procedures to be applied to these areas.

The St. Bernard Parish document identifies and discusses a large number

of areas which could potentially be designated as areas of particular concern. These are divided into several categories such as Scenic Rivers (Chapter III, pages 3-7 to 3-8) of which there are seven; Scenic Sites (Chapter III, page 3-9) of which there are 5 noted; Recreation sites (Chapter III, pages 3-9 to 3-10) of which there are 5 noted; and Preservation and Restoration Areas (Chapter III, pages 3-10 to 3-14) of which there are 18 noted.

- (F) 1. Statement of the goals, objectives, policies and priorities of uses included in the program, as described in Section II-E Appendix c2 of the L.C.R.P.

Statements of the overall goals, objectives, policies and priorities of uses of the St. Bernard LCP are enumerated in detail in the program document on pages 1-6 to 1-8 and again on pages 6-1 to 6-10. These have been quoted extensively within this "Finding" in a previous section entitled (A) A summary of the local program. Goals, objectives, policies and priorities of uses of a specific nature are also provided for each EMU St. Bernard has designated. These are varied and are reflexive of the extensive analyses of past, present and projected uses, impacts and needs of all resources and resource users in each of the EMU's. These discussions can be found for each EMU as follows:

- EMU #1 - Bienvenu - Proctor Point Marsh - 6-11 to 6-14
- EMU #2 - Central Wetlands - 6-15 to - 6-18
- EMU #3 - Lower Urbanized Wetlands - 6-19 to 6-21
- EMU #4 - Lake Lery Marsh - 6-22 to 6-24
- EMU #5 - Bayou Terre Aux Boeufs Wetlands - 6-25 to 6-28
- EMU #6 - Lake La Fortuna - 6-29 to 6-32
- EMU #7 - Lower LA Loutre Wetlands - 6-33 to 6-35
- EMU #8 - Biloxi Marsh - 6-36 to 6-39

EMU #9 - Bay Boudreaux - Bay Eloi - 6-40 to 6-43

EMU #10 - MRGO Spoil Area - 6-44 to 6-46

EMU #11 - Semi-Urbanized Levee - 6-47 to 6-49

EMU #12 - Modified Wetland - 6-50 to 6-52

EMU #13 - Urbanized Area - 6-53 to 6-55

This attention to all aspects of the coastal zone of St. Bernard Parish and the interrelatedness of all of the areas, their resources and users and conflicts is representative of St. Bernard's commitment to a sound, scientific, well balanced coastal management program. The CMD has found these goals, objectives, and policies to be sufficiently specific and definitive enough to be able to achieve the balance of both conservation and development which St. Bernard seeks. These ideas will guide both the Parish and the State in their decision making processes.

2) A statement assuring that the policies of the local program are consistent with the policies and objective of Act 361 and the State guidelines and that the local program shall be interpreted and administered consistently with such policies, objective guidelines.

In Appendix a, Article 1, Section 3 (An Ordinance Implementing the St. Bernard Parish Coastal Zone Management Plan and Providing For The Regulation And Control Of Coastal Uses of Local Concern) of the program document the St. Bernard council states that "The Parish of St. Bernard does hereby certify that the Local Coastal Zone Management Plan adopted pursuant to LA. R.S.49:213, its guidelines, rules, and regulations is consistent with the Louisiana Coastal Resources Program (as set up pursuant to Act 361), its policies and objectives, and that the Parish of St. Bernard Local Coastal Zone Management Plan shall be interpreted and administered consistently with such policies, objectives, and guidelines."

(G) A description of the authorities and administrative arrangements

regulating uses of local concern, for reviewing, issuing and monitoring local coastal use permits, and for enforcing the local program, including:

1. A concise explanation of how the coastal management process is to work.

Implementation of the St. Bernard Parish LCP is discussed in great detail of pages 1-8, 7-15 to 7-24. The parish ordinance in Appendix A also describes the permit process.

Administration of the St. Bernard Coastal Management Program will be the responsibility of the St. Bernard Planning Commission. Planning commission staff members will be responsible for all grant matters, contracts, accounting and all other general duties necessary for the efficient implementation of the program. St. Bernard Parish's Department of Safety and Permits will have the responsibility for issuance of permits and field monitoring for compliance. Planning Commission staff will also aid in monitoring during the course of their normal duties. A flow chart on page 7-2 of the program document fully illustrates the process of permitting.

2. A description and listing of those areas and uses that will normally require local coastal use permits.

The St. Bernard LCP document lists and describes those areas and uses that will normally require local coastal use permits on pages 7-1, 7-3, 7-4, as well as in the local coastal zone ordinance in Appendix A. Since all of St. Bernard Parish, and consequently all EMU's, are within the coastal zone, unless the activity is one of the exempted uses designated by LA. R.S. 49:213.5 it shall require either a state or local Coastal Use Permit (CUP).

As stated in the St. Bernard LCP document uses of local concern will include, but are not limited to:

- 1) Privately funded projects which are not uses of state concern.

- 2) Publicly funded projects which are not uses of state concern.
  - 3) Maintenance of uses of local concern.
  - 4) Jetties or breakwaters
  - 5) Dredge or fill projects not intersecting more than 1 water body.
  - 6) Bulkheads
  - 7) Piers
  - 8) Camps and cattlewalks
  - 9) Maintenance dredging
  - 10) Private water control structures less than \$15,000 in cost.
  - 11) uses on cheniers, salt domes, or similar land forms
  - 12) Any other coastal uses which directly and significantly affect coastal waters, and are in need of coastal management but are not uses of state concern and which should be regulated primarily at the local level. The St. Bernard Parish Police Jury shall have the power to add other coastal uses to this list as recommended by the Department of Safety and Permits and the Planning Commission.
- (3) An illustrative list of particular activities which occur either in fastlands or on lands more than five feet above mean sea level that have, or may have, direct significant impacts on coastal waters.

On page 7-14 of the St. Bernard LCP document there is a discussion of uses occurring either in fastlands or on lands more than five feet above mean sea level that have, or may have direct and significant impacts on coastal waters. As noted these activities will have impacts which will extend beyond the project site and are somehow carried to other areas. The carrier mechanism generally involves water, e.g. effluent from project, or air, e.g., air emissions. Specific examples include but are not limited to:

- 1) Location of a major power plant
- 2) Location of a refinery

- 3) Location of a chemical plant
- 4) Urban runoff

Some of the activities could involve both water effluent discharge as well as or in addition to air emissions or vice versa.

- (4) An analysis of all ordinances included in the local program demonstrating that the effect of such ordinances, when applied to uses not subject to the local coastal use permit program, would result in compliance with the goals and provisions of LA.R.S.49:213.3 the objectives of the L.C.R.P., and the policies of the coastal use guidelines.

The only ordinance to appear in the St. Bernard LCP document is an ordinance entitled "An Ordinance Implementing the St. Bernard Parish Coastal Zone Management Plan and Providing for The Regulation and Control of Coastal Uses of Local Concern." A certified copy of this ordinance is included in the St. Bernard LCP document. In addition, Resolution PC-4-87 (A certified copy of which is included in the LCP document by attachment) entitled "Effect of Local Coastal Program Policies" has been passed in compliance with OCRM letter dated 17 June 1986.

An analysis of the above named ordinance and the resolution reveals that, as stated in Article 1 Section 3 of the Ordinance, the ordinance was adopted "pursuant to LA.R.S.49:213, its guidelines, rules and regulations, is consistent with the Louisiana Coastal Resources Program its policies and objectives and that the parish of St. Bernard Local Coastal Zone Management Program Plan shall be interpreted and administered consistently with such polciies, objectives and guidelines."

Effect of Local Coastal Program Policies:

The objectives, Policies and Performances of  
St. Bernard Coastal Zone Management Program

standard which directly or indirectly affect uses of state concern shall not be construed as being regulatory or binding on either the permit applicant or the Coastal Management Division (CMD) of the Department of Natural Resources but are for the purpose of submitting the Parish environmental review comments to the State on applications for uses of state concern. Local policies which contain prohibitions, restrictions or performance standards beyond the scope of the Coastal Use Guidelines (CUG) shall be considered as advisory by the Parish, the CMD, and permit applicants (i.e., mandatory policies with "shall's" are modified such that "should" is the operative verb.)

Parish comments to CMD on proposed Uses of State Concern shall be based on the policies of the Local Coastal Program and may recommend specific project alternatives and conditions. CMD consideration of Parish recommendations shall be based on the conformance of the recommendation with the CUG's. Recommendations which reflect further detailing of the CUG's as they apply to the Parish shall be given substantial consideration by the CMD with



the objective of maximizing conformances with the approved LCP. Recommendations which are not in conformance with the CUG shall not be considered by the CMD.

That these measures have been taken indicates that such ordinances, when applied to uses not subject to the local coastal use permit program, would result in compliance with the goals and provisions of Act 361, the objectives of the L.C.R.P., and the policies of the coastal use guidelines.

- (5) A description of the administrative means by which the parish will coordinate with other governmental bodies during program implementation regarding:
  - a) local program implementation, including copies of any interagency or intergovernmental agreements,

Implementation procedures for the St. Bernard Parish LCP are explained in great detail in Chapter VII of the LCP document. St. Bernard Parish will utilize existing personnel in the Parishes Planning Commission to administer all phases of the program. This includes grant matters, negotiating contracts, accounting for expenditures, and, in general perform such duties as are necessary for the efficient implementation of the program.

Issuance of permits and field monitoring will be handled by the parish's Department of Safety and Permits. Some additional monitoring will be conducted by the Planning Commission Staff during the course of their normal

duties.

b) Multiparish environmental considerations,

Uses of greater than local benefit, which include multiparish considerations, are discussed on pages 7-20 to 7-22 in great detail. Each project will be handled on a case-by-case basis with input sought from and given to all affected and/or affecting parishes.

c) Consideration by the parish of regional, state or national interests,

The St. Bernard Parish Draft LCP document was submitted to the appropriate federal, state and local agencies and/or individuals for their review and comment prior to the Parish public hearing held on 30 September 1982. In addition, the State's public hearings, held on 29 March 1983, offered all agencies and additional opportunity to comment on the St. Bernard Plan. As with the local/parish hearing files were kept open for a commenting period in order to receive written comments submitted subsequent to the hearing. Comments were received from various agencies and included the following issues: Limiting uses, consistency, permit application submissions and time limits for Parish comments on uses of State concern. All comments and responses were reviewed by CMD and found to be adequately handled.

d) Regional, state or national plans affecting the parish coastal zone and other projects affecting more than one parish.

Uses and/or activities involving regional, state or national interests are discussed in Chapter VII in great detail. As noted there some regional uses include such activities as interstate pipeline, major transportation facilities such as highways and interstates, federal transportation facilities such as deepwater ports and navigation projects, public wildlife and fisheries management projects, utility or cooperative energy generating,

plants, and state parks, beaches and other state owned recreational facilities. Examples of state concern uses include the following; dredge and fill activities intersecting more than one water body; state owned lands or water bottoms; state funded projects; national interest projects; multiparish projects; all mineral activities; pipelines; energy facility siting interests of regional, state or national concern.

6. Certified copies of all ordinances, plans, programs, and regulations proposed to be included in the program.

Certified copies of the St. Bernard Parish Coastal Management Ordinance as well as the Resolution PC-4-87 are included, as previously discussed in the St. Bernard LCP document. These ordinances have been reviewed by CMD and found to be consistent with LA.R.S.49:213.1 to 213.21 and the state guidelines and procedures,

7. A resolution from the governing body of the parish expressing approval of the local program as submitted and its intent to implement the submitted program subsequent to state approval.

St. Bernard Parish Resolution #122-82, a certified copy of which is included in the LCP document, includes the declaration of approval by the St. Bernard Parish Police Jury. The resolution is dated 5 October 1982.

- H) Documentation that the parish has provided a full opportunity for governmental and public involvement and coordination in the development of the local program. It must be shown that:

1. At least one public hearing was held in the coastal zone on the total scope of the proposed program.

As previously discussed, two (2) public hearings were held on the St. Bernard Parish LCP. The parish held its meeting on 29 March 1982 in the coastal zone. Advertisement appeared in the official parish journal. All comments and responses received were adequately addressed.

2. Public notice of the availability of the draft proposed program was given at least 30 days prior to the hearing. Copies of the program must have been available for distribution to relevant state, federal and local governmental agencies and the general public and were available for public inspection at reasonable hours at all libraries within the parish, the officials of the police jury, and the city or town hall of all municipalities in the coastal zone.

As previously mentioned, public notices for both hearings were advertised. Advertisement for the Parish hearing was published in the official Parish journal on 4 March 1983. It was noted that copies of the St. Bernard LCP were available for inspection at the Natural Resources Building, Coastal Management Section, Baton Rouge and at the St. Bernard Parish Planning Office, Chalmette, Louisiana. The public notice also stated that the hearing file would remain open for ten (10) days after the close of the public hearing for submission of written comments.

Prior to the first public hearing approximately thirty-seven (37) relevant federal, state and local agencies and individuals were sent copies of the draft for their review and comment. All comments were incorporated into the final document.

The CMD staff and the DNR legal staff have reviewed the St. Bernard LCP throughout program development and the public hearing process. All issues and comments received from various agencies and/or individuals were addressed by the Parish and reviewed by CMD. The Parish officials coordinated closely with the DNR staff during program development to incorporate all required revisions into the document. All Parish personnel associated with the development of this program are to be commended on a job well done.