



**"RE-BUILDING THE CITY'S WATER SYSTEMS FOR THE 21<sup>ST</sup> CENTURY"**

# **Sewerage & Water Board OF NEW ORLEANS**

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**Corps of Engineers, S&WB Break Ground for  
\$58.8 Million Dwyer Drainage Canal Project**

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and The Sewerage & Water Board of New Orleans will break ground Monday at 10 a.m. for construction of a \$58.8 million concrete box culvert canal beneath the median of Dwyer Road to improve drainage in eastern New Orleans.

The groundbreaking will take place at the intersection of Dwyer Road and Downman Road. The public is invited to attend.

The new 12 by 10-foot subsurface canal will run for 6,800 feet from the St. Charles Canal to the Dwyer Pumping Station at Jourdan Road. It will parallel an existing canal of the same size.

Board and Corps officials say the improvements will add 600 cubic feet per second of drainage capacity to an area of eastern New Orleans which includes the Academy Park and Pines Village subdivisions.

The Corps awarded the contract to build the canal to Hill Brothers Construction Co. of Falkner, Miss. It is part of the Southeast Louisiana Urban Flood Control Program, also known as SELA.

This canal is the one segment of a project which also includes improvements to the Dwyer Pumping Station to be completed in late 2009 and the station's outfall pipes/canal work which was completed in 2004.

New Orleans Mayor C. Ray Nagin, who also serves as Board president, said, “We are pleased to be working on this project with the Corps. Katrina interrupted the construction of this important canal, but full mobilization is now underway. This Dwyer Canal project marks a major step forward for improved drainage in the East.”

Through the SELA cooperative agreement program, the Federal government normally provides 75 per cent of the funding for projects and the S&WB contributes 25 percent.

However, the Corps will use emergency funds from Katrina to pay for the pumping station improvements and the new canal with 100 per cent Federal funds.

Since the mid-1990s, millions of dollars have been dedicated to major SELA drainage projects throughout the City.

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