Attachment 6

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY - Surface Water Sampling Analysis 9/3/05 to 9/19/05

Surface Water / Flood Water Summary

Lake Pontchartrain is the source of flood water in New Orleans, LA. Cumulative chemical data from surface water in flooded areas are screened daily against both Maximum Contaminant Levels (MCLs) and Risk-Based Screening Levels (RBSLs).

MCL – the maximum permissible level of a chemical that may be present in a public drinking water supply and be considered allowable for household use.

RBSL – a concentration that is equivalent to an excess lifetime cancer risk of one-in-one-million (1E-06) or a noncarcinogenic hazard of 1, assuming either long-term residential use (30 years) or shorter-term dermal contact (i.e., 90 days). If an RBSL is exceeded, it is not assumed that a health risk exists; rather, that further assessment may be necessary.

Metals –

- Some metals do exceed either their residential RBSLs, or MCLs; however, the flood water is not considered a potable water source, so these exceedances are not indicative of a human health concern.

Organics –

- Some organics do exceed both their residential RBSLs and MCLs; however, the flood water is not considered a potable water source, so these exceedances are not indicative of a human health concern.

Pesticides/Herbicides –

- Low levels of pesticides/herbicides were detected in the surface water. There is not a concern with short-term pesticide exposure at the levels detected.

In addition, there is a microbiological concern due to the presence of the bacterium *E. coli* in surface water. The maximum detected level is 18,416 MPN (most probable number of fecal coliforms) per 100 ml. This water should not be ingested due to the *E. coli* levels

Recommendation for the protection of human health – minimize contact with surface water and any oil/grease slicks. The *E. coli* levels are high and continue to be a threat to human health.

Conveyance Water Summary

Metals –

- Some metals do exceed either their residential RBSLs, or MCLs; however, the flood water is not considered a potable water source, so these exceedances are not indicative of a human health concern.

Organics –

- Some organics do exceed both their residential RBSLs and MCLs; however, the flood water is not considered a potable water source, so these exceedances are not indicative of a human health concern.
- One organic chemical (benzidine) did exceed its dermal contact RBSL. This chemical was detected in only 1 out of 279 samples and does not appear to present a health concern.

In addition, there is a microbiological concern due to the presence of the bacterium *E. coli* in conveyance water. The maximum detected level is 7746 MPN (most probable number of fecal coliforms) per 100 ml. This water should not be ingested due to the *E. coli* levels

Recommendation for the protection of human health – minimize contact with conveyance water and any oil/grease slicks. The *E. coli* levels are high and continue to be a threat to human health.

Lake Ponchartrain Water Summary

Metals –

- Lake Pontchartrain is an estuarine lake (ie. dilute saltwater); therefore, elevated levels of some metals will be present. Dermal contact RBSLs are not exceeded.

Organics –

- Some organics do exceed both their residential RBSLs and MCLs; however, the flood water is not considered a potable water source, so these exceedances are not indicative of a human health concern.

This analysis provides a preliminary review of the surface water sampling results.