



**US Army Corps  
of Engineers**  
Galveston District

2000 Fort Point Road  
P.O. Box 1229  
Galveston, Texas 77553-1229

# News Release

Public Affairs Office

Phyllis Bledsoe  
Marilyn Uhrich  
Michele Castelline

Release No. 02-102

Contact: Ashley Jones

For Release Immediately

Phone: (409) 766-3004

May 27, 2003

## Comment Period Extended for Bayport Project

The comment period has been extended to July 16, 2003 for the Final Environmental Impact Statement on the permitting action for the Port of Houston's proposed Bayport Ship Channel Container/Cruise Terminal Project. Persons wishing to comment may send written remarks to USACE, Galveston District, Attn: Mr. Fred Anthamatten, P.O. Box 1229, Galveston, Texas 77553.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Galveston District, forwarded the FEIS for the proposed terminal for publication of the notice of availability in the *Federal Register* on May 16, 2003, with a comment period ending June 16, 2003.

"Based on the scope and complexity of the project, we feel it would be appropriate to extend the comment period for an additional 30 days to July 16th, which is twice the legal requirement," explained Colonel Leonard Waterworth, District Commander for the Galveston District. The FEIS, although larger than most NEPA documents in large part due to the number of public comments received and responded to, is an objective hard look at the proposed Port of Houston project. "Even though we have provided an Executive Summary of the document, we want to be sure all interested parties have time to review the entire FEIS if they so desire," Waterworth added.

The FEIS addresses the direct, indirect and cumulative impacts of the proposed development on human and environmental issues identified during the public interest review, including onsite and offsite alternatives. These concerns include air quality, surface transportation, aesthetics and light, wetlands, fish and wildlife values, water quality, public safety, port security/terrorism, and noise. The FEIS provides relevant information on the potential impacts of the proposed project. The Final EIS is an informational document and is being used by the Corps of Engineers in its decision to grant or deny the permit.

The FEIS is available for viewing on the Galveston District's web page at [www.swg.usace.army.mil](http://www.swg.usace.army.mil) and in several local libraries. Individual copies on CD are free and available upon request.