Port Invites Stakeholders to Comment on Hazard Mitigation Plan

The Port of New Orleans will hold a public hearing on Thursday, July 10th at 1:30 p.m. to discuss its Hazard Mitigation Plan. In accordance with a Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) grant process, the Port will present its initial findings of the hazards most likely to affect the Port and seek feedback from stakeholders. The meeting will be held in the auditorium at the Port Administration building, 1350 Port of New Orleans Place.

After hurricanes Katrina and Rita, the Board of Commissioners of the Port of New Orleans sought sources of funding to mitigate Port facilities and infrastructure against the effects of future disasters. The Port applied for a Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) grant from FEMA and the Governor's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness (GOHSEP). The Port was awarded funding to prepare a Hazard Mitigation Plan.

Developing a plan requires the Port to:

- identify the hazards that could affect Port-owned facilities and infrastructure,
- estimate the level of risk that each of these hazards pose
- determine the impact of the most likely hazards
- determine what can be done to mitigate or protect against the most-likely risks.

To qualify for future grant money that could help repair or rebuild the Port in the aftermath of these various types of hazards, a Hazard Mitigation Plan specifically written for Port must be approved by FEMA and GOHSEP.

Stakeholders are encouraged to submit information that relates to the types of hazards most likely to impact the Port, as well as any mitigation suggestions. For stakeholders who cannot attend, the presentation will be posted at www.portno.com on the date of the public hearing and comments may be submitted to kellerd@portno.com until Aug. 1. Stakeholders without internet access can mail comments to:

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