STATE OF LOUISIANA
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
OFFICE OF CONSERVATION

2011 THREAT OF FLOODING
ALONG THE MISSISSIPPI RIVER AND OTHER
STATE WATER BODIES
EMERGENCY ORDER NO. 2011-001

DECLARATION OF EMERGENCY AND
ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER

Pursuant to the authority granted to me by Louisiana Revised Statutes 30:1, et seq., and particularly La. R.S. 30:4(C) and 6.1, I hereby make the following findings, declaration and order.

FINDINGS AND DECLARATION

1. Through various reports by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to the State of Louisiana, potential inundation areas due to flooding with or without the opening of the Morganza Spillway flood control structure have been identified, and the potential for substantial flooding over a vast area of Louisiana has been reported.

2. By State of Louisiana Proclamation No. 41 BJ 2011, Governor Bobby Jindal declared on April 28, 2011 that a state of emergency exists statewide in Louisiana, due to the developing threat of flooding along the length of the Mississippi River and in other bodies of water across the state that threatens the lives and property of the citizens of the State.

3. Substantial flooding along the Mississippi River and other bodies of water in the state will likely lead to adverse effects on many oilfield sites (including injection well sites) or other facilities (including commercial E&P Waste disposal and transfer station facilities), structures or pipelines under the regulatory authority of the Commissioner of Conservation pursuant to La. R.S. 30:1, et seq., including the complete submersion of these sites, facilities, structures and pipelines for an extended period of time and damage caused by fast moving water and debris.

4. That among the possible effects of the potential flooding event are the possibility of serious threats to public safety and the environment.

5. The operators of the sites, facilities, structures and pipelines mentioned in paragraph 3 above are in the best position to assess potential risks and dangers that the threat of flooding along the Mississippi River and other state water bodies will pose to the operations and sites, facilities, structures and pipelines under their control and to take all appropriate actions to prevent, abate and limit any potential threats to public safety and the environment.

WHEREFORE, I hereby declare that an emergency exists for all oilfield sites, facilities, structures and pipelines in the state under the regulatory authority of the Commissioner of Conservation pursuant to La. R.S. 30:1, et seq., and that the following measures are necessary to prevent substantial or irreparable damage to the environment or a serious threat to life or safety.

ORDER

It is hereby ordered that the following should be undertaken by all operators of oilfield sites, facilities, structures and pipelines in the state under the regulatory authority of the Commissioner of Conservation pursuant to La. R.S. 30:1, et seq., in response to the 2011 threat of flooding along the Mississippi River and other state water bodies:

1. Maintain familiarity with any and all proclamations, orders, warnings, predictions, forecasts, directives or other communications regarding the 2011 threat of flooding along the Mississippi River and other state water bodies that have or will be issued by federal, state, and local authorities.

2. Monitor water levels and weather activity in relation to the oilfield sites, facilities, structures and pipelines you operate in order to take necessary actions for the prevention of substantial or irreparable damage to the environment or a serious threat to life or safety.

3. Take all necessary steps and perform all necessary actions to avoid damage to the environment or threats to life or safety, in accordance with all applicable laws, statutes, regulations and orders of the appropriate federal, state and local authorities. These steps and actions will be different for every site, facility, structure, or pipeline but <u>may</u> include, without limit, the following:

   a. Remove stock on hand and fill tanks with water;

b. Remove chemicals from the oilfield sites, facilities, structures or pipelines;

c. Remove or Secure loose items;

d. Ensure that storm chokes or downhole plugs are installed in wells;

e. Empty active pits of E&P waste;

f. Shut in and secure wells where necessary;

g. Take actions to protect all oilfield sites, facilities, structures or pipelines from stray debris; and

h. Any other actions deemed necessary.

4. Notify the Office of Conservation of any wells, facilities, structures or pipelines that have been shut down in response to the 2011 threat of flooding along the Mississippi River and other state water bodies within twelve (12) hours of shutting down those wells, facilities or structures, including the shutting-in of any wells. Contact the Office of Conservation by phone at (225) 342-5540 during work hours or at (225) 342-5515 after 4:30 p.m. during week days or on weekends and holidays, or the Office of Conservation may be reached by e-mail at mark.browning@la.gov.

5. This Declaration of Emergency and Administrative Order shall take effect immediately upon execution, and shall expire within 120 days from its effective date, unless modified or extended by further order.

DONE AND ORDERED on this 13th day of May, 2011 in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

James H. Welsh
Commissioner of Conservation